

LARGO LEADER

'Oz the Great and Powerful' opens in theaters this week

Also, the Largo Cultural Center will host Project Broadway this month ... Page 1B.



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March 7, 2013

THIS WEEKEND



Daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 10, at 2 a.m.

LARGO



Firefighter of the year announced

The Largo Fire Rescue selection committee was unanimous in their decision to name Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Dixon as the 2013 Firefighter of the Year. ... Page 3A.

POLICE BEAT

Man shoots at building, self

A 52-year-old man was arrested after firing a semi-automatic handgun in BayView Pavilion Office Business Complex at 15550 Lightwave Drive in Largo Feb. 27, according to Largo police. At around 9:28 a.m., Fred Michael Sumner entered the lobby of the building and produced the weapon from his waistband. According to police, he was distraught over his wife's alleged affair. ... Page 5A.

SCHOOLS

Largo High names top scholars

Largo High School announced its valedictorian and salutatorian for the 2012-2013 school year: Steven Higginbotham and Adriana Wilson, respectively. ... Page 16A.

VIEWPOINTS

Tom Germond

Columnist gets unsolicited medical advice. ... Page 15A.



Largo reverses position on EMS

Commissioners rescind support of county priority dispatch

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – The Largo Commission unanimously agreed March 5 to rescind its support of the county's plan to prioritize certain 911 calls for medical transport, a plan designed to save money in emergency medical services.

Instead, the city will request that Pinellas County continue to notify the Largo Fire Rescue of all 911 calls and leave it up to the department to respond. Currently, the county provides the fund-

ing for cities and fire districts in Pinellas to provide emergency medical service.

The county's change in policy for medical dispatch would require only the private ambulance company Sunstar to respond to calls involving minor falls and sick persons, calls that should only require transportation of the patient to a medical facility. The new cost-saving policy, termed Phase 3, is set to go into effect in June.

However, Largo firefighters are among the many opponents to the change.

Largo commissioners passed a resolution in support of the county's plan in September, citing the need for the system to be more "fiscally sustainable." But by the end of the discussion of the issue on March 5, Largo Commissioner Robert Murray said the city's resolution had been "a little premature."

"It's a very fluid situation right now, and I think rescinding it would be the proper thing to do," he said.

Largo Mayor Pat Gerard had called for the commission to address the issue

again, after hearing from Largo firefighters eager to have their leaders' support in rejecting the new policy. At issue is whether the county would withdraw some of its EMS funding as a result of Phase 3.

"They can choose to fund it to a lesser level than they do right now, and we have no control over. But right now we're not losing funding," Gerard said. "I don't think there's any downside to continuing

See EMS, page 4A

Largo's Bayhead Ponds Park reopens



City celebrates green space, renovated with student help

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – Bayhead Ponds Park turned out nicer than Largo Middle School student Dylan Boniface said he first imagined it would.

Boniface and his fellow classmates were thanked for their part in the renovation of the park, as the city of Largo celebrated its grand opening Feb. 28.

It was Dylan's idea to involve his 4H club, which cleaned it up from kayaks in November.

"They went out and picked up thousands and thousands of bottles and pieces of trash out of the actual lake. It's a whole lot more beautiful because of them," Parks Superintendent Greg Brown said during the ceremony.

Dylan said he first noticed the ponds while attending summer camp at the Bayhead Complex.

"We would always walk over here and feed ducks bread and stuff. When we walked

around the park, I realized how dirty it was," he said.

Dylan just had become the environmental leader for his 4H club. He explained his idea to his 4H adviser and biology teacher Kathy Madzimbamuto, who contacted the city.

"I thought it was a good idea – we came down here and cleaned it up – since it was so close to our school," Dylan said.

Quite separately, the city of Largo's parks and engineering divisions were working on improving the two ponds that sit on either side of the city's Bayhead Complex. The ponds provide stormwater treatment for the rainwater that runs off the Largo downtown area,

cleaning the water before it ends up in Boca Ciega Bay and Tampa Bay, explained city engineer Leland Dicus. The filters weren't working well.

"It was very costly to maintain them, and

See BAYHEAD, page 4A



Above, Eugene Weaver, 13, watches as his younger brother Nicholas Weaver, 8, free a small bluegill fish, one of 230 released in celebration of the renovated Bayhead Ponds Park Feb. 28. Top, several children at the event try fishing from the pond with supplies provided by the Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fishing Foundation.

Pinellas moves forward on 2014 transit referendum

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Almost twice as many supporters as opponents of a transit tax referendum showed up to speak at the Feb. 26 Pinellas County Commission meeting.

Commissioners sided 5-1 with supporters to pass a resolution of intent to move forward toward an ordinance that must be approved in August 2014 to place the matter on the Nov. 4, 2014 ballot.

Commissioner Norm Roche voted no. Commissioner Charlie Justice was absent.

Seven citizens filed a lawsuit Feb. 22 in an attempt to block the vote. Before the commission began its discussion County Attorney Jim Bennett said the complaint was not scheduled to go before the judge until sometime in March.

"You're free to vote," he said. About 27 people spoke in favor of the

referendum, including citizens of Hillsborough County and one resident who had traveled from Brandon. Many talked about the need for improved bus service and most support light-rail. They seem convinced that improved transit is required for Pinellas and Tampa Bay to move forward. They said they were willing to pay. They said a 1-cent sales tax is a good investment in the future.

They discussed traffic gridlock, air pollution, rising cost of fuel, lack of transit choices and a need for more access by wheelchairs. They spoke on transit's effect on economic growth, quality of life, recruiting businesses that offer high-paying jobs with benefits, the continuing brain drain as young people leave the area and a desire for a modern and more progressive Pinellas.

All were united in saying the people had a right to vote on the matter.

Cathy Harrelson, a resident of St. Petersburg since 1979, said she was speaking on behalf of her grandson and his right for a clean, healthy environment.

"I love my car," she said. "But my mobility is his future."

She said the commission and the community had choices to make.

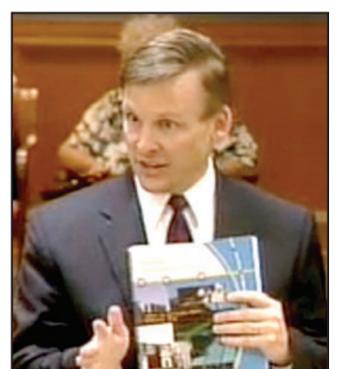
"Vote to give us the right to choose," she said. "Our children won't stay and businesses won't come. Vote for a decline in our area or launch a vibrant future."

Phil Compton, regional director for the Sierra Club Florida, told commissioners there was really no choice but to approve putting the matter on the ballot.

"It's time to take the conversation out of these halls and out into the community," he said. "This should be up to the people."

Barbara Haselden of St. Petersburg,

See REFERENDUM, page 4A



PSTA CEO Brad Miller shows a copy of Pinellas County's transit plan to commissioners during the Feb. 26 meeting.

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Largo announces Firefighter of the Year City can help residents overhaul their homes

LARGO – The Largo Fire Rescue selection committee was unanimous in their decision to name Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Dixon as the 2013 Firefighter of the Year.

Dixon started his career with Largo in 2002. During his tenure, he has volunteered to take over the management and oversight of the Explorer Post. He has attained two associate degrees and has been certified as a state of Florida Fire Officer 1 and 2 and Fire Instructor 1 and 2.

He was recently recognized by a local father who wrote to the department to describe the impact Dixon has had on his child's life through the Explorer program. The father described a troubled teenager who Dixon took the time to regularly meet with, outside of the regularly scheduled Explorer meetings. Through his mentorship, Dixon encouraged him to improve, not only his grades, but also his relationship with his family.

Dixon also is a member of the department SWAT team as well as the Pinellas County Technical Rescue team. He is currently working on a bachelor's degree. He is married and has a 1-year-old son.



Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Dixon

LARGO – The city of Largo's Housing Rehabilitation Program provides low or no-interest loans to help eligible homeowners make improvements to their homes.

Glynis Rutter, who recently participated in the program, was very impressed with the simplicity of the entire process. Rutter helped her 91-year-old mother work with Largo Community Development to complete several badly needed repairs, including a new roof and new windows.

"I was amazed at just how easy it was," she said. After years of struggling with a damaged roof that needed regular patching and repairs, Rutter learned about the rehabilitation program through some very helpful neighbors. She then visited Largo.com, ap-

plied online and soon was speaking with a representative from the Community Development Department. "Somebody explained the process to us every step of the way. It wasn't the least bit intimidating," she said.

The Housing Rehabilitation Program offers loans with interest rates from zero to 2 percent, available to Largo residents who meet certain income eligibility requirements. The maximum repayment period available is 20 years, and there also are deferred payment loans available. Other occupancy and equity requirements exist as well.

To learn more about the Housing Rehabilitation Program, visit Largo.com/housing or call Largo Community Development at 586-7489.

The Largo Leader welcomes your news!

Email information and notices to Largo Leader Editor Juliana Torres at jtortes@TBNweekly.com. You also can send mail to 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772 or call 397-5563, ext. 324. Our deadline for announcements is Friday at noon.

Heritage Village clears land for new exhibit

LARGO – Pine trees are coming down on a patch of land behind Heritage Village's Greenwood House near McKay Creek to make room for a new boat shop.

The shop will display vintage sailboats such as the Optimist Pram, Windmill, Sun Cat and Snipe boats, vessels that are a large part of Pinellas County's nautical history.

After the trees are removed, the ground will be "grubbed" and leveled in preparation for the installation of the building's concrete slab foundation.

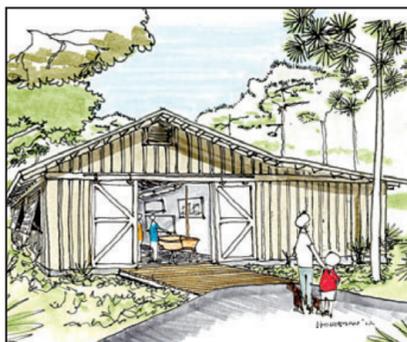
Construction of the new boat shop is made possible through a unique public-private partnership with Pinellas County government, the Pinellas County Historical Society, the Clearwater Yacht Club, Hoffman Architects, P.A. and Proefke Construction.

Donated funds will be used for permits and supplies; volunteer labor will be used for construction of the facility.

The structure will feature a 24-foot by 40-foot display area for the boats, plus a smaller, air-conditioned 12-foot by 40-foot display room.

Heritage Village's boat shop will profile an important chapter of coastal living in Pinellas County and will include trophies, tools and other nautical memorabilia from the museum's collections. An oral history project featuring early Pinellas boat builders and others in the industry is another important component of the boat shop project.

Heritage Village is located at 11909 125th St. N. in Largo. This living history museum brings more



Drawing courtesy of PINELLAS COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS. A boat shop like the one depicted in this drawing is in the works at Heritage Village in Largo.

than 150 years of local history to life. Tour 28 authentic buildings and structures, and experience historical Pinellas County through hands-on exploration. Paths wind through 21 acres and connect with the Florida Botanical Gardens and the Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fishing and Interactive Museum.

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

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Water restrictions begin March 13

By SUZETTE PORTER

Blame it on the weather. Phase III water restrictions begin March 13 in Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties.

Southwest Florida Water Management District's Governing Board voted Feb. 26 to impose the stricter restrictions due to reduced river levels and water supply concerns. Officials say although December rainfall totals were near normal, rainfall in January and February fell short by about 3.5 inches.

A need to curtail water use also can be attributed to renovations ongoing at Tampa Bay Water's C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir. Due to that work, more water is being drawn from regional wellfields and Tampa Bay Water's desalination plant.

Jerry Seeber, general manager for Tampa Bay Water, spoke to Pinellas County Commissioners Feb. 26. He said renovations at the reservoir should be complete by late summer or early fall 2014.

Tampa Bay Water is the wholesale water supplier for Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas county water utilities as well as the cities of Tampa, St. Petersburg and New Port Richey.

Phase III restrictions apply to lawn water-

ing, car washing and fountain use. The water schedule for lawn and landscape watering is restricted to one-time per week on a specified day based on address. Watering must be done before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

Pinellas County residents can find out their watering day at www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/water-restrict.htm. The website currently shows the schedule for Phase I restrictions. It will be updated before the new restrictions take effect March 13.

Micro-irrigation and hand watering of non-lawn areas still are allowed any day, but only before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. unless otherwise specified by a stricter local ordinance.

Car washing is limited to once per week, and fountain operation will be limited to four hours per day. These restrictions apply to well, pond and canal water sources in addition to city or county water supplies.

There are no changes to Phase I restrictions for other water uses, including agricultural irrigation, golf course operations, industrial processes, or pressure washing activities.

Bob Powell, director of Pinellas County Water and Sewer, said residents should be aware that after March 13, inspectors who observe a water violation would not be al-

lowed to give warnings per Swiftmud rules.

"They must give a citation right away," he said. "I know we've had some customer concern over that practice, but we have no option. It is a Swiftmud order."

After complaints last year from residents who said they received no notice before water restrictions took effect and were upset when they received citations without warnings, the county implemented email notifications.

Utilities customers now can add their email address to their My eAccount service and receive notice of water shortage conditions, as well as notices of changes in water restrictions and water schedules. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities and click on the My eAccount button, or call customer service at 464-4000.

"For the last several months, we've watched the conditions decline, Swiftmud Chairman Paul Senft said. "If we do not receive significant rainfall in the coming months, we may have to extend these restrictions into other areas of the district. We ask residents to be conservative with their water use, especially outdoor irrigation."

For more information about water restrictions and water conservation, visit WaterMatters.org/restrictions.

Public meeting set on Gulf Boulevard medians

MADEIRA BEACH – The Florida Department of Transportation will conduct a public information meeting regarding the proposed median modifications on Gulf Boulevard from 131st Avenue to Tom Stuart Causeway on Tuesday, March 19, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Madeira Beach City Commission chambers, 300 Municipal Drive.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow affected business owners and residents to comment regarding the impact of the raised medians.

Raised median islands are planned in conjunction with crosswalks north of 131st Avenue, south of 133rd Avenue, between 135th and

Boca Ciega avenues, south of 137th Avenue, south of 141st Avenue and between 144th and 145th avenues.

The proposed changes also include raised medians south of 142nd Avenue, north of 147th Avenue and south of Tom Stuart Causeway.

The improvements will include milling and resurfacing of Gulf Boulevard, as well as improvements to pavement markings and sidewalks.

The meeting will include graphic displays and FDOT representatives will be on hand to answer questions.

Around town

SPCREA to meet March 14

SEMINOLE – The South Pinellas Retired Educators Association will meet Thursday, March 14, 11 a.m., at Freedom Square, 7800 Liberty Lane.

SPCREA meets second Thursdays, 11 a.m., October through May. Meetings are open to all who have worked in the field of education, including teachers, support personnel and administrators, whether here in Florida or elsewhere.

Each meeting features an event from the hospitality committee, a

song, a thought for the day and some important announcements such as information about future meetings, conferences, help needed or recognition of birthdays. After hearing from a speaker, various chairpersons share information.

At each meeting, the group has an opportunity to help a local charity. The featured agency for March will be the school for abused girls. Attendees are asked to bring items for their personal use such as cosmetics, lotions, body wash, etc.

For information, call Joyce Walters at 526-5065 or email jellen1943@yahoo.com.

EMS, from page 1A

to respond and gathering information while we do that."

Fire Chief Mike Wallace explained that – aside from the costs of using the vehicle – Largo Fire Rescue was paid the same amount to keep its firefighters in standby or send them to a call.

"We get paid a flat fee to provide service to the residents within our district. It's not tied to the number of calls," he said.

The caveat was that if a station responded to more than 10 calls a day, a threshold only Largo's busiest stations meet, it's eligible for an increase in funding. Under the new policy, calls that only require private medical transport and thus shouldn't involve first responders, won't be included in the daily call count.

"So continuing to respond becomes more of a policy decision, a philosophical decision. The firefighters are very clear that they want to continue to respond to those calls. Their reasoning is absolutely legitimate, and I support it," Wallace said.

Wallace also pointed out that Largo firefighters currently respond to those types of calls in non-emergency mode: without emergency lights or sirens, stopping at intersections for red lights.

"We still get there 80 percent of the time in 6.5 minutes. We are still faster than the ambulance waiting at the red lights and waiting to take left turns," he said. "There is some value in us responding to those calls. But we will not be credited for them."

At first, Gerard was against rescinding the resolution, stating that

she believed "priority dispatch can work." But her fellow commissioners all said the city needed to continue responding to non-emergency medical calls as a service to its residents.

"There are calls that will slip through the cracks that will be coded as non-emergency, and when someone gets there we're going to be calling a helicopter because the trauma call is so severe," Wallace affirmed.

An ongoing Fitch and Associates study – which is supposed to evaluate the benefits of continuing with the system as is, using fire departments to provide ambulance service or some combination of those methods – is due in May. Wallace said the study had to consider the possibility of using the fire departments to transport patients during all emergency calls. Departments across the county already have 23 rescue vehicles that are ambulance-capable, he said.

"We could turn those on tomorrow and start transporting the patients we encounter tomorrow. And I do think absolutely that is the most viable compromise," he said. "That eliminates priority dispatch."

Commissioner Wood Brown said he hoped Wallace was right in his prediction. Murray also said he hoped the commission would "let the studies play out and then come back and readdress the issue."

"I would not want to be one of those 2,100 calls that go out that is nonpriority and be the one having a heart attack," he said.

Commissioners voted 7-0 to pass a new resolution that rescinded their prior position on priority dispatch.

BAYHEAD, from page 1A

instead of simply replacing the filters, we wanted to improve them in a way that added greater value to the community," he said.

The filters were upgraded to a stormwater harvesting system, explained in informational signs around the park. Bayhead now features thousands of newly planted shrubs, grasses, aquatic plants and trees. A 1/3-mile asphalt walking trail, open to the public, circles the ponds. The city also has installed a variety of park benches, picnic tables and trash and recycling bins.

Eventually, Bayhead Complex also will be home to a new skate park. The city broke ground for the skate park in conjunction with the reopening celebration Feb. 28. The skate park, to be built at the north side of the basketball courts, will include new equipment and pieces that were featured at Highland Recreation Complex before its reconstruction.

The 12,000-square-foot plaza likely will include a concrete bowl or empty swimming pool, a spine, steps and quarter pipes. Both skaters and bikers will be welcome.

To celebrate the wildlife habitat restoration efforts, the city invited youth to release about 230



Photos by JULIANA A. TORRES

From left, Largo City Manager Mac Craig, Parks Superintendent Greg Brown, Mayor Pat Gerard, Commissioners Jamie Robinson and Harriet Crozier, and Parks and Recreation, Parks and Arts Director Joan Byrne cut the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of renovated Bayhead Ponds Park. Behind them are several members of the 4H Club at Largo Middle School. At right, Conner Slaven, left, and Sergio Corona, both 12, watch as a bluegill fish swims into the Bayhead pond Feb. 28.

bluegill fish, donated by the Florida Wildlife Commission, into the pond. Dylan released a turtle, which headed straight to the pond's edge, diving into the cleaner water.

The Largo Middle School 4H club will continue looking after the ponds.

"Since we adopted, we're going to keep cleaning it up twice a year," Dylan explained.

"It's your baby now," commented Rick Boniface, who beamed at his son. "I'm proud of him. He's always thinking of ways to improve things. He's a very good kid."

The park renovations were paid with funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the city's community development district downtown funds.

Bayhead Ponds Park, at 375 Seminole Blvd., will be open daily, from dawn to dusk.

County makes plans for budget forum

CLEARWATER – As Pinellas County officials begin preparing next year's budget, they are making plans to get the public involved by bringing the 2014 Budget Community Forum out to the community on Wednesday, April 10, in partnership with St. Petersburg College Seminole.

An open house will be set up in the SPC Digtorium common area from 5:30 to 7 p.m. There, visitors can browse information booths set up by the various Pinellas County departments. Residents can meet with county officials and their county commissioners, ask questions, provide feedback and learn more about county services.

From 7 to 8 p.m., an eTownHall will take place inside the Digtorium in front of a live audience. County commissioners and the county administrator will respond to comments and questions from the community as they discuss the budget, strategies for the future and the vision of the community as a whole.

This year's event will be moderated by Bay News 9 senior anchor Al Ruechel.

The eTownHall can be viewed live in the Digtorium, online through the Pinellas County website, www.pinellascounty.org, or via PCC-TV on Bright House Channel 622, Knology Channel 18 or Verizon Channel 44. Large screen viewing areas will be set up at other SPC campuses as well.

Questions to the panel can be submitted via the online blog, Twitter, by calling 888-409-5380 or via written submissions from the audience. The eTownHall blog will open at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 8, for those who want to submit their questions and comments in advance.

For more information, to view the program or submit a question to the blog, go to www.pinellascounty.org/etownhall. The St. Petersburg College Seminole campus is located at 9200 113th St. N. in Seminole.

Animal Services making changes to hours

LARGO – Pinellas County Animal Services has reduced the days that rabies vaccinations are available to the public. A licensed veterinarian will administer the vaccines on Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and no appointments are necessary. The change became effective Monday, March 4.

Rabies vaccinations also are administered by licensed veterinarians throughout the county. Pet owners are encouraged to bring their pets to a veterinarian on a regular basis to keep all vaccines up to date and ensure their pets' health.

"We are constantly looking at opportunities to deliver quality services in the most efficient and cost-effective ways," said Maurine Freaney, Pinellas County assistant county administrator. "Working with our partners in the veterinary community enables our citizens to receive services needed to keep their pets healthy."

The regular hours of operation will be changing as well, and residents can look forward to an extra hour each day to visit the shelter for services that include dog and cat adoptions, pet licensing and reclaiming lost pets.

Starting April 1, the shelter's hours of operation will be Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the adoption center closing at 5:30 p.m. Saturday's hours will be expanded to 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and services will include adoptions.

"We are happy to accommodate residents' schedules with these new hours," said Freaney, "and we look forward to finding more ways to provide essential services to the community."

Pinellas County Animal Services is located at 12450 Ulmerton Road in Largo. For news on how to adopt, donate or volunteer, join Pinellas County Animal Services on Facebook. To learn more about the shelter, visit www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices or call 582-2600. The lost or found pet hotline is 582-2604.

Heritage Village hosts writing workshop

LARGO – Award-winning author Angela T. Pisaturo continues to host workshops at Heritage Villages on the topic of writing history into a novel. The second workshop is on Friday, March 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This workshop will address creating and using the outline to the novel's advantage.

Each three-hour workshop will be unique. Historical writing workshops for the remainder of the year are scheduled on May 10, July 12 and Sept. 13. Each workshop is \$15 per person; \$13 for Pinellas County Historical Society members. Call 582-2233 to register or for more information. Heritage Village is at 11909 125th St. N. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/heritage or call 582-2123.



REFERENDUM, from page 1A

one of the seven who filed the complaint asking for an emergency injunction to prevent four commissioners from voting Feb. 26, led the way for the opposition. She said she represented herself and Pinellas 9-12, an organization of "thousands of patriots."

She said while her group did agree with supporters who talked about a decision for the people and by the people, it did not support a referendum.

"Why we object to letting the people decide is that we've lost trust in the process," Haselden said.

She pointed to deceptive messaging and the use of taxpayer money to create campaigns to convince the people of the merits of a transit tax and light-rail without funding the message of those opposed.

She said transit was not to blame for lack of jobs.

"It is not a transit or light rail issue. It is the economy, and bureaucrats' spending money on boondoggles and entitlements," she said. She pointed to a recent bus study that showed five Pinellas Sun-coast Transit routes and the trolley routes carried the bulk of riders. She advised officials to cut other routes and move the resources to those most used. She disputed recent ridership numbers, saying the numbers were skewed.

Many of the 14 that spoke in opposition asked to see statistics that show a need for transit changes. They objected to approving a 1 per-

cent tax increase without knowing actual costs.

"You're asking to vote on something we don't know what we're voting on," said John Burgess of St. Petersburg.

Opponents want additional public forums and a look at other alternatives. Some said they don't mind bus improvements, but stand firmly against rail. Most objected to the financial burden an additional tax would put on low-income residents and seniors. They asked the commission to delay the vote until more was certain.

When the public was done, Commission Chair Ken Welch said, "It's time for the community to decide. For the record I'm in support."

He told those who said officials have no transit plans that they were wrong.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," he said. "We have a very detailed plan – Pinellas on Track – and if we approve this, more planning will continue."

He explained that an 18-month effort involving public input had resulted in the Pinellas County transit alternatives study, a 2,000-page document available online for all to see. Visit pinellasontack.com.

"This is the first step in a very long process," he said. "This is not about rail."

He said it wasn't feasible to continue funding transit with ad valorem taxes and to do so would erode PSTA's reserve funds.

"It is not about the merits or faults of the alternative analysis," said Commissioner John Morroni. "It is about giving people an opportunity

to have a say. People are talking about it. Why slow it down. Just let people vote on it."

Commissioner Karen Seel, who had expressed reluctance to support a 2014 referendum, saying she preferred to wait until 2015, agreed with the majority.

"Anyone who knows me knows transportation is what I majored in since coming on the commission," she said.

Seel reviewed a number of road projects and improvements done over the years or are still in process.

"It is time to look to our future. We're 96 percent built out; more roads is not logical," she said.

Roche objected to comments that inferred Pinellas was not a good place to live.

"Pinellas is pretty sharp now. I don't think we need a rail to be any sharper," he said.

He objects to the lack of a formalized approved plan. He said he didn't want to "vote for the money now and figure out how to spend it later."

"This vote doesn't start or stop the conversation," he added.

PSTA CEO Brad Miller agreed that the plan needs more work. He said he plans to continue to reach out to the community to find out how best to meet its needs. He believes the vote on intent for a referendum has spurred conversation.

"We had 150 people at a PSTA meeting," he said. "That's never happened before."

Death warrant issued for Larry Mann

By SUZETTE PORTER

TALLAHASSEE – Gov. Rick Scott issued a death warrant March 1 for the killer of a 10-year-old Palm Harbor girl.

Larry Eugene Mann, 59, was found guilty March 19, 1981 on one count of first-degree murder and one count of kidnapping in connection with the Nov. 4, 1980 murder of Elisa Nelson. He received his first death sentence on March 21 of that year.

After denials of several appeals and issuance of two additional death sentences, since Mann's initial conviction, Scott announced March 1 he would not

grant clemency in the case and signed the warrant for Mann's execution.

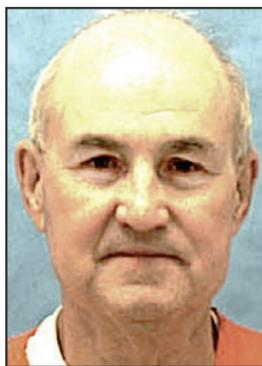
Mann is scheduled to be put to death at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 10.

According to arrest records, Elisa was riding her bicycle to school when Mann kidnapped her. She had a dentist appointment that day and was late to school. When she didn't show up for school, a search began. Her bicycle was found later that day in a ditch about a mile away from the school.

Her body was found the next day in an orange grove. Cause of death was a blow to the head by

a cement-encased steel pipe found next to her body. There were no signs of molestation, according to the medical examiner.

Records show that Mann attempted suicide that same day and told police who responded that he had "done something stupid and needed help." Mann's wife found a bloodstained note that Elisa's mom had written to excuse Elisa from being late to school in her husband's truck on Nov. 8, 1980. Law enforcement also found a bloodstain with Elisa and Mann's blood types in the truck. Mann was arrested on Nov. 10, 1980. He has spent 32 years on death row.



Larry Eugene Mann

Man shoots at building, attempts suicide

LARGO – A 52-year-old man was arrested after firing a semi-automatic handgun in BayView Pavilion Office Business Complex at 15550 Lightwave Drive in Largo Feb. 27, according to Largo police.

At around 9:28 a.m., Fred Michael Sumner entered the lobby of the building and produced the weapon from his waistband. According to police, he was distraught over his wife's alleged affair. His wife works for a business at the complex, but was not there at the time.

Sumner reportedly shot towards the doors and windows in the lobby of the building before firing a single shot into his own abdomen. He did not aim at or threaten anyone in the lobby.

Sumner was flown to an area hospital for treatment of his self-inflicted gunshot wound. He is being charged with criminal mischief and shooting within an occupied building.

No one else was injured in the shoot. Police located Sumner's wife, who was reportedly uninjured.

Florida Highway Patrol sponsors hit and run awareness campaign

The Florida Highway Patrol is sponsoring a statewide Hit & Run Traffic Crash Awareness Campaign Feb. 18-22.

The goal of the campaign is to educate motorists of Florida's traffic laws regarding driver responsibility in the event of a traffic crash.

While being involved in a traffic crash can be traumatic, drivers who leave the scene of the crash and fail to exchange information or render aid compound the event for all involved.

It's bad to get in a traffic crash, FHP says, but it is

even worse to go to jail for not staying.

Florida law enforcement agencies investigated nearly 70,000 hit and run traffic crashes during 2012, which left 16,500 injured and killed 168. In an effort to reduce those numbers, the Florida Highway Patrol will team with law enforcement agencies throughout the state to remind drivers of the consequences of leaving the scene of any traffic crash.

FHP offers tips on what to do if you're involved in a crash.

- Stop immediately, but do not obstruct traffic

- Assist injured
- Call law enforcement
- Secure names and addresses of drivers and witnesses
- Secure make, model and license numbers of all vehicles involved
- Make a rough drawing of the scene, showing position of all vehicles
- Don't accept claim settlements at the crash scene
- Remain calm

- Notify your insurance agent as soon as possible
- There are consequences to leaving the scene involving death, injury and property damage. Leaving the scene of a crash involving death or injuries is a felony of the first degree, which carries a maximum penalty of 30 years in a state correctional facility, a fine of up to \$10,000 or both. Leaving the scene of a crash with property damage is a misdemeanor of the second degree and carries a maximum penalty of 50 days in the county jail, a fine of \$500 or both.

Police beat

Man dies in single car crash in Dunedin

DUNEDIN – A Palm Harbor man died Friday, March 1, when he lost control of his vehicle about 2:15 a.m. at County Road 1 and Hickory Gate Drive in Dunedin.

According to deputies assigned to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Major Accident Investigation Team, Matthew W. Vonderau, 31, was traveling northbound when he lost control of his 2004 Ford F-150 for unknown reasons. Deputies say the vehicle swerved off the roadway struck several trees and overturned, before coming to final rest upright. Vonderau was ejected from the vehicle.

Dunedin Fire Rescue responded and Vonderau was pronounced dead on scene. Alcohol appears to be a factor in the crash, according to the sheriff's report.

Man charged for having sex with minor

CLEARWATER – A 34-year-old man accused of having sex with a 16-year-old female on at least three occasions at a location in unincorporated Clearwater remains in jail March 3 in lieu of paying a \$60,000 bond.

Detectives assigned to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Crimes Against Children Unit arrested Christopher Aaron Smith of Pinellas Park Feb. 27 after he went voluntarily to the Sheriff's Administration Building for an interview.

Detectives say he admitted to the crimes, which allegedly occurred between December 2012 and February 2013. Detectives charged Smith with three counts of unlawful sexual activity with a minor and transported him to the Pinellas County Jail. Bond was set at \$20,000 per charge.

According to detectives, the investigation began after the victim's parents discovered the suspect in their daughter's bed. Detectives say when the parents made the discovery, Smith jumped out of the back window of the residence and fled. The parents called 911 and deputies responded.

Detectives are asking that anyone with additional information about this investigation to call Detective Mark Kolenda of the Crimes Against Children Unit at 727-582-6200; or to remain anonymous contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-873-TIPS.

According to jail records, Smith has two previous arrests in Pinellas, including a grand theft charge in 2008.



Christopher Aaron Smith

Men charged for shooting marbles

CLEARWATER – Clearwater police have arrested two Alabama men for a weekend crime spree that included shooting out the windows of businesses and moving vehicles, according to a Clearwater Police report.

Dominick Zambrano, 24, of Irvington, Ala., and Seth Cazalas, 22, of Mobile, Ala., were visiting a friend in town. Detectives believe they are responsible for the 28 cases that have been reported

citywide over the weekend of March 2 and 3. The two allegedly used slingshots to shoot marbles at 21 businesses and seven vehicles. No one was hurt.

Zambrano was charged with felony shooting a deadly missile into/at/within an occupied vehicle, and three counts of felony mischief. He was being held at

the Pinellas County Jail in lieu of \$10,450 bond. Cazalas was charged with felony shooting a deadly missile into an occupied vehicle and criminal mischief causing between \$200 and \$1,000-worth of damage.

He was being held at the Pinellas County Jail in lieu of \$10,150 bond.

Hoax shooting caller was a 7-year-old

CLEARWATER – Clearwater Police have identified the person who called 911 to falsely report a

school shooting at Belleair Elementary on Feb. 26.

According to a police Facebook report, the caller was a 7-year-old first-grader at the school. Detec-

tives say he called 911 nine times, two of them generating police responses – one being the

See POLICE, page 6A

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Pinellas County Sheriff's Office promotes drug abuse website

LARGO - Pinellas County Sheriff's employees are handing out business cards to call attention to its drug abuse website, www.pinellasdrugabuse.com.

Starting in March, personnel, specifically deputies and child protection investigators, are handing out the business cards on any drug-related call. The cards contain the website information and QR (Quick Response Bar Code) that will allow the public to scan the QR with their Internet based phones for a direct link to the site.

The business cards also will be made available to the public by request or by contacting the Public Information Office at 582-6221.

The drug abuse website provides resources to assist families dealing with addiction and pro-

vides awareness and education on the dangers of abusing illicit drugs, prescription medications and other dangerous substances.

Since the site was launched in October 2012, it has had several updates and new features have been added. The website will provide links to:

- 211 Get Connected. Get Answers.
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Treatment Locator
- Florida Poison Information Center
- Eckerd Community Alternatives - Family Resources
- Prescription pill identifier and information
- Indicators of misuse and abuse of illicit and prescription drugs

• Signs of possible drug overdose and what to do to get help

• Safety information about how to safeguard and protect your medications

• Pinellas County Operation Cabinet Program (OMC), a safe way to dispose of your medications and drop-off container locator in your community

• LiveFree! Substance Abuse Coalition of Pinellas

• Operation PAR

• NOPE Pinellas Chapter (Narcotics Overdose Prevention & Education)

• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

• Pinellas County Government Home Page

• Florida Attorney General Home Page

• Pinellas County Sheriff's Of-

fice Submit a Drug Tip

• Crime Stoppers of Pinellas County

• Resource material, publications and news on related issues

The misuse and abuse of illicit drugs, prescription medications and dangerous substances has escalated beyond belief over the last decade, becoming the fastest growing epidemic in the United States, according to a press release from the Sheriff's Office. Most people, especially teenagers, are under the assumption that these dangerous substances are not harmful. The abuse of these substances is a public health hazard, contributes to addiction and has deadly consequences.

The drug abuse website is dedicated to assisting people with education about substance abuse

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Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
www.pcsoweb.com
727-582-6200

Photo courtesy of PCSO
Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies and child protection investigators are handing out business cards promoting resources available at www.pinellasdrugabuse.com.

and by providing resources for addiction. This initiative is a first of its kind by law enforcement to link a variety of resources on a

user-friendly website.

The program is funded by the Substance Abuse Mental Services Administration, Drug Free Communities grant awarded to Live-Free! Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Pinellas County in partnership with PCSO.

For more information about the website, call Sgt. Dan Zsido of the Community Education and Services Unit at 582-6200.

POLICE, from page 5A

school shooting and the other being a false report of a dead person in the road.

Charges for misuse of 911 were referred to the State Attorney's office, and the report said he will likely be placed in a diversionary program. The school was put in lockdown from about 3 to 4:20 p.m. after receiving the single phone call of a shooting at the school. Numerous police officers responded and conducted a thorough, room-by-room search of the school.

The lockdown was lifted after it was determined that there was no shooting, shooter or gun and that it was indeed a hoax.

Shooting suspect charged

CLEARWATER - Clearwater detectives have identified and arrested a suspect regarding a Sept. 30 shooting in the 600 block of Grant Street, according to a Clearwater Police Facebook report.

Aaron Hoyte, 31, of Clearwater was already an inmate in the Pinellas County Jail on unrelated drug charges, the report said. The shooting victim has been released from the hospital. Hoyte remains in jail on the charges of attempted felony murder, felonious possession of a firearm, and armed robbery with a firearm. He was already sentenced for possession of cocaine.

Juvenile caught regarding burglary

CLEARWATER - On Feb. 26, Clearwater Police responded to a burglary in progress after a man heard a noise at the rear of his house in the 2300 block of Chaucer Street, according to a police Facebook report. When the man checked it out, he saw four juveniles inside his rear porch. They ran and dropped several pieces of property, including coins and laptop computers, the report said.

Patrol officers set up a perimeter and K-9 officers responded. A responding officer saw a juvenile fitting the description given by the victim, and he was riding a bicycle going in the opposite direction. When the officer tried to make contact with the juvenile, he jumped off the bike and ran. K-9 Major tracked the juvenile to the 200 block of Pegasus Avenue where he was arrested. The 17-year-old was positively identified. Detectives were working to identify the three other suspects. Detectives linked a computer discarded by the juvenile to a second burglary in the 1300 block of Dickinson Drive. There may be additional victims, based on the property recovered from the scene.

Charges are pending for additional possible burglaries.

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G I V E N S
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 S P A R K S

Sen. Latvala says push is on for spring training in Florida

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Sen. Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater) announced Feb. 27 that more money might be coming to support spring training in Florida.

Latvala said Gov. Rick Scott had revised his Legislative Budget Request for 2013 to include \$5 million in recurring funds from the State Economic Enhancement and Development Trust Fund for Major League Baseball spring training.

Officials are concerned that a growing number of MLB teams are moving to spring break training facilities outside the state. Fifteen years ago, every MLB team held its training in Florida, Latvala said. This year, for the first time, less than 50 percent of MLB teams are spring training in Florida.

"We must reverse this trend," Latvala said in a press release. "Spring training programs attracted roughly 1.6 million people to baseball facilities in Florida last year, 62 percent of which were tourists from other states. Clearly these programs are worth nurturing because of the economic impact they have on our state."

In 2000, Latvala sponsored the first successful legislation to provide state economic assistance to keep MLB teams training in Florida cities.



Photo by TERRE PORTER
Sen. Jack Latvala hopes to bring more spring training to Florida.

Leases for three of the teams' facilities assisted by that legislation expire in March 2016. Those facilities are located in Dunedin, Lakeland and Kissimmee.

"Spring training programs in Florida are a proven economic driver and wise investment of our state's resources," Latvala said. "Spending \$5 million to enhance these programs will generate about \$750 million additional dollars for our state's economy."

Gov. Scott announced his initiative to keep Florida No. 1 in spring training Feb. 27 while working at the Detroit Tigers Baseball team facilities in Lakeland.

"My top priority is growing jobs for Florida families – and spring training has provided families in Florida with countless job opportunities," Scott said in a press release. "Florida remains the No. 1 destination for spring training and that is why we will work to provide \$5 million annually to only be used for spring training facilities. We must protect and enhance this vital business for Florida families."

Under the new initiative, local governments would be required to provide a 50 percent match of project costs for renovations to spring training facilities. Fifteen teams currently use facilities in Florida for spring training.

"Spring training pays huge dividends for our communities," Latvala

said. "The more we support baseball in Florida, the more opportunities will be expanded for our residents. This \$5 million, recurring investment by Gov. Scott will support jobs across our state."

Two Major League teams come to Pinellas County each year for spring training. Fans can catch the Philadelphia Phillies in action at Bright House Field in Clearwater. The Toronto Blue Jays play pre-season games at the Florida Auto Exchange Stadium in Dunedin.

Pinellas County's home team, the Tampa Bay Rays, holds spring training in Port Charlotte. The New York Yankees hold spring training in Tampa.

The history of spring training in central Florida started in October 1908 with a single exhibition game between the Cincinnati Reds and the semi-pro St. Petersburg Saints, according to the website www.floridagrapefruitleague.com. In February 1913, the Chicago Cubs arrived in Tampa for the region's first spring training.

Pinellas County gained its reputation as a worthy spot for spring training in 1915, the first year the Philadelphia Phillies used Sunshine Park as its training facility. The team won 14 of 15 games that year and captured the National League pennant.

Baseball teams have been spring training in St. Petersburg and Tampa for 87 years, longer than any other location in Florida. Teams have been training in Clearwater for 76 years.

For more information about spring training in Florida and the state's Grapefruit League, visit www.floridagrapefruitleague.com

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Beach towns seek help with federal transportation mandate

By BOB McCLURE

NORTH REDINGTON BEACH – Members of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council have asked the help of State Sen. Jeff Brandes and State Rep. Kathleen Peters in relation to a tough pill that beach towns are being asked to swallow.

Indian Shores Mayor Jim Lawrence told BIG-C members Feb. 27 that a request by the Florida Department of Transportation for beach towns to provide maintenance on the new Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons, proposed for a number of crosswalks along state-owned sections of Gulf Boulevard, would be a prohibitive cost that most beach towns would not be able to afford.

Lawrence said FDOT wants towns to sign a maintenance agreement but his town would not be among them.

St. Pete Beach and Redington Beach are the only towns that have signed the agreement.

"We have two people in our public services department and we have a dwindling budget," Lawrence said. "I just don't see how we can take total responsibility for the maintenance of this equipment. We're particularly concerned about replacing the equipment. They (RRFBs) are vulnerable to vehicles hitting them. They're vulnerable to bad weather taking out any number of them and they would be very expensive to fix."

"We already signed the agreement back in January," said St. Pete Beach Commissioner Jim Parent. "We've already put those lights up in

locations we were able to that were not state roads. Since I've been on the commission for four years, our residents have been all over us wanting those high velocity flashers. So, based on that and based on our assessment on how we could handle the maintenance and replacement cost, we went ahead and accepted it."

Redington Beach Mayor Nick Simons said his town signed the agreement after negotiating the number of crosswalks within the town limits down to a more workable number.

"We signed the agreement," Simons said. "We also eliminated four crosswalks. So that only leaves two crosswalks that are impacted and then the red-light crosswalk, which isn't affected."

Officials from Indian Rocks Beach, Redington Shores and North Redington Beach said their towns would not be signing the agreement.

"Indian Rocks Beach will not sign onto this for the reasons Mayor Lawrence voiced," said Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner Terry Hamilton-Wollin. "There's also the liability issue, which will come along with that."

Redington Shores Mayor Bert Adams said his town would not sign the agreement due to a previous agreement with FDOT that calls for FDOT to take care of maintenance on the single beacons.

North Redington Mayor Bill Queen said a recent car crash in his town opened his eyes to the cost.

"FDOT had to replace one of ours due to a crash and they are \$8,000 apiece," Queen said. "So it's expensive and putting that on small towns I think is a little tough. I think it's something we might go

up the ladder of DOT and have them really take a look at this."

Lawrence said he would like to see more details on anticipated maintenance cost before his town could consider a commitment.

"Why don't we let Sen. Brandes and Rep. Peters look into this and get back to us next month," said Clearwater Mayor George Cretekos, president of the BIG-C. "For those that have signed the agreement they need (Brandeis) to figure out a way to revise it."

Clearwater Beach, Belleair Shore and Belleair Beach are unaffected by the agreement because the areas of Gulf Boulevard that run through those communities are maintained by Pinellas County.

FLUP update

Michael Crawford, interim director of the Pinellas Planning Council, gave an update on changes under way to the Countywide Future Land Use Plan Map.

The two-year process, Crawford said, would likely be complete later this year.

Once complete, it is expected to speed up redevelopment projects throughout the county.

The current plan uses 37 categories for consideration but the proposed plan has whittled the number down to 11.

Crawford said the new plan would provide more local flexibility for cities and towns when it is time to update a local Future Land Use Plan. He also noted it would better identify future transit corridors and target employment areas.

Briefs

Water fluoridation begins again

Fluoride is back in Pinellas County's water supply as of March 1 for Pinellas County water customers as well as customers of Clearwater, Pinellas Park, Safety Harbor and Tarpon Springs. The level of fluoride has been adjusted to 0.7 parts per million – a level recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for optimal dental health.

Pinellas County County Commissioners approved the return of fluoride Nov. 27, 2012 as a way to significantly reduce the occurrences of tooth decay. Water fluoridation is listed by the CDC and the surgeon general as one of the top 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century.

The equipment for fluoridating Pinellas County's water supply is already in place. The annual cost for chemicals, equipment, maintenance and repair will be absorbed into current operating costs – an average of 25 cents per person per year – and will not re-

quire a water rate increase.

Visit www.pinellascounty.org or www.pinellascounty.org/mobile on any smartphone.

County schedules collection of hazardous waste

Collect hazardous waste items from your home, office or garage, and properly dispose of them at the upcoming mobile collection Saturday, March 9, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Clearwater Home Depot, 2495 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd.

Drive up and drop off hazardous waste, unwanted electronics and chemicals through this free service to county households. Businesses should arrange for drop-off and payment by calling Creative Recycling at 813-621-2319 for electronics, or EQ Florida at 813-319-3400 for chemicals.

According to officials with the county's solid waste department, sponsor of this event, household elec-

tronics and chemicals – such as TVs, cell phones, computers, paints, motor oil, fertilizers and batteries – should never be dumped in the regular trash, drains, storm sewers or on the ground. These products can be harmful to the environment and to the people handling them if they are not disposed of properly. Electronics contain useful materials that can be extracted and recycled, such as aluminum, glass and plastic.

For more information on mobile collections, what to bring and what not to bring, or the permanent Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Center (HEC3), call Pinellas County Solid Waste at 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities.

Dental clinic opening for low-income adults

LARGO – A new clinic offering dental services to low-income adults opens on Saturday, March 30, at

Pinellas County Health Department's Mid-County Center, 8751 Ulmerton Road.

Hours for the program called Healthy Teeth will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Services will be provided by volunteer dentists. The clinic is a partnership between Pinellas County Government, the Pinellas County Health Department and area dental associations.

Priority will be given to clients enrolled in Pinellas County's Primary Care Program and to clients from community locations such as free clinics. Appointments for other low-income or uninsured adults will be available as time and schedules allow.

The volunteer dentists who will be providing care on March 30 are Dr. Oscar Menendez, president of the Upper Pinellas County Dental Association, and Dr. Ed Busch, president of the Lower Pinellas County Dental Association.

For information about the Pinellas County Health Department, visit PinellasHealth.com.



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HortonReadyNow.com

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www.tbnweekly.com

030713

Business update

Annual French market set

LARGO - The 11th annual French Market will take place Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Periwinkles at the Cottage and Julie's Cottage at Provence, 13128 Indian Rocks Road.

Shoppers will get a taste of the French countryside as more than 30 local vendors gather on the store property to offer shabby-chic and re-purposed furniture, handmade and vintage jewelry, tropical orchids, ferns and potted annuals, homegrown lavender bouquets and sachets, hand-poured soy candles, shell décor, garden accessories and yard art.

Periwinkles at the Cottage sell the latest Vera Bradley and Spartina fashions, charming gifts, home accents and indulgent finds. Julie's Cottage offer fine silk florals, wreaths, French country and coastal designs and seasonal décor for sale.

Shoppers also may complete the experience by having lunch at the Destination Grill food truck or a treat from Desserts of Distinction.

School to host open house

LARGO - Christian International School of Healthcare Professions will host an open house Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at its facility at 300 East Bay Drive.

The free event will offer the public an opportunity to tour the school and skills laboratory area as well as interact with staff and faculty. The school will be open to the community at large and for potential students interested in learning more about careers in nursing. For information, call 498-8200.

Dunkin Donuts to host family night

LARGO - The city of Largo's Recreation, Parks and Arts Department will partner with Dunkin Donuts at 600 Missouri Ave. to offer a free family

night on Wednesday, March 13, 6 to 8 p.m.

Activities will include donut decorating for the children, samples of food and drinks, a visit from Captain Play, games and prizes. Recreation Card holders can get additional discounts on food and drinks with their Play Perks Card.

For information, call 518-3016.

Thrift store opens

CLEARWATER - The United Family Outreach Thrift Store recently opened its doors at 1739 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

The business is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations of clothing, household goods, furniture, collectibles, books, movies and toys are appreciated. The store is a ministry of the First Assembly of God. Proceeds from sales go to support the food pantry.

Call 585-5468 or visit www.clearwaterag.org.

TradeWinds Island Resorts names new national sales manager

ST. PETE BEACH - TradeWinds Island Resorts recently named Steve Seeram as a national sales manager.

In this position, Seeram will be working the northeast market including New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maine, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. With more than 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry, Seeram was most recently the senior sales manager of the Hilton Orlando Convention Center. Prior to that he was the national sales manager for the Villas of Grand Cypress and a senior sales manager for the Omni Resort at ChampionsGate, both in the Orlando area. He has also worked in various sales positions at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin, Doubletree

BBA meets



The Bluffs Business Association met at C1 Bank, 525 Indian Rocks Road, Belleair Bluffs. The February meeting was hosted by Lana Schutte and Paul Burroughs. The group will next meet Thursday, March 14, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at Smith & Associates Real Estate, 716 Indian Rocks Road, Belleair Bluffs. The meeting will feature networking, refreshments and door prizes. All are welcome.

Castle Hotel and with the Peabody Hotel Group.

Seeram has been awarded throughout his career including the Rising Sales Manager Star Award and manager of the quarter from the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin and sales manager of the quarter from the Doubletree Castle Hotel.

EON named finalist

CLEARWATER - EON Systems Inc. recently was selected as a finalist for the 2013 BizTech Innovation Awards in the IT Dream Team category.

The Tampa Bay Business Journal and the Tampa Bay Technology Forum sponsor the award.

EON Systems is one of three companies to be finalists for the IT Dream Team Award. The standard was based around their IT team meeting a crisis event, providing long-term solutions and practical innovation. EON Systems was selected for this honor by measuring up in this category through its creation of fine software that not only meets the needs of electronic health records' certification, but provides functionality for healthcare providers so they can get more done.

Clearwater-based EON Systems provides software for health care providers that include full practice management facilities from patient sign-in to billing, scheduling, electronic health records, patient notes, and documentation exchange and storage.

Wheelchairs 4 Kids opens

TARPON SPRINGS - Wheelchairs 4 Kids opened its doors with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Feb. 21 at 1976 S. Pinellas Ave.

Wheelchairs 4 Kids is a nonprofit organization that works to provide wheelchairs, ramps and other assistive technologies to children with mobility challenges. These challenges may be caused from previous abuse, accidents or illnesses such as cerebral palsy. Wheelchairs 4 Kids has given aid to many young people, including Madison, a 3-year-old girl who has spina bifida and had difficulty walking. The foundation purchased a dynamic stander for Madison, which enables her to roll around while standing upright.

Wheelchairs 4 Kids also sponsors field trips for disabled children, including a recent trip to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium where kids had an opportunity to see Winter the dolphin.

The ceremony featured performances from bay area entertainers, including local trop/rock band, the Beachbillies. The Beachbillies performed a variety of favorite toe-tapping, head-bobbing tunes, including hits by Bob Marley and Jimmy Buffett.

During the evening's entertainment an array of tasty treats were offered to the guests including selections from Subway, Plum Tomato Pizza and Currents Restaurant. Local convenience store Price Rite donated Cuban sandwiches.

Approximately 60 people attended the ceremony, including staff, volunteers, guests and local business people and public servants. Orthopedic surgeon John Sullivan and his wife Dawn, joined the celebration. They are contributors to the foundation. Elizabeth Hittos, district director for Congressman Gus Bilirakis, also was in attendance. Sue Thomas, president of the Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce, also participated in the event.

Tarpon Springs Mayor David Archie was at the ceremony. He presented a Certificate of Appreciation and the Key to the City to Madeline Robinson, executive director of Wheelchairs 4 Kids.

For information, call 946-0963 or visit www.wheelchairs4kids.org.

Kohl's Cares accepts scholarship nominations

The 2013 Kohl's Cares Scholarship Program will award \$425,000 in scholarships and prizes to more than 2,300 young volunteers across the country.

The Kohl's Cares Scholarship Program aims to honor youth who have made a positive impact in their communities. To nominate volunteers ages 6 to 18 for a Kohl's Cares scholarship, visit kohlskids.com. Nominations are being accepted through March 15. Those wishing to nominate a youth volunteer must be 21 years or older.

The scholarship program is open to the public and nominations are free.

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DAVID REYNOLDS JEWELRY & COIN has a new owner.

Shane Socash the head Jeweler and Graduate Gemologist bought the David Reynolds Jewelry and Coin store in Sept. 2012. After 13 years of working for the store, Founders, Earl Waters and Ron Spivack made Shane an offer he couldn't pass up. The new owner has pledged to uphold the business reputation of fair and competitively priced designer jewelry, gold/silver bullion and rare coins. The former staff, including the founders are committed to working with Shane and nothing has changed except the ownership. You can rest assured that you will be met with professional, honest personal service. A survey done by the St. Petersburg Times showed that they pay more for your gold than others. BBB Accredited since 1978. Accepting all major credit cards. **For Fine Jewelry at Real Savings visit 4009 Central Ave. They've been there 36 years. They must be doing something right! Ph: 727-327-2646. www.davidreynoldsjewelers.com**



New owner, Shane Socash and Founder, Earl Waters

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Largo Home Depot
10689 Ulmerton Road

Saturday
Mar. 16
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

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What to bring

CHEMICALS
Automotive fluids, batteries (household or vehicle), cleaners, cooking oil, fertilizers, fluorescent bulbs and other mercury containing devices, fuels (i.e. gasoline, kerosene), fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, motor oil, paint (latex or oil), paint remover, paint thinner, pesticides, pool chemicals, smoke detectors, solvents, wood preservatives.

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

What NOT to bring

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

How to Package & Transport Chemicals

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

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

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

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Locavores should make the most of 'Floribbean' food

Locavore: Derived from the sustainability movement and the World Environment Day in 2005, held that year in the other Bay Area, it means to use eating strategies designed to be beneficial for the environment, in both the short and long run.



Culinary Corner
Michael Straw

Being a locavore is what Florida can be all about. Do we really need any other type of cuisines? I've had the pleasure cooking one of the most unique cuisines in the world - in Southern California, but for me "Floribbean" food has it all.

With our superb growing climate, global influences, variety of produce, buying local in this economy is easy, especially when we have a choice. We can't ignore the fact that our HD TVs aren't made in the state, but we can make sure our eating choices become a local priority.

It begins with where we buy our family's meals and ends on how we choose a restaurant. Being a locavore means that the final result will help the local economy in some way or another. Why we ship raw food products across our country, put it in TV dinners, and then ship it back to the states the

products came from is beyond absurd.

One way to take a step at being a locavore is to check out one of the hottest food trends around. It just so happens to be on four wheels and is the king of multi-tasking when it comes to helping the local economy. The Tampa Bay food truck scene has just started its engines and is heading on to its second successful year. Following the excitement generated by the TV show of the same name, these 30-foot long pop up restaurants do wonders for locavorism. Owners of these trucks purchase most of their food at produce stands and local markets. Their eclectic, healthy, regional and vegetarian cuisines don't allow them to buy from the real big food purveyors. This unique group of young and energetic, chef-entrepreneurs are also in that age range that currently finds their employment opportunities on a major diet plan.

After cooking in a food truck myself in the infield

at the 1995 Daytona 500, I remember being crammed like a sardine in that roach coach with three others, sweating over a 350-degree grill.

I would have never dreamed that the famous Daytona BBQ pulled pork sandwich I served to drivers and crew would one day be outdone by a grilled chicken and roasted red pepper, spinach and goat cheese wrap with a side of walnut-pesto slaw.

These new food truck rallies seem to bring a lot of activity to a retail location or cityscape that adds a unique get together for friends and family, along with providing a chance to give back to our local economy.

So consider this as one way to be a locavore - in addition to buying some veggies at the neighborhood farmers market.

Michael Straw is owner and executive chef of Personal Chefs of Pasadena.

Health matters

Natural healing event planned

SAFETY HARBOR - Healing in the Harbor will take place Saturday, April 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Gazebo in historic downtown Safety Harbor.

This community event will focus on natural therapies and products that bring balance and harmony to body, mind, and spirit. This nurturing family event will feature a broad range of holistic practitioners, information and merchandise, along with skilled psychic readers and energy healers, healthy food vendors, lively music, and hands-on activities for the kids. There will be nonstop presentations by area experts on a wide variety of topics guaranteed to entertain and enlighten.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Safety Harbor Arts and Music Center. Attendees are encouraged to bring a nonperishable food item for the Neighborhood Family Center and get a free raffle ticket.

For more information, visit www.HealingintheHarbor.com or email caryl@verizon.net.

West Coast Medical Group welcomes Christman

TARPON SPRINGS - West Coast Medical Group, associated with Florida Hospital North Pinellas in Tarpon Springs, recently welcomed Dorothy Christman, M.D., family medicine physician.



Dorothy Christman

Christman is accepting new patients at 2114 Seven Springs Blvd., New Port Richey. Call 375-2719.

Christman received her medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Va. She completed her internship and residency with the University of South Florida/Morton Plant Mease Family Medicine Residency Program. She is board certified in family medicine and has practiced locally since 1998.

She caters to patients of all ages including prenatal patients, newborns, women, men and geriatrics. She performs maintenance exams, immunizations, therapeutic injections, minor dermatologic procedures and preventative health care services.

Morton Plant Mease seminars set

CLEARWATER - Morton Plant Mease will present

two health seminars geared for older adults focusing on how fatigue can stem from diseases that affect the blood and bone marrow; and how to prevent and live with osteoporosis.

The health seminars will be presented at the Aging Well Center at the Long Center, 1501 N. Belcher Road.

The first seminar, Your Blood Could Make You Tired, will be offered Wednesday, March 20, at noon.

Medical oncologist Ben Yan, M.D., will discuss how common and not-so-common diseases that affect the blood and bone marrow can contribute to fatigue. He will explain the treatments available to help with fatigue caused by these conditions. Blood pressure, glucose and sleep screenings will be offered before the seminar, from 11 a.m. to noon, on a first-come, first-served basis - no fasting is needed.

MPM also will host Osteoporosis: Prevention and Therapy on Monday, March 25, 2 p.m.

Physical therapist Carolyn Rickrode will discuss osteoporosis, explain how to prevent the bone disease and highlight the importance of living a healthy lifestyle with proper nutrition and exercise.

To register for health seminars, call 953-6877, or visit www.BayCareEvents.org.

Michaels brings tour to REH

CLEARWATER - Promising an evening of inspiration that will forever motivate and change lives, America's health and wellness guru Jillian Michaels has launched her Maximize Your Life tour which will include a Tampa Bay area stop on Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road.

Tickets start at \$49. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com.

Michaels will show how to harness potential, kick-start goals and live an exceptional life sharing her keys to health, success and happiness.

"Your health is the platform that your entire life is built upon - from your physical health to your confidence and self-worth, I will give you the skillset, tools and insights to transform any aspect of your life immediately so you realize your true potential, and create the future you've dreamed of and deserve," said Michaels in a press release.

Michaels will supply the information and action plan that will empower attendees to conquer any challenge and achieve every goal. She will demonstrate the how, what and why of workouts, sharing her most effective methods of burning fat and calo-

ries. And most importantly, she will teach how to shift attitude, behavior, and mindset to maximize life.

Michaels has become the world's leading health and wellness expert. She has appeared on 11 seasons of NBC's "The Biggest Loser," seen in more than 90 countries around the world. As a motivator and role model, she has made a unique connection with her audience, one that stems from her own personal journey.

Underground Yoga event set

PALM HARBOR - Tampa native and movement trendsetter Michelle LeMay will return from Los Angeles to launch Underground Yoga and Underground Yoga Dance at Shapes Total Fitness Palm Harbor, 32872 U.S. 19.

Filled with tools to promote happier, healthier, stress free and creative living, Underground Yoga Lifestyle System weaves yoga, dancing, fitness, stretching, breath-work, live music and meditation together into a system that positively affects mind, body and soul.

Shapes Total Fitness for Women is designed for guests of all levels, including women who have never wanted to step foot inside a health club.

For information, visit www.shapestotalfitness.com/Club/Scripts/Home/home.asp.

Local YMCAs chosen for major diabetes program

CLEARWATER - There are four YMCAs in Florida - and three of them are in the Tampa Bay area - that are only 17 nationwide to be selected to be a part of an important demonstration project to prevent diabetes and save money. The YMCAs of Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Tampa and Venice are the ones selected in Florida.

An estimated 1 in 3 adults in the United States have pre-diabetes, although only 7 percent of those people know they have it, according to a YMCA press release. Diabetes is a leading driver in healthcare costs, with about \$1 in \$10 attributed to the disease.

To help counter these rising healthcare costs, YMCA of the USA is launching a demonstration project to deliver the YMCA's Diabetes Prevention Program to 10,000 Medicare enrollees during the next three years.

The YMCA received a Health Care Innovation Award by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation of nearly \$12 million over three years to conduct this project. This award is the first of its kind where a public payer is investing in a chronic disease prevention program delivered by a community-based organization, the press release said.

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Nonpopulation census schedules – little known treasures

Most genealogists are familiar to one degree or another with the census.

They have typically spent hours poring over the records and images found online today, and most of us remember a period when that time was spent in front of a hooded microfilm reader.

It was, and is, time well spent because of the wealth of information and hints for further research that the census provides.

But did you know that when you are doing that research you are only looking at one of several documents produced during the taking of the census?

The documents we generally look at are known as the population schedule. That is the part of the census that enumerates, or lists, the population of the country.

But there were other schedules that were produced at the same time as the population schedule that have relatively recently been made easily available to us online. As a group, these are known as the non-population schedules.

For instance if a person on the population schedule is found to be the owner or operator of a farm, then another document called the farm schedule was produced. And if the person on the population schedule was the owner of a manufacturing business, then a manufacturing schedule was completed. Each of those additional schedules went into sometimes excruciating detail about the assets and produc-



Genealogy exposed
Peter Summers

tivity of the individual farm or business.

In the case of the agricultural census, for example, the number of farm animals by type were recorded (pigs, goats, chicken, horses, milch cows, etc.), the number of acres under cultivation and fallow, the acres of timberland, the production in bushels of oats and other grains, etc. The questions go on and on.

Non-population schedules were not produced every census year, and some have not survived over time. The period from 1850 to 1880 saw a number of them, however. It is those that are accessible to us today. Some of the schedules actually do enumerate people, just as the familiar population schedules did, but they are special groups ... so I am including them in the category of non-population schedules for convenience.

Those schedules include: slave schedule (1850-60), agricultural (1850-80), manufacturing (1850-80), mortality (1850-85), social statistics (1850-80), defective/dependent/delinquent (1880), veterans and widows (1890), and Indian (1885-1940).

In earlier articles I have already discussed the special veterans census of 1890 and the mortality schedules. In future articles I'll cover some of the other schedules that I have listed.

Until recently, accessing these schedules has been somewhat challenging because the National Archives had microfilmed only a few states' records, and none were digitized to view online. Also some

states' records were retained in various repositories such as state archives or historical societies. But relatively recently, access has become easier as Ancestry.com has digitized them and made them available online. Remember that Ancestry is a subscription site, but you can access it for free at your local public library.

Additionally, the free site FamilySearch.org also has some of the schedules digitized, but not nearly as many as Ancestry at this point.

Even the Ancestry collection is not complete. It varies with the type of schedule you are interested in, but the states represented are basically the following: Alabama, California, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

Note that I said availability really depends on the schedule you are interested in, so it never hurts to search the collection to see what hits you may get even if at first glance it might appear that your ancestor was not represented.

It is also important to know that in general, data recorded on the non-population schedules covered one year exactly (the 365-day period preceding the effective date of the census). Also realize that the information collected on each schedule changed throughout the years. That means it is worth your time to look at the schedules over the span of census years if you have an ancestor who was recorded.

In future articles I will cover in more detail some of the nonpopulation schedules, but they are there waiting for you if you want to get a head start on me.

Special events

Society hosts Family History Assistance Day

LARGO – Pinellas Genealogy Society and Largo Public Library are offering "Family History Assistance Day," on Saturday, April 27, noon to 4 p.m., in the Jenkins Room on the first floor of the library, 120 Central Park Drive.

Bring information about your family and receive free one-on-one assistance from a consultant from the society. Beginners are especially encouraged to attend and experience the process of tracing their genealogical history. Society members also will be giving tours of the library's Genealogy Center and available classes.

For more information about this Pinellas Genealogy Society event, call Bob Bryan at 595-4521 or send email to Bbryan84@gmail.com.

Two-part genealogy workshop set

SAFETY HARBOR – The Safety Harbor Public Library will host two free genealogy workshops in March for people interested in uncovering details about their family history.

Genealogy Series with Traci Caldwell part 1, "The Basics of Starting

Your Family Tree" is set for Thursday, March 14, 6 to 7:30 p.m. This workshop will focus on the information that one needs to start researching your ancestry.

Genealogy Series with Traci Caldwell part 2, "Using Ancestry.com and Other Digital Resources for Family Research" is set for Thursday, March 21, 6 to 7:30 p.m. This workshop will provide information on the most effective ways to research family history and the best places to look for information using digital databases such as www.ancestry.com.

Traci Caldwell is a seasoned genealogist who has spent years tracing her own family history and helping others in finding information about their own families.

Registration is required. Call 724-1525, ext. 112 to reserve a seat.

**Visit the Largo Leader every day
at www.TBNweekly.com**

Worship calendar

Beth-El Shalom Messianic congregation

ST. PETERSBURG – The Passover seder will come alive on Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m., at Beth-El Shalom Messianic Congregation, 1701 29th Ave. N.

Attendees will learn the meaning of each of the Passover food items and ceremonies. This full service will feature all the food items to taste such as the matzah, charoset and maror – everything except a dinner.

All are welcome. Admission is free but seating is limited. Preregistration is required. For information and to register, call 345-7777, email Rabbi@Jewishheritage.net or visit www.Jewishheritage.net.

Church by the Sea

MADEIRA BEACH – The annual rummage and bake sale will run Thursday through Saturday, March 7-9, at Church by the Sea, 494 137th Ave. Circle (137th Avenue at Gulf Boulevard).

Hours will be Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The sale will feature hundreds of items at bargain prices.

For information, call 391-7706.

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Horse therapy



WORSHIP, from page 12A



Photos by JIM LAYFIELD

Far left, Raquel, 9, of St. Petersburg rides Fancy through a maze of posts with volunteers Sam Fisher, left, of Seminole; Judy Dwyer, right, of Largo, and Bailey Schreiner of Largo, at the Seminole Kiwanis Club's Horses for Handicapped event at Friendship Glen Stables, 9610 125th St. Horseback riding is a beneficial therapy for the handicapped, building self-confidence while improving posture and coordination. At left, Madeline Colbert, 13, of St. Petersburg, rides unassisted. Above, Zachary Vanderbeck, 21, of Clearwater, grooms Trouble before the event.

Calvary Episcopal Church

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – "Music of Broadway," the Calvary Concert Series Dinner Show, will be presented Sunday, March 10, 4 p.m., at Calvary Episcopal Church, 1615 First St.

The show will feature the Sunation Show Chorus. Tickets are \$25 each for a catered dinner and the show in Parish Hall. Limited seating is available. Tickets must be purchased by March 4.

To purchase tickets, call Lynn Vera at 644-1712.

The church also will sponsor its second annual community talent show Sunday, April 14.

For information, call Vera at 644-1712.

Hope Presbyterian Church

CLEARWATER – An all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner is planned for Saturday, March 23, 5 to 7:30 p.m., at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road.

Attendees are welcome to take a night off from cooking and take part in this fun community dinner. Dinner will include a beverage, salad with toppings, all-you-can-eat spaghetti and meatballs, a side of bread and dessert.

Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door and \$4 for kids 5 and younger. To RSVP, call 531-3200 or email office@hopefamily.com.

All donations will benefit the ministries and mission of Hope Church.

Church holds annual fashion show

BELLEAIR – The St. Jerome Catholic Church will hold its annual spring fashion show and luncheon Thursday, March 14, at the Belleair Country Club, 1 Country Club Drive.

Cocktails will be served at 11:30 a.m. The lunch begins at noon. Diners can choose between chicken and salmon. The cost is \$25. Call 214-8666 no later than March 11.

Parbawatiya Kadampa Buddhist Center

SAFETY HARBOR – The Parbawatiya Kadampa Buddhist Center will sponsor three programs in the coming weeks.

Life Without Pain will be presented Tuesdays, March 12, 19 and 26; 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., at Parbawatiya Kadampa Buddhist Center, 201 Sixth Ave. S.

This class includes two guided meditations and a teaching. It is designed for anyone with an interest in Buddhism and meditation.

Introduction to Buddhist Psychology will be offered Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21 and 28; 7 to 8:30 p.m., at Parbawatiya Kadampa Buddhist Center. The program teaches basic meditation and the practice of Kadampa Buddhism. The purpose of the class is to help people to gain personal experience of inner peace, to overcome their daily problems and to find real happiness in their hearts. This class includes two guided meditations and a teaching.

Cost for each class is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and those on limited income.

The center also will host Prayers for World Peace Sundays, March 17, 24 and 31; 10 to 11:30 a.m., at the center. Led by Buddhist monk Kelsang Chokyan, the class will present an introduction to meditation from the Kadampa Buddhist tradition.

The class will include two guided meditations and a short talk, and is suitable for beginners. Everyone is welcome. Attendees may make a donation.

The Parbawatiya Kadampa Buddhist Center is a nonprofit organization. Call 797-9770, or visit www.meditationintampabay.org.

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Military updates

Nicholas Miller

LARGO - Marine Corps Pfc. Nicholas Miller recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Miller's wife, Jessica, is the daughter of Sharon and Jay Taber of Largo.

Justin Seelig

LARGO - Army Pfc. Justin Seelig recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Seelig is the son of Cindy Seelig of Largo. He is a 2011 graduate of Clearwater High School.

Brian Chadwick

LARGO - Army Pvt. Brian Chadwick recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Chadwick is the son of Brandt Chadwick of Largo.

Dylan Abrunzo

LARGO - Army Pvt. Dylan Abrunzo recently graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Abrunzo is the son of Cindy Hair of Largo. He is a 2011 graduate of Gaither High School, Tampa.

Joseph Guarnieri

SAFETY HARBOR - Marine Corps Pvt. Joseph Guarnieri recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Guarnieri is the son of Grayce Guarnieri of Safety Harbor, and Joseph Guarnieri of St. Petersburg.

Guarnieri is a 2012 graduate of Osceola High School.

Derek Hulbert

CLEARWATER - Marine Corps Pfc. Derek Hulbert recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Hulbert is the son of Michelle L. Hulbert, and David Hulbert, both of Clearwater.

Hulbert is a 2010 graduate of Clearwater High School.

Dalmarys Rodriguez

CLEARWATER - Air Force Reserve Airman Dalmarys Rodriguez recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Rodriguez is the daughter of Isaac Nieves of Clearwater. She is a 2008 graduate of Paul R. Wharton High School, Tampa. She earned an associate degree in 2011 from Hillsborough Community College, Brandon.



Dalmarys Rodriguez

Matthew Wallace

SEMINOLE - Navy Fireman Matthew Wallace recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Wallace is the son of Rose Har-

ris and Lawrence Wallace, both of Seminole. He is a 2008 graduate of Osceola High School.

James Fitzpatrick

ST. PETERSBURG - Air Force Airman James Fitzpatrick recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Fitzpatrick is the son of Jim Fitzpatrick of St. Petersburg. He is a 2011 graduate of St. Petersburg High School.



James Fitzpatrick

Benjamin Wallis

DUNEDIN - Army Pfc. Benjamin Wallis recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Wallis is the son of Brenda Wallis of Dunedin. He is a 2011 graduate of Dunedin High School.

Garrett Rachford

SEMINOLE - Army Pvt. Garrett Rachford recently graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Rachford is a 2012 graduate of Osceola High School.

Erin Myers

SEMINOLE - Navy Airman

Erin Myers and other fellow Sailors aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) recently got underway, following a four-day port visit to Jebel Ali, Dubai.

Myers is the daughter of Penny L. Myers of Seminole. She is a 2008 graduate of Central Dauphin High School of Harrisburg, Pa., and joined the Navy in April 2012.

During the port visit, Myers experienced the local culture by participating in a variety of tours sponsored by Stennis' Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) division. Sailors also had the chance to participate in community engagement projects such as read books to children at a special needs school and clean and repairing a local church.

In addition, football fans gathered in the Ship's hangar bay to watch the Baltimore Ravens play the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XLVII.

John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group, consisting of John C. Stennis, Carrier Air Wing 9, Destroyer Squadron 21, and Mobile Bay currently forward deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operation, theater security cooperation efforts and support missions for Operations Enduring Freedom.

Kerry Murphy

ST. PETERSBURG - Army Spec. Kerry Murphy recently returned to the U.S. after being deployed overseas at a forward operating base to serve in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Murphy is the son of Tamiko Rose of St. Petersburg. His wife, Kelsey, is the daughter of Wilma Garet of St. Petersburg. The specialist is a 2009 graduate of Gibbs High School.

Murphy is a signal support systems specialist assigned to the 4th Airborne Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. He has served in the military for three years.

Branden Buckner

CLEARWATER - Air Force Airman Branden Buckner recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force

Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Buckner is the son of Monica Malkey of San Antonio, Texas; and Jerry Buckner of Clearwater. He is a 2011 graduate of A&M Consolidated High School, College Station, Texas.



Branden Buckner

James Bueno

SEMINOLE - Navy Seaman Recruit James Bueno recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Bueno is the son of Deana Peters, and Cesar Bueno, both of Seminole. He is a 2011 graduate of Dixie Hollins High School.



James Bueno

Thomas Weber

LARGO - Marine Corps Pvt. Thomas Weber recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Weber is the son of Megan and Paul Weber of Largo. He is a 2011 graduate of Largo High School.

Robert Mattull

LARGO - Marine Corps Pfc.

Robert Mattull recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Mattull is the grandson of Dave and Carol Hammond of Largo. He is a 2009 graduate of Pinellas Park High School.

Joseph Accetta

LARGO - Marine Corps Pvt. Joseph Accetta recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Accetta is the son of Kathleen M. and Anthony Accetta of Largo. He is a 2012 graduate of Osceola Fundamental High School.

Corey Cozzi

LARGO - Marine Corps Pvt. Corey Cozzi recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Cozzi is the son of Teresa Cozzi of Largo. He is a 2012 graduate of Largo High School.

Timothy Edenfield

LARGO - Marine Corps Pfc. Timothy Edenfield recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Edenfield's wife, Adrienne, is the daughter of Maria Daly of Largo.

Michael Vance

LARGO - Navy Seaman Michael Vance recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Vance is the son of Debbie Vance of Fairborn, Ohio; and Michael Vance, of Largo. He is a 2012 graduate of Fairborn High School.

Alexandra Powers

SEMINOLE - Navy Seaman Recruit Alexandra Powers recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Powers is the daughter of Samantha and stepdaughter of Okini Hernandez of Seminole. She is a 2011 graduate of Seminole High School.

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Don't help Cuba until both of the Castros are dead

While we may have "a right to be stupid" in this country, as Secretary of State John F. Kerry said the other day in Berlin, it is a "right" that we should not abuse.



Florida Voices
Angel Castillo Jr.

For instance, it would be stupid indeed, and against America's interests, for the Obama Administration to now throw a lifeline of U.S. dollars to the Castro dictatorship in Cuba just as it is entering its death convulsions.

Since President Barack Obama won re-election, there has been a notable increase in the number of politicians and "think tanks" urging him to unilaterally make things easier for Cuba – end what remains of the trade embargo, take Cuba off the list of state sponsors of terrorism, etc.

These pro-Castro advocates always fail to explain why making these unilateral changes in U.S. policy would advance any American interests. They would not.

They also fail to suggest that Cuba should do anything in return. For instance, Cuba could free imprisoned American hostage Alan Gross, free all political prisoners, stop harassing dissidents and allow the downtrodden Cuban people to organize independent political parties and have freedom of speech, press, religion and association.

When it comes to Cuba policy, I do not trust Kerry for even one nanosecond. When he ran for president in 2004, I kept two news photographs from his days as a Democratic U.S. senator from Massachusetts taped to my office wall.

In one he was shaking hands with the Marxist revolutionary chief-tain Daniel Ortega in Nicaragua in 1985. In the other he was smiling during a 1993 meeting in Ho Chi Minh City (the former Saigon) with Do Muoi, then the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Kerry, now 69, is the former Vietnam War veteran who in 1971 threw his combat ribbons over a fence at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., to show his belated opposition to the U.S. fight against communism in Southeast Asia.

Therefore, it came as no surprise to me that the moment Kerry became secretary of state, the Cuban head of state, Raul Castro, 81, quickly engaged in a flurry of window-dressing activities to entice the U.S. to open the flow of dollars to the bankrupt island. He named a new vice president and a new head of the puppet National Assembly, and he promised that he would retire as dictator in 2018.

Of course, these "changes" are meaningless, as Raul and his brother Fidel, who is 86, remain in complete control of the country. They can change vice presidents and National Assembly leaders on a whim, as well as revoke Raul's announced retirement date at any time.

But before they die, Fidel and Raul desperately want to see the U.S. unilaterally end the embargo and allow American tourists, businesses, and, most of all, dollars to return to their misery-stricken island. That way, they could proclaim themselves the "winners" of a "heroic struggle" that they began in 1959 against the imperialists.

Why bail them out now, at the end of their sorry lives? There will be plenty of time for the United States to thoughtfully review and modify its policies toward Cuba after the Castro brothers have taken their communist carcasses to hell.

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

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The education governor – is it really Rick Scott?

In his proposed 2013-14 budget, Scott suggests that Florida classroom teachers receive an across-the-board \$2,500 raise. He sent a letter to the chairman of the state Board of Education for presentation at the board's Feb. 25 meeting outlining the plan, which would cost a hefty \$480 million. The governor also recommended spending an additional \$14 million for teachers' classroom supplies.



Florida Voices
Cary McMullen

It's easy to be cynical about such announcements. Scott proved to be a virtual nemesis of rank-and-file teachers over the past two years, cutting the state's education budget and supporting the elimination of teacher tenure. Political realities have set in, and he seems amazed people don't love him for the job he's doing. In the wake of fellow Republicans' drubbing in the last election, Scott suddenly faces the prospect of a very tough re-election, likely against now-Democrat Charlie Crist.

So Scott's about-face could be his attempt to woo voters, especially teachers, with a kinder, gentler side.

In his letter to the education board proposing pay increases, he said they would be a way "to strategically invest in statewide priorities that will encourage job creation for generations to come." In other words, he's justifying the raises on the same grounds that got him elected – an appeal to job creation. He also said in the letter that the state's teachers earned the raise because of Florida's improvement in one national review and rises in test scores and graduation rates.

Even assuming those results are sound, they owe no thanks to Scott's policies, but never mind. I offer another reason for raising pay for all teachers: simple economics. Does anybody in our owned-by-the-Chamber-of-Commerce, free-enterprise-forever state Legislature believe teachers are exempt from one of economics' basic rules – that talented workers will follow higher pay? If we want to know why our public-education system fares poorly compared with other states, could it be our best teachers run to other states that pay more?

Here's another reason to support higher pay for teachers. In its zeal to ferret out whom they believe to be lazy, indifferent or incompetent teachers, our legislators put the blame for poorly performing schools on the wrong side of the equation. It's students who ought to be held accountable, as they were in the past.

When I attended public school, the common assumption was that if a kid brought home a bad grade, it was because he was lazy, indifferent or incompetent. The onus was on students to take personal responsibility – there's a Republican phrase for you – for their educations. It was not the teacher at fault when a student brought home straight Ds. When did we start assuming the blame lay with a bad teacher?

But of course that is not the political mantra these days. Reports are that legislators are cool to Gov. Scott's proposal for across-the-board pay increases because they favor instead – wait for it – merit increases. Never mind that teacher and school evaluations based on test scores are increasingly proving to be failed policy.

Scott in his letter touts teachers as "the cornerstone of educational success." He's right, of course, but who is listening? Not the tea party or even the legislative leadership. Not teachers themselves, after the way he treated them in the past.

The same political fear that drove Scott might actually get through to enough legislators to give Florida's teachers boosts in pay and morale. But Rick Scott shouldn't expect anyone who supports public education to stumble over themselves rushing to thank him.

Cary McMullen is a journalist and editor who lives in Lakeland. Readers can reach him at cmcmullen@floridavoices.com.

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The five wives of Tony Coyle

Tony Coyle was in trouble. He could not remember the answer to his bank's security question "In what city did you first meet your spouse?"

The problem was that Coyle had been married five times. He had no memory of which wife he had used several years ago when he first set up his bank account. So today – in desperation – he entered the first-encounter meeting place of all five wives, one at a time.

But this ploy only made the bank's computer suspicious. It then asked Coyle to enter the number of his debit card. He tried, but the card was so old and worn that the numbers were blurred. Coyle, who was near-sighted, entered the wrong number. This caused the bank's computer screen to post, in huge type, "THEFT SUSPECTED!" and then shut down.

The trouble had started when Coyle flew from his home in Chicago to visit his beautiful sweetheart Wanda in Georgia. On his arrival, Coyle booted up his computer to query his checking account status on his bank's website. His computer promptly crashed.

Wanda said, "Use my Apple computer. It never fails." Coyle gladly accepted the offer. He wished he had bought an Apple years ago. He was tired of Microsoft, clicking 16 keys for every function, and having to buy a new version of Word every two years.

He booted up his bank's website. And that was when the trouble began about naming his first encounter with his first wife, and so forth.

Coyle shut down Wanda's computer and decided to take his own computer to a repair shop. As he drove off, in Wanda's car – which had an "OBAMA-BIDEN 2012" sticker on the rear window – a policeman flagged him down.



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

The cop said, "Mister, I don't much like Mr. Obama and his socialist buddies. Show me your driver's license."

Then the cop said, "So you're from Chicago. Isn't that where Obama began his conspiracy? And how come you're driving a vehicle with Georgia plates?" So Coyle had to tell him about Wanda, the busted computer, the bank's security questions – the whole catastrophe.

Reluctantly the policeman let Coyle proceed. On the way to the computer shop, he noticed that Wanda's car needed gas. He found a gas station and inserted his debit card in the slot. A sign appeared: NOT VALID – SEE THE ATTENDANT. The attendant said, "Our computer indicates you may be a computer card thief. Shall I call a cop, or will you pay in cash?" Coyle paid in cash, using the last few dollars he had brought with him. By now he was weary and wished computers and credit cards had never been invented.

After surrendering his computer to the repair shop, Coyle returned to Wanda's home, opened a beer and collapsed on the sofa. Wanda asked him to recount his day. At this point Coyle made a big mistake. He began by telling Wanda about his inability to recall which of his five wives' first encounter was the one he had chosen for the bank's security question.

Wanda said, "FIVE wives? You told me you

were married only once before. What's up, Coyle?"

Coyle back-pedaled as fast as he could, but only partly succeeded in quieting Wanda's outrage at having been lied to.

"You wanted to make me No. 6?!!" she said. And so it went, for more than two hours. Eventually Coyle's remorse became obvious to Wanda. Another softening factor was the terrible day Coyle had been going through with his computer and credit cards.

At last Wanda accepted Coyle's apologies and his promise never to lie to her again. To seal the pact, Coyle offered to take Wanda for a full-course dinner at the town's finest eatery, the Cracker Barrel. With all the gusto that forgiveness and true love can engender, Coyle and Wanda ordered an epicurean repast of fried chicken, onion rings, home fries, okra, corn bread and peach cobbler, plus sweetened ice tea.

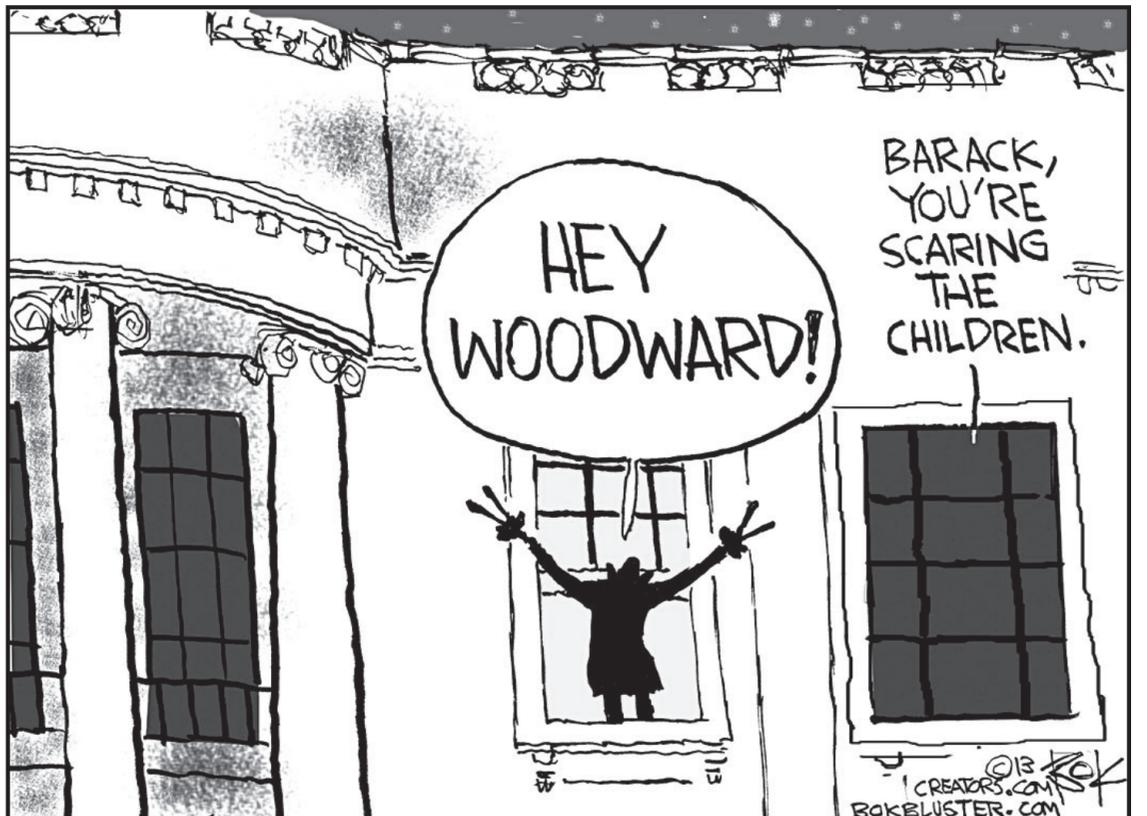
As the meal progressed, Coyle's spirits rose. He felt that, with time, he could ultimately restore Wanda's confidence in him.

She stood beside him at the cash register as Coyle pulled out his billfold to pay for their supper. He handed the clerk his debit card. When she rang it up, lights began to flicker on the machine. The clerk said, "I'm sorry, sir, but your bank tells me you've overdrawn your funds."

Coyle groaned, "And I don't have any more cash with me."

Wanda gave Coyle the sort of look you might bestow on a mentally challenged chimpanzee. With a sigh she said, "It's okay, Tony. I'll pay the supper bill. I'm sure any of your five wives would do the same."

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



There is something 'going around'

Cursing, my usual defense against a pesky illness, had no effect upon the bug that invaded my body.

I gave it my best effort, out of earshot of friends and co-workers, but I continued to sneeze, cough and talk as if I had marbles in my mouth.

My eyes were watery, my ears were clogged. If I were living in the wild, the toxic green fluid that I discharged from my throat would ward off any predators. Don't worry. I rarely bite people.

For two weeks, I was determined to let the bug run its course and just fend it off with water, rest and a couch potato's lifestyle.

Not sure where this bug came from, but I suspect I got it from a co-worker – because it was "going around." And when an office malady is going around, look out.

Sorry, I guess it's presumptuous to think that the average reader knows what going around means.

Going around is defined as the state of which any malady, such as flu, is so contagious and threatening upon the host population as to cause consternation that a person can contract the malady, recuperate, give the disease to the person sitting near him and get it back again.

"Ain't my fault you're sick," I heard an employee say to Don, a co-worker. "Larry brought it to the office six months ago."

Don said something, but his voice was so bad, we had to bring in a frog to communicate with him.

Besides allowing the practice of employees pointing the fingers at each other, protocol in most offices where I've worked calls for personnel to freely dispense medical advice.

"Chicken soup, Tom. That's the ticket." No can do. I don't cook. "Gargle some salt water."



Tom Germond

And I'll put the lime in coconut, too. "A good belt of whisky is what you need." Doc Holiday is alive and well. "Go get some drugs."

I hate drugs. A few years ago I had foot surgery and my doctor gave me a painkiller similar to Oxycodone. All it did was upset my stomach so much I had to go to the bathroom

Not sure where this bug came from, but I suspect I got it from a co-worker – because it was "going around." And when an office malady is going around, look out.

several times. And it hurt like hell to walk on my mangled foot.

"You should see a doctor." "#\$! Gump! You're a @\$# genius! This is the most outstanding answer I have ever heard.

Oh, no. On top of contracting a bug that's been going around for six months, I also have an earworm again. I keep hearing this tune sung by Harry Nilsson in the '70s.

"Put the lime in coconut, and then you'll

feel better. Put the lime ..."

After hearing unsolicited medical advice and making the mistake of consulting with the Internet know-it-all-wanna-be doctors, I was ready to bite somebody.

Fortunately, my annual visit to the doctor's office was only a few days away, so I decided to tough it out until then.

Put the lime in the coconut, Put the lime ... Describing my symptoms to my doctor, I told him that despite my hacking, sneezing and chest congestion, I didn't have a fever. He checked my lungs and said they appeared to be functioning normally. I decided to refrain from telling him about the earworms.

He said allergies appear to be the culprit and recommended that I take an antihistamine for my sinuses and expectorant for my cough. Since I didn't appear to have a bacterial infection, he thought antibiotics wouldn't be of any help.

I took the medicine, and lo and behold, I seem to be recuperating. I've also waged war against dust mites, which seem to be hiding in my house because I can't see them. Same goes for earworms.

Taking a walk on a chilly afternoon, I felt better. Life was normal again. No more watery eyes. I could see oak trees dropping pollen-laced crud on the ground. My ears were clear. I could hear the distant wail of an ambulance. All systems were go in my nostrils, too. Walking past a lift station, I could smell the stench of sewage.

Throughout my ordeal, surprisingly, I never lost my sense of taste. A draft beer I was served in a restaurant was flat. Can't conceive of anything worse, other than putting a lime in it.

Tom Germond is executive editor of Tampa Bay Newspapers. His email is tgermond@TBNweekly.com.

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Publisher/President: Dan Autrey
dautrey@tbnweekly.com

Accounting Manager: Andrea Marcarelli
tbriandy@yahoo.com

Retail Advertising Manager: Jay Rey
jrey@tbnweekly.com

Classified Advertising Manager: Wendy Edwards
wedwards@tbnweekly.com

Executive Editor: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

Production Manager: David Brown
production@tbnweekly.com

Internet Services Manager: Suzette Porter
webmaster@tbnweekly.com

Seminole/Beach Beacon: Bob McClure
bmcclure@tbnweekly.com

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

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

Clearwater Beacon: Alexandra Lundahl
alundahl@tbnweekly.com

Pinellas Park Beacon: Tiffany Razzano
trazzano@tbnweekly.com

9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772

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

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

Dunedin Beacon: Tom Germond
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

General Editorial
editorial@tbnweekly.com

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Largo High announces its top scholars

LARGO - Largo High School announced its valedictorian and salutatorian for the 2012-2013 school year in an informal ceremony March 1.

The families of Steven Higginbotham and Adriana Wilson were invited to watch Largo High School Principal Brad Finkbner award each with a certificate of recognition in the media center of the school.

"We are proud of the accomplishments of these two outstanding scholars, and we look forward to seeing them represent Largo High School in their post-secondary endeavors," Finkbner stated in a release announcing the awards.

Photos of the students will be displayed in the school's Academic Hall of Fame.



Largo High School Principal Brad Finkbner, center, recognizes seniors Adriana Wilson and Steven Higginbotham as salutatorian and valedictorian, respectively, during an informal ceremony March 1.

Valedictorian

Higginbotham is Largo High School's top scholar with a weighted grade-point average of 4.74. During his academic career, Higginbotham enrolled in the most rigorous courses that Largo High School has to offer including 10 different Advanced Placement courses and a variety of honors courses.

He most will likely attend the University of South Florida in the fall and is interested in studying engineering.

Higginbotham is enrolled in the Exploring Careers and Education in Leadership, or ExCEL, magnet program at the school, and he is also the Captain of the Academic Team. He is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society and was a district champion tennis player

during his sophomore year.

He has been recognized in annual awards ceremonies for his achievement in Chemistry I, Advanced Placement Chemistry and for scholarship among ExCEL magnet students. He also has volunteered at the RCS food bank in Clearwater.

Salutatorian

Wilson is the school's salutatorian for the year. After enrolling in seven different Advanced Placement courses and a variety

of Honors courses, Wilson maintains a 4.70 weighted grade-point average.

She is planning to attend the University of Florida in the fall where she will enroll in the pre-med program.

Wilson is the National Honor Society president; vice president of the Spanish National Honor Society; principal violinist for the Largo High School Orchestra; secretary for the Rho Kappa club, a history honor society, and the treasurer for the Science club.

She is a member of the Quill and Scroll Honor Society as well as the Tri-M Music Honor Society.

Wilson has participated in the Pinellas Youth Symphony Orchestra, and she was a part of the All-State Orchestra for the last three years and the All-County Orchestra for the last five years. She has been a Doorways/Take Stock in Children scholarship recipient since she was in the third grade. She also has received the Matt J. Williams and Carwise awards.

Largo Elks lodge names students of the month

LARGO - The Largo Elks Lodge No. 2159 recently announced the students of the month for January and December.

January's winner is Jacklyn Spatzer, the daughter of Donald and Janet Spatzer and a senior at Largo High School. Her GPA is 4.5, putting her in the top 10 percent of her class.

Her school activities include varsity volleyball, National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society as well as taking Advanced Placement courses. While not busy at school, Jacklyn works at Hungry Howies, competes in recreational soccer and volunteers at the Pinellas County Animal Shelter.

December's winner is Emily Tanner, the daughter of Victoria and Donald Tanner and a senior at Largo High School.

Emily has a GPA of 4.3. She is a member of the National Honor Society, International Thespian Society and English Honor Society.

She is a very active member of her Gulf Coast Church, active in choir, drama team, dance team, praise band and youth group. She is a student summer volunteer and camp counselor and also a professional home cleaner.

Some of her hobbies include public speaking, working with children, debating and the pursuit of music, which includes singing and playing the



Jacklyn Spatzer



Emily Tanner

flute, oboe and piano.

There were no applicants for student of the month for the month of February.

School honors fallen heroes at game

LARGO - Indian Rocks Christian School will honor two fallen military heroes before a baseball game on Saturday, March 9, 11 a.m., on the campus of First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks at 12685 Ulmerton Road.

School alumni, friends, and teammates Matt Sitton and Frank Gross will be remembered with a special presentation from Vern Kinsey, the school student council and the Golden Eagle Baseball team.

The school prides itself on the character of its students, and no students displayed that type of character better than Sitton and Gross. The members of the community where both grew up and dedicated their lives to protect are invited to join the special event that celebrates their courage.

For more information, call 596-4342.

east of Gulf Boulevard in the field between COTI Community Christian School and Church of the Isles.

"We created this event six years ago as a grass roots fundraiser for the school that would educate and support all things eco-friendly and local. It has grown into a community supported festival for all ages," says Christy Ward, event coordinator, in a press release.

Foster homes needed

Foster homes are needed in Pinellas and Pasco counties due to child abuse, neglect or abandonment, and many of these children need to live in a temporary foster home. Eckerd Community Alternatives needs more people, however, to serve as foster parents.

To become a foster parent, one must be at least 21 years old, have appropriate housing, pass a background screening, and complete a home study and 30 hours of special training called M.A.P.P. There must be adequate space in the home. Although they will receive financial assistance to help care for the foster child, they cannot rely on this to pay their bills. Foster parents may be single or married, have a family of their own, be an empty nester or never have had children.

Call the Eckerd Recruitment Line toll-free at 866-233-0790.

School notes

LHS Class of 1963 plans 50th reunion

LARGO - The Largo High School Class of 1963 announces its 50th reunion celebration will be held Sept. 6-8 at the Hilton Clearwater Beach, 400 Mandalay Ave.

Also invited are 1963 Seminole High School graduates, classmates who transferred from Largo High and Largo High graduates from the

class of 1964 and 1965. For information about hotel accommodations, visit www.largo63.com. For reservations, call 442-3457. Contact Charlie Harper at charper1@tampabay.rr.com or 584-4906 or Bonnie Fye McGee at bmcgee@tampabay.rr.com.

Sandy Hook fundraiser set

SEMINOLE - A fundraiser to help memorial efforts at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., will be held Tuesday, March 12, 5 to 8 p.m., at Dairy Queen, 10820 Park Blvd.

Twenty percent of proceeds will go toward efforts by Seminole's Olivia Simmons to raise money for a park memorial in memory of the victims of Sandy Hook. Her goal is to raise \$1,000.

For more information, email tracysimmons80@yahoo.com.

IRB 6th Annual Greenfest set for March 16

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH - COTI School's 6th Annual Greenfest will be held Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Greenfest will feature live music by Toni Wylie and the Islands, food from local restaurants, draft beer and wine sponsored by Crabby Bill's Seafood, a "green" marketplace, and plenty of activities for kids of all ages including a bounce house, playground, arts and crafts, and dancing.

Local nonprofit groups such as Sea Bird Sanctuary, Surfrider Foundation, and Pinellas County Extension, will answer questions and provide information about how to get involved.

There also will be raffle prizes including a weekend getaway sponsored by Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty. Festival attendees can shop for local, organic, and environmentally-friendly products, meet like-minded individuals, and support their local community.

The event will be held at 24th Avenue and First Street, two blocks

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The best in softball travel to Clearwater for tournaments

By ALEXANDRA LUNDAHL

CLEARWATER – Softball has come to Clearwater, and some of the best players in the country will be around through Sunday, March 17. The USF softball series began March 1 with the USF Under Armour Invitational, and continues this weekend, Friday, March 8 through Sunday, March 10, with the USF Under Armour Showcase and concluding the following weekend with the City of Clearwater Spring Invitational.

The events are all held at the Eddie C. Moore Complex, 2780 Drew St., and are some of the largest NCAA Division I tournaments in the country. Teams from all over the country will play, including USF, Boston University, Penn State, Quinnipiac University, Northwestern University, Dartmouth College, Florida A&M University, Iowa State University, the University of South Carolina and many others. A complete list and schedule is at www.usfseries.com.

Many of the teams are on their spring breaks and stay for the whole week, playing in the tournaments on the bookended weekends, said Melissa "Skeeter" Gentile, tournament director. This brings thousands of people to Clearwater and the Tampa Bay area.

"A lot of these teams play in a tournament and then they stay during the week and practice and they pick up mid-week games and then they play in the next weekend's tournament as well," Gentile said. "So quite a few of these teams are here for seven to 10 days in the Clearwater area. ... So it's not only great softball and exposes all of our softball athletes in the county to some great softball but it also brings a huge economic impact to the area



Photos by JIM LAYFIELD

Above, Toledo Rocket Lanie Ernst, in gold, can't handle the throw, and D'Anna Devine of University of South Florida slides safely into second base. At left, USF third-baseman Kenshrya Jackson settles under an infield pop fly to end the inning. USF opened the tournament against Kentucky on March 1, losing 4-1 in nine innings. Regaining their composure, USF went on to defeat Illinois, 3-2, Toledo, 8-2, and Illinois Chicago, 2-1.

in terms of these teams spending money in our local businesses and enjoying our beaches. So it's a win-win for everybody."

This is a good opportunity for the participating schools because it allows them to really prepare in the preseason, playing against the other best teams, but it also allows for a rare vacation, Gentile

said. Especially for the northern teams which otherwise would be spending their spring breaks practicing but being stuck in the freezing temperatures. This way, she said, they can steal a day or two on the beach as well as getting in practicing and tournaments.

"Any softball team in the country wants to use their preseason

games to prepare them for their conference play and hopefully postseason play later down the line," Gentile said. "So these games are important because these teams can come here in the sun and enjoy good weather and get great games that are putting them in positions to compete at a higher level in their conference."

The main focus for the teams in these tournaments are to make sure they improve in each game, Gentile said. A title is just a bonus.

Gentile urges anyone in the public to come out and watch the

event. Most people don't watch softball until it gets to the final games at the highest levels, but this is a chance to see some of the teams early who will go on to the college world series and be on ESPN, Gentile said. She especially encourages young softball players to attend.

"It certainly is a teachable moment for kids to sit and watch female athletes and what they are aspiring to do," Gentile said. "What better opportunity than to

see some of the best teams in the country and learn what you can from watching athletes at that level."

People of all ages are welcome, and prices are \$8 a day for adults age 18 and older, \$6 for children ages 6 to 17, and children 5 and younger are free. A weekend adult pass is \$15, and a weekend child pass is \$10. People also are encouraged to visit www.usfseries.com for details and to see if their alma mater is playing.

Warming weather should improve opportunities

Winter-like conditions over the past week will put the brakes on any thoughts of an early spring. Near freezing overnight temperatures earlier in the week dropped water temperatures substantially.

A week ago scaled sardines were showing up at the bridges during the night and were the bait of choice for big spotted sea trout in our northern county. Now the thought of a live well brimming with frisky baits is only a distant memory. The trout are very much still there and alternate baits such as live select shrimp or small grass grunts will be the bait of choice until the water temperature gets back up into the upper 60s.

Target the incoming tide around many of the spoil islands north of the Dunedin Causeway. These islands are quite popular lately and getting there early and leaving early has been the best approach.

Warming temps and improving tides should give anglers a good chance for getting into some redfish over the weekend and through the first part of next week. Working mullet schools with weed-less jerk baits or cut pieces of ladyfish or pinfish on the lower tidal stages along many of the no-motor-zone flats has been productive all winter. Also, now that were starting to get some higher tides as we progress into spring, look for the fish to move way up to the mangrove shoreline on the high tide.

Small oyster clumps attract early season reds as they are full of crabs. Cast live shrimp under a float right on top of the oyster mound. Move quickly as time for this pattern is limited to the amount of water on the flat. Once a productive oyster mound is located it's been common to pull a few reds off of it before the others spook.

Sheepshead fishing around bridges and jetties has been somewhat slow as of late. Your best bet for putting a few sheepshead in the boat and possibly a few bonus black drum would be to target deep docks at the lower tidal stages. A good canal will have several productive docks so it's only a matter of hopping around a bit. In colder conditions especially you'll want to target those docks that get plenty of sun throughout the day. Fresh shrimp lightly weighed pitched up around the pilings will let you know pretty quickly if anyone's home.

Until next week, get bent!

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



Fish Tales
Capt. Tyson Wellerstein

City of Largo plans Shamrock'n Run

LARGO – Kick off your St. Patrick's Day celebration with food, fun, friends and live entertainment at the eighth annual Shamrock'n Run 5K and 1.5-mile walk on Friday, March 15, 7 p.m., at Largo's Ulmer Park, 301 West Bay Drive.

Children age 7 and younger also can lace up their shoes and participate in the Clover Kids Fun Run starting at 8:15 p.m.

Following the races, all participants will enjoy a post-race meal, refreshments, drinks, award ceremony and live entertainment by local band, The Stick Martin Show. The concert is free and open to the general public; nonracers are welcome! Palm Pavilion Beachside Grill & Bar and Largo's Recreation, Parks and Arts Department are sponsoring the run.

Sign up before March 8 and save on registration. For race fees and to download a registration form, visit LargoSports.com, or register online at Active.com. For more information, call 587-6740, ext. 5016 or email athletics@largo.com.

Sports news?

The Largo Leader publishes news and photographs about people and groups. Send items about registration, upcoming games and special events to Largo Leader Editor Juliana Torres, Tampa Bay Newspapers, 9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772. Email jtorres@TBNweekly.com. or call 397-5563, ext. 324

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Race to raise awareness of cyber bullying

LARGO – Gulf Coast Giving will hold the Upgrade2Success 5K race and 1-mile fun run to raise awareness and help stop cyber bullying on Saturday, March 16, 8 a.m., at Walsingham Park, 12615 102nd Ave.

Registration is \$25 and includes race perks. Each registered adult can enter two children younger than 18 for free. This race is chip-timed.

The event will include a visit from the Easter Bunny and Easter egg hunt. Race perks include a race T-shirt, music, food from Lee Roy Selmons, water stations, a silent auction, raffle by bib number, giveaways, medals for 5K winners, finisher medals for all kids and arts and crafts for the kids.

Proceeds will provide select Pinellas County Schools with IT equipment and training for their staff and students to help stop cyber bullying. The schools have chosen to give a portion of their proceeds to a relief fund for Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn.

Gulf Coast Giving is a nonprofit organization whose main mission is stop cyber bullying by making sure that the people, organizations and groups who help make our world a better place have the proper IT equipment, tools and training to maximize those efforts.

For more information or to register online, visit www.GulfCoastGiving.org/run.

Wounded Warrior tournament set

CLEARWATER – Tumbleweed's Wounded Warrior Golf Tournament is set for Sunday, March 10, 11:30 a.m., at Countryside Country Club, 3001 Countryside Blvd.

The cost is \$55, which covers golf, a golf cart, catered food and the first drink. There will be four skydivers, one of whom is a wounded warrior, who will dive into the event with an American flag.

For more information, call 433-3329.

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Sandy Hartmann
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St. Petersburg \$186,500
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Largo \$22,000
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Maggie May

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Ellie

This green-eyed beauty is Ellie, a 1-year-old domestic shorthair cat with white and black patches. This fun cat is a great explorer and will happily help you find all of your lost socks. Ellie's adoption fee is \$35, which includes her spay surgery, up-to-date vaccinations, microchip and 30 days of pet insurance. Come meet her at Feline Friends at 9099 130th Ave. N. in Largo. Visit www.spcatampabay.org.

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Clyde

Clyde is a 4-year-old brown, very friendly, good-looking tabby boy who is searching for his forever home. He has good manners, lots of purrs and lots of love to share with his new family. All he wants is a loving heart, warm lap and an indoor-only home. He is neutered, current with his vaccinations and ready to make you fall in love with him. Call Second Chance for Strays at 535-9154 or visit www.secondchanceforstrays.com.

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Paw prints

SPCA offers Canine Delinquents classes

LARGO - Canine Delinquents classes will be presented at SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N. on the following days:

- Saturday, March 23, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, April 27, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, May 25, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Cost is \$15 per dog for SPCA adopters and \$20 per dog for the general public. Call 586-3591, ext. 9+137.

The class is for those who live with a canine delinquent. This class is designed for young dogs from 6 months to 2 years who have not outgrown puppy behaviors such as inappropriate chewing, darting out the door, barking and elimination.

Instructors will address individual concerns and needs. All human family members are welcome. To reserve a spot, visit www.spcatampabay.org.

Bark in the Park set

PINELLAS PARK - Pinellas Park Explorer Post 912 will host the third annual Bark in the Park Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Freedom Lake Park, 9990 46th St. N.

The event will include a pet expo and pet adoptions as well as crafters and rescue dogs. There will be a Pinellas Park Police K-9 demonstration at noon. Food will

be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit the Pinellas Park K-9 unit's police dog memorial fund.

For more information, visit www.pinellasparkcpaaa.org.

SPCA to offer Canine Orientation class

LARGO - Sniff University's six-week Canine Orientation will be offered Wednesdays, April 2 through May 8, 7 to 8 p.m., at SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N.

This weekly, one-hour course is offered at the SPCA Tampa Bay in Largo. Sniff University employs confidence-building training methods. With the help of certified instructors, attendees will get the knowledge to continue a pet's education and training at home.

Cost is \$60 for SPCA adoptees and \$80 for the general public. Space is limited. To register and for more information, visit www.spcatampabay.org.

Doga class to be offered

LARGO - Doga, "Yoga with your Dog," will be presented on Sundays, April 28 and May 26, 2 to 3 p.m., at SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N.

Cost is \$15. Call 586-3591, ext. 9+137.

Doga class participants enjoy an hour of bonding time with their dog. Stretch, massage and meditate ... the exercises are tailor-made for humans and their canines. Beyond Massage class helps dog owners perfect techniques to relax their canines. The class is offered fourth Sun-

days, 2 to 3 p.m. To reserve a spot, visit www.spcatampabay.org.

SPCA to host Beyond Massage class

LARGO - The Beyond Massage class will be offered Saturdays, April 13 and May 11, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., at SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N.

Cost is \$10. Call 586-3591, ext. 9+137.

This class offers a unique communication experience for attendees and their dog. Participants will activate intelligence, strengthen confidence and teach their dog to think rather than react. Canine comfort includes massage techniques and how aromatherapy and flower remedies can reduce stress in fearful dogs.

To reserve a spot, visit www.spcatampabay.org.

SPCA to offer class

LARGO - A four-week intermediate study program will be offered beginning Saturday, April 27, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., at SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N.

Attendees will learn how to build their dog's confidence - along with their own - by practicing canine commands and handling skills. Classroom focus is on creating real-life scenarios to help owners and their dogs practice. The first class reviews commands such as wait, stay, leave it and come.

Cost is \$45 for dog and owner. To register, visit www.spcatampabay.org.

For information, call 586-3591, ext. 9+137.

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SPC forum to address beach erosion

SEMINOLE – Was super storm Sandy an omen for Florida? Is beachfront inundation the new normal? Should our low-lying coastlines be hardened to protect vulnerable buildings near water's edge? Or should we begin a strategic retreat from the beach, as some scientists suggest?

These are some of the issues that will be explored in the next Village Square forum co-sponsored by the Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions at St. Petersburg College and the University of South Florida College of Marine Science. The forum is titled "Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Time for a Strategic Retreat from the Beach?"

It is set Wednesday, March 20, 6 to 8 p.m., at SPC's Seminole campus, 9200 113th St. N. Presenting media sponsors are the Tampa Bay Times, WUSF Public Media, and WEDU TV.

A panel of scientists will address the issue. They include:

- Orrin Pilkey, professor emeritus of earth and ocean sciences at Duke University. Pilkey is internationally recognized for his research on barrier islands and beaches.
- Don P. Chambers, associate professor of physical oceanography at the University of South Florida College of Marine Science.
- Albert Hine, professor of geological oceanography at the USF College of Marine Science.
- Marc Hafen, senior instructor, Department of Geography, Environment and Planning, USF.

The coastal devastation wrought by Sandy Oct. 29-30, brought into focus the vulnerability of coastal communities. With huge swaths of coastal

New Jersey, New York and Connecticut leveled by a 13-foot storm surge, many began to talk openly about climate change and sea level rise. Even conservative elected officials speculated about strategies to protect vulnerable coastal areas from storm-driven seawater. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo spoke heatedly about the need to address climate change and last month proposed a \$400 million buyback of waterfront properties in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

Though the recent focus has been on the Northeastern coast of the United States, Floridians can readily identify with the misery of their fellow citizens "up north." Florida has experienced more than its share of destruction from natural disasters, especially the scoured-shore consequences of hurricane-driven storm-surges.

The Tampa Bay region, while spared direct hits in recent hurricane blitzes, is just as vulnerable to massive flooding as more hurricane-prone South Florida and the Panhandle of North Florida. Surrounded by water on three sides, the low-lying peninsula that is Pinellas County is perhaps the most vulnerable urban area in Florida.

Projections of sea level rise due to climate change range from 3 feet to 6 feet by the end of this century. Under the 6-foot scenario, roughly 64 percent of South Florida's developed area – home to 5 million people – would be underwater.

Advance registration for the dinner and program is required. Tickets are \$30 for Village Square members, \$40 for guests.

To register, go to website at spcollege.edu/solutions. For further information, call 394-6251.

Prune like a pro to help plants grow

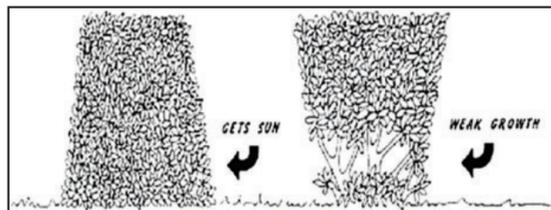
Azaleas, magnolias and Indian hawthorn with no spring flowers, shrubs with gaping holes and naked bottoms, trees with multiple trunks or few interior branches are all cause for concern. But before you pull out the pruners, chainsaws and loppers, your plants will be happier if you learn the basics of proper pruning. Here are some things you can do to prune like a professional.

First of all, it's about timing. Pruning done in the late fall or early winter stimulates new growth, especially if we have a mild winter. This new growth is very tender and is easily damaged, even by a light frost. It is much better to wait until spring bud-break before pruning. This will reduce the risk of cold damage.

Plants that produce their flowers on last year's growth, such as azaleas, magnolias and Indian hawthorn, must be pruned after they bloom in the spring, and pruning must stop after June when the new buds start to form.

Plants that produce flowers on this year's growth are usually pruned while still dormant (January/February), or just before the spring growth flush. These plants include hibiscus, allamanda, plumbago, frangipani and rose. To encourage the most plant growth, prune just prior to the first spring growth flush. To slow growth and keep plants smaller, prune just after each growth flush. Most evergreens, such as podocarpus, holly, ligustrum, juniper and wax myrtle, can be pruned anytime.

Secondly, it's about the cut. There are only two proper cuts.



Plants pruned as a solid hedge should be wider at the bottom.

One is called a reduction cut and it removes a larger branch back to a smaller side branch. The second is called a removal cut and it removes a side branch from a larger branch. Flush cuts and topping are harmful and should not be done. When removing branches that are an inch and a half in diameter or larger, use the three-cut method. This keeps the branch from ripping down the side of the trunk. This method starts with a cut on the underside of the branch about 15 inches from the trunk. The second cut is made downward from the top of the branch a few inches out from the first cut. The third cut is the removal of the stub that is left.

Thirdly, it's about shape. Shrubs should be pruned so that the base is just a wee bit wider than the top. This allows sunlight to reach all the leaves of the plant and will thus produce a plant that has leaves from top to bottom, rather than the shabby looking shrub that has no leaves at its base. Trees should be pruned so there is only one major trunk with evenly spaced side branches. Removing all the interior branches of trees, called lion-

tail, is a harmful practice and should be avoided. Thinning is done from the outside in, not the inside out. Palms should never be pruned above the horizontal line of 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock. Another good rule to follow is to only remove a third of a plant's entire mass when pruning.

For more information and diagrams, google "Pruning Landscape Trees and Shrubs IFAS", "Pruning Palms IFAS" or "Disinfection of Horticultural Tools IFAS".

For free help with your lawn and garden questions, the Pinellas County Extension Service is just a phone call or visit away. The office is located at 12520 Ulmerton Road next to the Florida Botanical Gardens and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. To speak with a horticulturist, call 582-2110 Monday, Tuesday or Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays. Visit www.pinellas-countyextension.org

Jane Morse is a UF/IFAS Extension agent for Pinellas County.

Nature's colorwheel



A rainbow arches over the Belleair Beach Causeway Bridge at sunrise March 1. The view from the bridge is not too hard on the eyes. Photo by PAUL CASIO

Briefs

McGough to host night hikes

LARGO – Night hikes will be presented Saturdays, March 16 and April 20, 6:30 p.m., at George C. McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th N. St.

This will be a free interpretative nature hike through McGough's habitats. Call 518-3047.

Ecofest set

LARGO – Earth Day will be celebrated early at the Spring Ecofest, set for Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at George C. McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th N. St.

The event will feature activities for kids, music, live wildlife exhibits, information on recycling, guest speakers and a free giveaway in honor of Arbor Day. Food, drinks and snacks will be available for purchase, with proceeds benefiting the park.

For information, call 518-3047.

African Violet Society to meet

LARGO – The Upper Pinellas African Violet Society has changed its name and is now known as the African Violet Society of Pinellas.

The group meets first Mondays, 7 p.m., January through June and October and November at Cypress Palms of Largo, 400 Lake Ave. NE.

For information, call 585-5170 or email upavs55@gmail.com.

The group's upcoming programs will include the following:

- April 1 – Nutrition 101: Attendees will find out what types of fertilizers work best and will learn about soil and lights.
- May 6 – Fight, Flight or Freak Out: Jay Sespico will describe uninvited critters on plants and diseases that can attack violets. Sespico will offer some helpful solutions.
- June 3 – Episcia, One of the Cousins of African Violets.

Meetings are open to everyone who has an interest in African Violets. Admission and parking are

free. Refreshments are served. Meetings also include a plant raffle.

Weedon to host guided hike

ST. PETERSBURG – A guided hike will be offered Saturday, March 9, 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.

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Thursday, March 7th – The Light Is On For You: Reconciliation from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Friday, March 8th – Fish Fry: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

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Monday & Wednesday 11:00 am • Saturday 8:00 am

CONFESSION SCHEDULE: Monday & Wednesday 10:30 am - 10:50 am Saturday 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

WEEKEND MASS: Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm Sunday 7:00 am & 9:00 am (Family Mass) 11:00 am (Traditional Choir) • 6:00 pm (Contemporary Choir)

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7 out of 10 cancer deaths can be prevented through screening and lifestyle changes.

Colon cancer starts without symptoms so choose prevention and get screened.

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH coloncancerFL.org

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BOAT SHOW



THE BOATING SALES EVENT OF THE SEASON

Tropicana Field will be overflowing with boats and exhibits for the boating enthusiast. This is an event you don't want to miss. Millions of dollars of inventory. Too many makes and models to list them all! You could be on the water before the weekend is over.

March 8, 9 & 10



Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tropicana Field
 One Tropicana Dr. St. Petersburg 33705
FREE ADMISSION!

INDOOR SHOW-AIR CONDITIONED
 Tropicana Field Parking \$5.00

Presented by



TAMPA BAY BOAT SHOW

GULF & BAY FLORIDA FISHING SCHOOL Meet the Experts – Seminar Series

Friday, March 8

- 11 a.m. **Gary Burch**
Cast Nets
- 12 p.m. **Gary Burch**
Inshore Equipment and Techniques
- 1 p.m. **Bill Hardman**
Diving Opportunities On The Gulf Coast
- 2 p.m. **Pat Damico**
Fly Fishing
- 3 p.m. **Neil Taylor**
Topwater Lures

Saturday, March 9

- 11 a.m. **Gary Burch**
Artificial & Live Bait Techniques
- 12 p.m. **Gary Burch**
Where To Find Inshore Fish and Catch'em
- 1 p.m. **Bill Hardman**
Where To Find The Big Fish
- 2 p.m. **Neil Taylor**
Kayak Fishing 101
- 3 p.m. **Neil Taylor**
Targeting Trout and Redfish with Lures

Sunday, March 10

- 11 a.m. **Pat Damico**
Fly Fishing
- 12 p.m. **Gary Burch**
Cast Nets
- 1 p.m. **Bill Hardman**
Where To Find The Big Fish
- 2 p.m. **Neil Taylor**
Kayak Fishing 101

For Information Please Call 727-893-8523 or Visit tampabayboatshows.com

739381-01

Diversions

Things to do around Pinellas County



- Classifieds
- Events
- Movies

Leader
Section B
March 7, 2013
Visit www.TBNweekly.com

Top five diversions

• **"1964 ... The Tribute,"** Friday, March 8, 8 p.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. For information and tickets, call 800-874-9020 or 893-7832. Visit www.themahaffey.com. Tickets start at \$35. "1964 ... The Tribute" has been named the "best Beatles tribute on earth" by "Rolling Stone" magazine. The performers have perfected the illusion of The Fab Four in concert. Hot on the heels of their 11th concert at Carnegie Hall, "1964 ... The Tribute" will once again dazzle a whole new generation of fans while staying true to the memories many have held dear for more than 40 years. Like actors, these master musicians cast a spell as they step into the characters of the originals. For more than 26 years, this group of performers has successfully recreated every sensation of being at a Beatles concert circa 1964 through 1966 - from wardrobe to hairstyles, Liverpool accents and singing nuances, and vintage instruments.

• **Judy Collins,** Saturday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. For information about or to purchase tickets for upcoming performances, call 791-7400 or visit www.atthecap.com. Tickets start at \$45. This legendary songstress will appear again at the Capitol Theatre after multiple sold-out performances at the venue.

A clarion voice of the '60s inspired by Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger, interpreter of social poet Bob Dylan and others, Collins' music is still strong and crystal clear. Particularly known for her renditions of Joni Mitchell's "Both Sides Now" and Stephen Sondheim's "Send in the Clowns," this singer-songwriter, social activist, author, filmmaker, painter and more, a relentlessly creative spirit, is truly a renaissance woman. Collin's latest album, "Bohemian," was released in 2011.



Photo courtesy of FLEMING ARTISTS
Judy Collins plays March 9 at Capitol Theatre.

• **Richard Nader's Doo Wop XIII,** Saturday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. For information about or to purchase tickets for upcoming performances, call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhal.com. Tickets start at \$45. This year's lineup will include Gene Chandler ("Duke of Earl"), Kenny Vance and The Planotones ("Looking For An Echo"), Tommy Mara and The Crests ("Sixteen Candles"), Jimmy Gallagher and The Passions ("Just To Be With You").

See TOP FIVE, page 2B

LCC to host Project Broadway

LARGO - Project Broadway, a theater workshop, will be offered Monday through Friday, March 25-29, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive.

Designed for children ages 9 to 14, the workshop will feature acting, singing and dancing. This workshop will review dance steps, teach vocal harmonies and offer scene work with a performance showcase at the end of the week, where every participant will have a moment to shine. Participants need not have any previous acting experience.

Cost is \$125 for residents and \$150 for nonresidents. Campers can register at Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave., and Southwest Recreation Complex, 13120 Vonn Road. For information, call 587-6751.



James Franco and Michelle Williams star in "Oz the Great and Powerful."

Photo courtesy of WALT DISNEY STUDIOS

Opening this weekend

'Dead Man Down' stars Farrell, Rapace; Raimi directs 'Oz the Great and Powerful'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Dead Man Down'

Genre: Action and thriller
Cast: Colin Farrell, Noomi Rapace, Dominic Cooper, Terrence Howard and Isabelle Huppert
Director: Niels Arden Oplev
Rated: R

Acclaimed Danish filmmaker Niels Arden Oplev, director of the original "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," makes his American film debut with "Dead Man Down," a provocative action thriller starring Colin Farrell and Noomi Rapace.

Set in the violent and unforgiving criminal underworld of New York City, "Dead Man Down" is a startling and vivid tale of two strangers bound together by a consuming mutual obsession: revenge.

Victor (Farrell), a rising gangland player, has infiltrated the crime empire run by ruthless kingpin Alphonse (Terrence Howard), with the single purpose of making Alphonse pay for destroying his once happy life. As he meticulously orchestrates his vengeance from his high-rise home, Victor watches and is watched by Beatrice (Rapace), a mysterious young woman who lives in the apartment across from his.

On the surface a fragile woman-child, Beatrice seethes with a rage of her own. When she uncovers Victor's dark secrets, she threatens to expose him unless he helps her carry out her own campaign of retribution. Each fixated on avenging the past, they devise a violent and cathartic plan that could change their worlds forever.

'Oz the Great and Powerful'

Genre: Adventure and fantasy
Cast: James Franco, Mila Kunis, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams, Zach Braff, Joey King and Bruce Campbell
Director: Sam Raimi



Photo by JOHN BAER/FILMDISTRIC

Noomi Rapace and Colin Farrell star in "Dead Man Down."

Rated: PG
Disney's fantastical adventure "Oz The Great and Powerful," directed by Sam Raimi, imagines the origins of L. Frank Baum's beloved character, the Wizard of Oz.

When Oscar Diggs (James Franco), a small-time circus magician

See OPENING, page 8B

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|--|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">IT'S TIME TO LIVE THE BEACH LIFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3BR/1BA REDINGTON SHORES COTTAGE • Walk to the beach • Floor plan offers updated kitchen with breakfast bar, formal dining area, living room & family room <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$167,000</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">CHARMING ST PETE HOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3BR/2BA/1CG • Home is perfectly situated on the lot to utilize the front yard, large parking area, 1 car garage & big fenced backyard <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$124,900</p> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">NEW LISTING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOVE IN READY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1BR/1BA SEMINOLE 55+ VILLA • Ideal one level floor plan offers a light & bright kitchen, large walk in closet in the bedroom, laundry closet and bonus room that could be an office <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$34,900</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">MADEIRA BEACH HOUSE/LOT PACKAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUILD YOUR WATERFRONT DREAM HOME • Walk to the beach • Key West style design • Gorgeous designer accents throughout <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$650,000</p> | <p>Check out our new website: SandyHartmannHomes.com You can search the MLS system, read the current real estate stats and access local area links.</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">SPACIOUS SEMINOLE TOWNHOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4BR/4BA/1CG + MANY UPDATES • 2 screen enclosed balconies to enjoy nature views • Well kept community that offers a canal with access to the Intracoastal, 10 community boat slips, pool. <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$175,000</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">WATERFRONT N REDINGTON BEACH HOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3BR/2BA/2CG + DOCK • The open, split floor plan allows water views from the living room, dining area, kitchen, Florida room and 2 of the bedrooms <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$524,900</p> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">PRICE REDUCED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MUST SEE BARDMOOR HOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5BR/3BA/2CG SPLIT PLAN • Private courtyard features a pool, bar-b-que area and covered patio • Pool house could be used as an in-law suite or office <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$399,000</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">BARDMOOR POOL HOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4BR/3BA/3CG + GREAT LOCATION • Family room & living room wrap around the pool area • Master suite has a spa like bath & private pool access • Features volume ceilings, fireplace & large laundry room <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">\$449,900</p> | | |

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TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

Largo Lions Club 16th Annual Spotlight Series

Simon & Garfunkel

Monday, March 18, 2013

AJ Swearingen and Jonathan Beedle recreate the memories of the classic hits and obscure songs of "Simon and Garfunkel".

SHOWS ARE AT 2 PM & 7 PM

Ticket Pricing

- \$22.50 Single ticket reserved
- \$19.50 per ticket groups of 10 or more
- Groups of 20 or more will receive one free ticket for each 20 purchased.

(727) 587-6793

The City of Largo adds a \$3.50 handling fee per ticket. All seating is reserved.

Go to LargoArts.com to purchase tickets

Thank You! We are truly grateful to our sponsors:

Palladium to present Harding's Cline tribute

ST. PETERSBURG - CJ Harding will bring her Patsy Cline tribute show, "Sweet Dreams," to Pinellas Saturday, March 9, 7 p.m.; and Sunday, March 10, 3 p.m., at the Palladium at St. Petersburg College, 253 Fifth Ave. N.

Tickets are \$35 VIP and \$28 in advance. Call 822-3590 or visit www.mypalladium.org.

Harding has been performing as Patsy Cline for more than 15 years in a musical that she created based on a Patsy Cline concert in 1962. She made the costumes that she wears from photos of the actual dresses that Cline wore.

Harding is a snowbird: She resides in St. Petersburg for the winter and spends her summer and fall in Minnesota. She travels the country keeping the iconic singer's memory alive. She opened the Largo Cultural Center in 1997 and continued to appear every year after that to sold-out audiences.

For years, Harding's show has been supported by digital music. For her upcoming appearance at the Palladium, Harding decided to celebrate Cline's 80th birthday by putting a live band together. Handpicked musicians from the Tampa Bay area were chosen to form the band.

Harding will sing all of the major hits of Cline in addition to eight new songs that have been added to the set list.



CJ Harding brings her Patsy Cline tribute show to the Palladium for two shows March 9-10.

and includes dinner and the show. For reservations, call 446-5898 or visit www.earlybirddinnertheatre.com.

• **"Ain't Retirement Grand!"**, by Gil Perloth, March 8-24, at Venue Theatre, 9125 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. For reservations, call 822-6194 or email VenueActorStudio@gmail.com. "Ain't Retirement Grand!" is the musical that broke all attendance records at Venue Theatre. It is returning again by popular demand. The musical features new songs, new jokes, and a new cast including Nancy Wright,

Casting announced for 'Bernarda Alba'

ST. PETERSBURG - The full cast has been announced for "Bernarda Alba," based on the "The House of Bernarda Alba" by Federico Garcia Lorca and adapted into a new musical by John Michael LaChiusa. This musical adaptation will open on Friday, March 15, at FreeFall Theatre, 6099 Central Ave.

Chicago-based actress Kate Young will star in the title role originated on Broadway by Phylicia Rashad. The cast also includes Tampa Bay area favorite Alison Burns, regional favorite Laura Hodos, Jennifer Byrne, Ann Morrison, Meghan Moroney, Sarah McAvoy, Georgia Mallory Guy, Bela Aquino and Kelly Pekar. "Bernarda Alba" is directed by Eric Davis, and musically directed by Michael Raabe. Carolyn Esparza is choreographer.

After the death of her husband, Bernarda Alba, the dominating mother of five grown daughters, imposes a period of mourning on her household to last eight years. Isolated from the town, and forbidden from forging relationships with men, tension and jealousy mounts within the house. Bernarda Alba reminds us how precious the power to imagine our own future is, how quickly it can be taken away, and how dire the consequences of that loss can be.

Bernarda Alba runs March 15 to April 7. Tickets are \$39 or \$46, depending on seating, with discounts available for students, teachers, seniors and military. Rush tickets, priced at \$22, are sold on an as-available basis 30 minutes before each show to students and teachers with identification and to industry artists with an AEA I.D. or printed program including their name. Visit www.freefalltheatre.com or call 498-5205.

Susan Taylor, Mike Arnold and Bill Harber. The production is directed by Daniel Harris. "Ain't Retirement Grand!" is a spoof on the subject of retirement and contains songs about early bird specials, grandchildren, wills, doctors, pets and exercise. With more than 20 original songs, the show appeals to retirees, those about to retire, baby boomers, seniors and anyone who wants a fun evening in the theater.

TOP FIVE, from page 1B

Cleveland Still and The Dubs ("Could This Be Magic"), The Chiffons ("He's So Fine") and The Duprees ("You Belong to Me").

• **"Murder Among Friends,"** by Bob Barry, March 7 through April 28, presented by Early Bird Dinner Theatre at the Italian-American Club, 200 S. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Performances are Thursday through Sunday, with seating at 4 p.m. Matinees are Thursdays and Saturdays, with seating at 11 a.m. Admission is \$32 plus tax

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 | | |
| 62 | | | | | 63 | | | | | | | 64 | | |

- Across**
- Neon, e.g.
 - Medieval name for China
 - Tooth on a gear rim
 - Agreement
 - Brooks Robinson, e.g.
 - Victorian, for one
 - Low female singing voice
 - ___ Tower in Chicago
 - ___ Zeppelin
 - Small plaque with occupant's name or house number
 - "___ Cried" (1962 hit)
 - "___ Along the Mohawk," novel
 - Final transport
 - "Are we there ___?"
 - Death on the Nile cause, perhaps
 - Meeting devoted to a particular activity
 - Janitor
 - New Mexico art community
 - Where ship's passengers can leisurely walk (2 wds)
 - Attendee
 - Gloomy
 - Llama relatives
 - Armageddon
 - "I" problem
 - Bull sound
 - Retire from military service
 - Balaam's mount
 - Phone customers' shared service (2 wds)
 - Buff
 - Hard cattle fat
 - Baker's dozen?
 - Appropriate
 - Anatomical ring
 - Algonquian Indian
 - "Absolutely!"
 - Confederate soldiers
 - "First Blood" director Kotcheff

- Down**
- Aplenty
 - Represent an incident by action, esp. on stage (2 wds)
 - Attack
 - Hood
 - "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
 - Knight fight
 - Burrow
 - "Aladdin" prince
 - Acceptances
 - Celery variety with a large turnip-like root
 - Bauxite, e.g.
 - "Crikey!"
 - Rice ___
 - Church song
 - Move or act swiftly
 - In this place or document
 - Crybaby
 - U.S. Navy junior commissioned officer (abbrev.)
 - Go up and down
 - Imitates a hot dog
 - Bulrush, e.g.
 - Reef components
 - Negative vote
 - John Paul II, e.g.
 - Places in the ground again, e.g. perennials
 - Papa
 - Blah-blah-blah
 - Actor given equal status with another
 - Someone who leaves one country to settle in another
 - Struck and sounded a tam-tam
 - Corpulent
 - Choose someone by voting
 - Commoner
 - ___ vera
 - "Let's ___"
 - "___ the night before ..."
 - Wray of "King Kong"
 - "Tarzan" extra
 - "___ we having fun yet?"

Sudoku

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

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

Sudoku answers

from last week

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

Crossword answers

from last week

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 |
| 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 | 70 | 71 | 72 |

Horoscopes

March 7, 2013

Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

A mission in organization is not a lost cause. Call on a friend for help, Capricorn, and bring back order to your home. Inquisitiveness gets a young one in trouble.

Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

Chuck it, Aquarius. Some ideas are not meant to come to fruition, and this is one of them. There is another, however, that will work. Look for it.

Pisces

February 19 - March 20

You're a class act, Pisces, but few know it until this week when you have a chance to shine. Put your best foot forward, and you may soon be promoted.

Aries

March 21 - April 19

Travel plans begin to take shape, and many deals are uncovered. Put the savings to good use, Aries. A favor from long ago is finally returned.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20

Love is in the air, and the time is right for a mini vacation. Think outside of the box, Taurus. A major purchase is in your future. Consider the pros and cons.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Opportunities abound. Be careful what you choose, Gemini. They may not all be on the up-and-up. A real estate venture gets the green light.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Gifts of the heart make things right with a friend. Communication woes continue at work. Do what you can to get things back on track, Cancer.

Leo

July 23 - August 22

Brevity is not your strong suit, Leo. However, if you want to make any headway on a project, you're going to have to say less and do more.

Virgo

August 23 - September 22

Face it, Virgo. You do not have all of the answers. Turn to a mentor for advice. Big changes are in store at home. Don't buck the tide.

Libra

September 23 - October 22

Slow down, Libra. Not everything is as black and white as it may seem. There is much left to discuss. A crazy notion at home provides relief.

Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

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Hodgson, with symphony

Roger Hodgson – the voice of Supertramp – plays songs written on his ‘life journey’ at Ruth Eckerd Hall

CLEARWATER – As the final installment of the Rock Symphony Series, Supertramp's Roger Hodgson will perform Friday, March 22, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road.

Tickets start at \$49. For information about or to purchase tickets for upcoming performances, call 791-7400 or visit www.ruth EckerdHall.com.

Hodgson is back on a worldwide tour that is selling out everywhere and his signature voice is stronger than ever. For the first time in the United States, Hodgson will perform with a rock symphony orchestra when he performs at Ruth Eckerd Hall. The gifted composer, lyricist and legendary voice of Supertramp – which he co-founded – Hodgson is known for setting beautiful, introspective lyrics to upbeat melodies. "Breakfast in America," "Give a Little Bit," "The Logical Song," "Take the Long Way Home" and "Dreamer" are among his hits.

According to the biography on his website, Hodgson was born in Portsmouth, England, and spent much of his childhood at boarding school where his guitar became his best friend. He began writing songs at the age of 12, eventually adding piano, bass, drums and even cello to his musical accomplishments.

After a short stint as guitarist for People Like Us, in 1969, Hodgson recorded his first studio single, "Mr. Boyd," with a session band – Argosy – including pianist Reg Dwight – who later became known as Elton John.

After the members of Argosy went their separate ways, Hodgson responded to an advertisement placed by Rick Davies. Davies was seeking a guitarist for the progressive rock band Supertramp. That spot ultimately went to Richard Palmer, and Hodgson agreed to join the band as bassist.

With nucleus of Supertramp in place, Davies and Hodgson's early collaborations attracted the attention of A&M Records and their first album "Supertramp" was released in 1970. From their second album "Indelibly Stamped" forward, Hodgson and Davies began writing separately.

However, like Lennon/McCartney, they maintained a joint writers credit throughout their Supertramp career.

In 1974, Supertramp released "Crime of the Century," featuring Hodgson's song "Dreamer." The song became their first hit and driving the album to the top of the charts.

For the next nine years, Supertramp recorded four studio albums and hit the road for many tours. The album "Breakfast in America" boasted three of Hodgson's best-known songs: "The Logical Song," "Take the Long Way Home" and "Breakfast in America."

In 1983, Hodgson parted company with Supertramp following the release of "Famous Last Words," the band's eighth album, and the stadium tour that ensued. He built a state-of-the-art recording studio at home where he could continue to create music and be with his children as they grew up. His first solo album, "In the Eye of the Storm," was released in 1984 and became an international hit, selling more than 2 million copies.

In 1987, the same week that Hodgson's second album "Hai, Hai" was released, the musician took a bad fall and shattered both of his wrists. Though doctors told him he would never play music again, Hodgson proved them wrong. Still, a period of self-healing and physical therapy followed.

Hodgson continues to compose music and write lyrics. At last count, he has more than 60 unreleased songs.

"I do realize I have written some wonderful songs and have an ability for writing great melodies, but I think the reason these songs have stood the test of time so well is because they came from a very pure place and were not contrived," Hodgson said in a statement provided by Harmonic Management. "I never sat down to try and write a hit song. Music was where I went to be alone to express my deepest emotions, my deepest longing, my deepest pain and joy and questions. And I think that is why my songs have endured so well over time."

Hodgson is considered the musical driving force behind Supertramp.

"Supertramp was my dream and passion for 14 years," Hodgson said. "When people hear my songs they think of Supertramp because my songs were most of the hits that people love, and they are still played on the radio around the world today."

When Hodgson left the group in 1983, he said he was following his heart. He felt he needed to make "home, family and spiritual life" his priority.

"I wanted to be with my children as they grew up," Hodgson said. "I'd given 14 years of my life to Supertramp and at that point I chose to have my primary focus be my family and not my career. I also pretty much left the music industry and took my family to a healthier place to raise my kids – up in the mountains of Northern California. I moved out of Los Angeles and built a home studio so I could continue to create music and although I made a few albums, I never toured behind them."

Those planning on attending Hodgson's concert at Ruth Eckerd Hall can expect to hear many of the hits Hodgson recorded with Supertramp in a new and exciting context.

"This year I am performing with an excellent orchestra," Hodgson said. "You will hear songs that I have written on my life journey. Of course I'll be performing all the songs people want to hear from my time with Supertramp. You can expect to hear 'The Logical Song,' 'Breakfast in America,' 'Give a Little Bit,' 'Dreamer,'

See HODGSON, page 4B



Supertramp's Roger Hodgson performs March 22 at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater. Photo by ROB SHANAHAN

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Looking ahead

Largo

• **"The Producers,"** presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, through March 17, 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 \$25.50 for adults and \$12.50 for children 19 and younger. Call 587-6793. Mel Brooks' record-breaking, 12-time Tony Award-winner is all about the glitz, the glamour and the guffaws. This laugh-out-loud musical comedy is the story of scheming producer Max Bialystock and his mousy accountant Leo Bloom. Bloom discovers that under the right circumstances they could make more money producing a Broadway flop than they could with a hit. The two set out to produce the worst Broadway musical of all time. But what will they do when their sure-to-offend musical becomes a surprise sensation? Audiences will find out with this great big, over-the-top, fun-filled musical comedy. The production is a musical adapted by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan from Brooks' 1968 film of the same name, with lyrics written by Brooks and music composed by Brooks and arranged by Glen Kelly and Doug Besterman. As this is a Brooks creation, audiences should be aware it is an equal opportunity offender, containing adult language and situations. "The Producers" may not be appropriate for children aged 12 or younger.

• **The Les Paul and Mary Ford Tribute Show,** Wednesday, March 13, 7 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$19.50. An applicable service fee will be added to the ticket price. For tickets and information, call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. The tribute will feature Tom Doyle, finger stylist extraordinaire, who is known worldwide for his interpretation of big band swing style jazz arrangements on his guitar. Joining Doyle will be the Sandy Cory, a multi-faceted artist whose talents include playing congas and flute and a velvet voice. Cory is influenced by the likes of

Norah Jones, Diana Krall, Billy Holiday, as well as contemporary blues singers. Doyle and Cory recreate one of the most famous husband-and-wife musical teams in the history of modern music. Together, they reproduce the magic of Les Paul and Mary Ford, the 1950s husband-and-wife musical team. Audiences will enjoy Doyle's spellbinding guitar work and Cory's smooth vocals on hits such as "Tennessee Waltz," "Mockin' Bird Hill," "How High the Moon," "The World is Waiting for the Sunshine," "Whispering," "My Baby's Coming Home," "Lady of Spain" and "Bye Bye Blues."

• **Cahal Dunne,** part of the Celebrity Showcase Series, Thursday, March 14, 1 to 3 p.m., in the Goodman Ballroom at the Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road. Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$15 at the door. Limited reserved seats are available. Call 518-3131. Dunne will bring the songs of Ireland to the center.

• **Simon and Garfunkel Retrospective,** Monday, March 18, 2 and 7 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$22.50. An applicable service fee will be added to the ticket price. For tickets and information, call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. According to their website, AJ Swearingen and Jonathan Beedle have been performing this remarkable tribute to the music of Simon and Garfunkel for more than a decade. Following a chance meeting in 1991 in a Bethlehem, Pa., club, these two talented artists almost immediately found themselves blending their voices as if they had been performing together for a lifetime. Swearingen's warm baritone and Beedle's soaring tenor combine flawlessly to capture the essence and magic of Simon and Garfunkel's distinctive sound—particularly that of the early years in Greenwich Village. Taking the stage at Largo Cultural Center with little more than an acoustic guitar, Swearingen and Beedle will recreate the memories of classic hits and more obscure songs of Simon and Garfunkel—

songs such as "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "Homeward Bound" and "Mrs. Robinson."

• **Baby Boomer Comedy Show,** Saturday, March 23, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$19.50. An applicable service fee will be added to the ticket price. For tickets and information, call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Kent Rader and Jan McInnis are known as the "World's Cleanest Comedians." Rader won the Branson Missouri Comedy Festival, and has been performing his comedy to packed convention and theater crowds across the country. McInnis was featured in the Wall Street Journal as one of the top convention comedians whose act is clean. Together, they boast a combined 30 years of experience performing before audiences. On stage, they will hit all the familiar topics, from family and kids to work, do-it-yourself projects and dieting.

• **Dave Somerville and The Diamonds,** part of the Celebrity Showcase Series, Thursday, April 11, 1 to 3 p.m., in the Goodman Ballroom at the Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road. Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$15 at the door. Limited reserved seats are available. Call 518-3131.

Clearwater

• **"Damn Yankees,"** by Jerry Ross, Richard Adler and George Abbott; through March 10, at Francis Wilson Playhouse, 302 Seminole St., Clearwater. Call 446-1360 or visit www.franciswilsonplayhouse.org. Performances are generally Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets for nonmusicals are \$21 for adults, \$11 for students. Tickets for musicals are \$26 for adults, \$13 for students.

• **"Luv,"** by Murray Schisgal, through March 17, at West Coast Players Theatre, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Tickets are \$16. Call 437-2363 or visit www.wcplayers.org. The comedy is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc. and is directed by Domenic Bisesti. "Luv" stars Francesca G. Jay as Ellen. Tom Jay as Harry and Rand Smith as Milt. A mix of absurdist humor and traditional Broadway comedy more in the Neil Simon vein, "Luv" concerns two college friends—misfit Harry and materialistic Milt—who are reunited when the latter stops the former from jumping off a bridge, the play's setting. Milt sees in Harry an answer to his primary problem—his wife Ellen, who he tries to foist on his old pal so he can run off with his mistress.

• **Celtic Crossroads - The Gathering Tour,** Sunday, March 10, 2 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets are \$18 and \$25. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Part of the 2012-13 Adults at Leisure Series, PBS favorites Celtic Crossroads returns with the youthful energy that won hearts in 2008 and 2010. These lads and lasses of western Ireland's most talented export return to share Celtic music with raucous delight, redefining Celtic music on the world stage.

• **The Florida Orchestra: A Night at the Cotton Club,** Sunday, March 10, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd

Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. For information about or to purchase tickets for upcoming performances, call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Tickets start at \$15. The evening's all-star cast will include trumpeter extraordinaire Byron Stripling, world-class tap dancer Ted Louis Levy and Count Basie songstress Carmen Bradford. Together with The Florida Orchestra, they will perform a swinging salute to Harlem's famed Cotton Club with songs such as "It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing," "Dinah," "Minnie the Moocher," "St. James Infirmary," "Bill Bailey," "Stormy Weather," "Am I Blue," "I Can't Give You Anything But Love," "I Got Rhythm," "St. Louis Blues" and more. Jeff Tyzik will conduct.

Pinellas Park

• **Pinellas County Fair,** Wednesday through Sunday, March 20-24, at Tropicana Field, One Tropicana Drive, St. Petersburg. Hours will be Wednesday and Thursday, 5 to 11 p.m.; Friday, 3 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, noon to midnight; and Sunday, noon to 10 p.m. General admission is \$7. Children 48 inches tall and shorter will be admitted for free. Carnival wristbands cost \$20. The fair will feature rides, food, shows, games and unique exhibitors. There will be competitions in cheerleading, dance, arts and crafts, and recycled yard art. There will be a community tent, showcasing Pinellas cities and information booths. Other activities will include a classic car show, plant sale, Pinellas county schools youth competitions and a retail tent and other outdoor exhibitors displaying a large variety of merchandise.

St. Petersburg

• **The Florida Orchestra: Beloved Ballets,** Thursday, March 7, 11 a.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. For information and tickets, call 800-874-9020 or 893-7832. Visit www.themahaffey.com. Tickets start at \$24. Attendees will enjoy complimentary coffee and doughnuts at this morning concert featuring Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty, Prokofiev's Romeo & Juliet and Stravinsky's Firebird, among other works. Stuart Malina will conduct.

• **Former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins,** Tuesday, March 12, 7 p.m., at the Palladium at St. Petersburg College, 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. For information and tickets, call 822-3590, email palladium@spcollege.edu or visit www.spcollege.edu/palladiumnew. Tickets are \$10. Collins is the author of eight collections of poetry, including "Ballistics," "The Trouble with Poetry," "Nine Horses," "Sailing Alone Around the Room," "Questions About Angels," "The Art of Drowning" and "Picnic, Lightning." He is also the editor of "Poetry 180: A Turning Back to Poetry" and "180 More: Extraordinary Poems for Every Day." A distinguished professor of English at Lehman College of the City University of New York, Collins was Poet Laureate of the United States from 2001 to 2003 and Poet Laureate of New York State from 2004 to 2006.

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HODGSON, from page 3B

'School,' 'Take the Long Way Home,' 'It's Raining Again' and 'Foot's Overture,' as well as some of my later material - 'Lovers in the Wind,' 'Only Because of You' and others. I don't play Rick Davies' songs - only the songs that I wrote and composed.'

In 2005 - 35 years after writing "Give a Little Bit" - Hodgson received an award for the song being one of the most performed songs from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. In 2007, he received this award again for a remake of "Breakfast in America."

Hodgson's most recent release, "Classics Live," is a spectacular collection of his live performances recorded on his 2010 world tour. The artist has donated his time and signature song "Give a Little Bit" to help raise funds for tsunami relief, Red Cross, UNICEF, World Vision, Hurricane Katrina efforts and other worthy causes.

For information about Hodgson, visit RogerHodgson.com or Facebook.com/RogerHodgsonOfficial. To view videos of the artist, visit YouTube.com/MrRogerHodgson.

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| <p>20 DOCKABLE ACRES ST. LUCIE WATERWAY. \$159,500. 45 min. boat Atlantic, 5 min boat Lake Okeechobee. Beautiful land, abundant wildlife. Gated/Privacy. (888)710-7749. Gulf Atlantic Land, Broker. (C)</p> | <p>AIRLINES ARE HIRING Train for hands-on Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Housing available. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance. Call (866)314-3769. (F)</p> | <p>AVIATION MAINTENANCE AND Avionics. Now Training Pilots. Financial aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call National Aviation Academy, FAA Approved. Classes starting soon! (800)659-2080. www.NAA.edu. (C)</p> | <p>DIVORCE \$50-\$240* Covers Child Support, Custody and Visitation, Property, Debts, Name Change. Only One Signature Required! *Excludes govt. fees! Baylor & Associates, (800)522-6000, ext. 300. (C)</p> | <p>LAKE COUNTY COMMERCIAL, Residential, Development Land. Online Auction Ends March 14. (877)374-4437. 10%BP, Tranzon Driggers, Walter J. Driggers III. www.tranzon.com. FL Lic. #AU07 & AB3145. (F)</p> | <p>METAL ROOFING & STEEL BUILDINGS Save \$\$, buy direct from manufacturer. 20 colors in stock, with trim & access. 4 profiles in 26 gallon panels. Carports, horse barns, shop ports. Completely turnkey jobs. All Steel Buildings, Gibsonton, FL. Call (800)331-8341. allsteel-buildings.com. (C)</p> | <p>SMOKIES ABSOLUTE Ballroom Auction, Sat, March 16th, 24 Prime Properties in 16 locations. All sold at Sevierville Civic Center. McCarter Auction, Inc. (877)282-8467. Auction Lic. #335. www.mccarterauction.com. (C)</p> |
| <p>A FEW PRO DRIVERS NEEDED Top Pay & 401K. Need CDL Class A Driving Experience. (888)592-4752 or visit website www.ad-drivers.com. (C)</p> | <p>AIRLINES ARE HIRING Train for hands-on Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Housing available. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance. Call (866)314-3769. (F)</p> | <p>CASH FOR CARS! We buy ANY Car, Truck or Van! Running or Not. Get a FREE Top Dollar INSTANT Offer NOW! (800)558-1097. We're Local! (C)</p> | <p>DRIVER - DAILY OR WEEKLY Pay. \$0.01 increase per mile after 6 months and 12 months. \$0.03 Enhanced Quarterly Bonus. Requires 3 months OTR experience. (800)414-9569 www.driveknight.com. (F)</p> | <p>LEATHER LIVING ROOM SET In Original Plastic, Never Used. Original price, \$3000, sacrifice \$975. CHERRY BEDROOM SET, Solid Wood, new in factory boxes. \$895. Can deliver. Call Bill (813)298-0221. (C & F)</p> | <p>PERSONAL CREATIONS Deluxe All-In-One Easter Basket! Includes wicker keepsake basket with polka dot liner, personalization, plush bunny and many Easter treats. To redeem this offer, visit PersonalCreations.com/Fancy or call (866)921-5304. (C)</p> | <p>SURROGATE MOTHER NEEDED Please help us have our baby! Generous Compensation Paid. Call Attorney Charlotte Danciu, (800)395-5449. FL Bar #307084. (C)</p> |
| <p>ADOPTION: 866-633-0397 Unplanned Pregnancy? Provide your baby with a loving, financially secure family. Living/Medical/ Counseling expenses paid. Social worker on staff. Call compassionate attorney, Lauren Feingold. (FL Bar #0958107) 24/7. (C)</p> | <p>AIRLINES ARE HIRING Train for hands-on Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Housing available. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance. (866)314-6283. (C)</p> | <p>CASH FOR CARS: ALL CARS & Trucks Wanted, Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come to You! Any Make/Model. Call for Instant Offer: (800)871-9638. (C)</p> | <p>DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED NOW! Become a driver for Werner Enterprises. Earn \$800 per week! Local CDL Training. Call (877)214-3624. (F)</p> | <p>NATIONAL BUYER in Florida paying cash for your collectibles. We want your old sports cards, toys, and comic books. CASH PD! Call TODAY: (800)273-0312. (F)</p> | <p>WESTERN CAROLINA REAL ESTATE Offering unbelievable deals on home and land in the beautiful NC mountains. Call for free brochures, foreclosures & area info. (800)924-2635. (C)</p> | |

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0. Real Estate Services

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1. House Sales

ATTENTION REALTORS!

"Open House" Advertising Special 20 Words + An Eyestopper Logo All For \$30 (50¢ for each additional word) Call (727)397-5563 To Place Your Ad!

BELLEAIR BEACH, 3BR/3BA, 1+Garage, FSBO \$339K. Call Joan (727)455-4090 for an appointment. See on YouTube: 0XKSc7FcyVM

BELLEAIR BLUFFS NEW LISTING. OWNER SAYS SELL! Beautifully renovated, Mint! 3BR/3BA, Centrally located, New Price! Michael Davis (727)595-7592 www.DavisSuncoastRealty.com

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5. Real Estate Sales

OPEN HOUSE

MARCH 16TH & 17TH 9:00AM-3:00PM.
9 Unit Apartment Complex, Pool, \$364,900. \$50K Down. Seller Financing. 468 Ridge Road SW, Largo

OPEN HOUSE 17715 Gulf Blvd. # 503, Redington Shores. Sunday, March 10th 2:00-4:00PM
ReMax, Nancy Scott, (727)455-6641.

10. Waterfront Sales

BREATHTAKING GULF FRONT Parcel With Pristine Beach Frontage. Suitable to Build Your Dream Home or Develop a 1 to 4 Unit Residential Condominium. Bonus Dock on The Intracoastal Waterway. \$1,150,000. Kerry Ellson, Coastal Properties Group, (727)408-4888.

CLEARWATER BEACH NORTH Penthouse. 3,800' of luxury, 3BR/3.5BA, 750' terrace. Incredible panoramic views, 45' slip. Immaculate. State-of-the-art amenities. \$1,699,000. Smith & Assoc. R.E. Jerry Rendel, (727)580-7800.

ST. PETE BEACH WATERFRONT Condo, Private End Unit with deck. 2BR/2BA, dock, fishing pier, gated community, \$230,000. By Appointment. (727)367-8978.

15. Beach Property

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH HOME, 3BR/2BA/1CG, 1.323SF. Completely Remodeled In 2012. Few Blocks From Beach, Restaurants, Boat Ramp, Park. \$279,000. (727)244-4241.

5. Real Estate Sales

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

15. Beach Property

SAND KEY, Bayside Gardens IV. 1BR/1.5BA Condo, Ground Level. Recent updates/ upgrades, \$189,900. John Doran Realty (727)447-9579.

20. Condo Sales

DAN'S ISLAND, 2BR/2BA Almost 1,900SF, Marina View Pets OK, Clubhouse, Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton (727)644-0400.

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

1BR/1BA 704 sq. ft. Ground Floor, 55+, Everything is New! \$29,900

1BR/1BA, 1,016 sq. ft. Beautifully Updated, 55+, Tile and Crown Molding. \$39,900

Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp. Cassius L. Peacock, Realtor Your ON-SITE Specialist (727)397-2534 MySeminoleGardens.com

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

SEMINOLE GARDENS! Popular Complex With Tons of Amenities! See available listings at www.SeminoleGardens.org
1BR/1BA, Deluxe 1,012SF Water View! Remodeled! Very Nice! Great Price! \$29,900

LYNN EVANS, Realtor (727)542-4243 Prudential Tropical Realty

TWO LARGO VILLAS, 2BR, 55+, Heated Pool, Bonus Room. 1-End Unit, Inside Utility, Carport, \$73,500. 1-Water & Golf Course View, \$67,900. Peg Decker, CLS, (727)459-2598.

30. Villa Sales

BEAUTIFUL BOCA CIEGA, 55+ 2BR/2BA Updated appliances, new A/C, patio, boat dock. \$275K. Many amenities! FSBO. (727)398-6213.

35. Mobile Home Sales

55+ PARK, \$500 DOWN Rent to Own. Tenant Check Required. Conveniently Located Behind Tri-City Plaza. Some Handyman Specials. (727)531-5366.

Affordable 55+ Living GLENWOOD ESTATES: 5 Star, Land Owned. All 2-3BR/2BA/2CP, Furnished \$170/Mo. Maint.
12501 Ulmerton Rd., Largo. Brochures Available.
#5 - 2/2/2, Lake View, \$72,888.
#18 - 2/2/2, Lakefront, \$189,888.
#42 - 2/2/2, 93 Jacobson, \$62,888.
#91 - 2/2/2, 553,888.
#195 - 2/2/2, Many Upgrades, \$74,888.
#229 - 2/2/2, \$62,888.
#237 - 2/2/2, Water View, \$79,888.
On Premises Saturdays 9-4

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

LARGO, 5 STAR PARK, Double-Wide Modular, 2BR/2BA, Cathedral Ceilings, Sunroom, Inside Laundry, Shed, Carport. Asking \$12,000 OBO. Call Owner, (724)417-1850.

OPEN HOUSE MARCH 9TH. Triple-Width, 1,600SF, 4BR/2BA, In Down Yonder, Lot 226. 142nd Ave, Largo. Reduced to \$59,500. (727)538-3864.

SEMINOLE MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE. Twelve Oaks Mobile Home Park. Twice to sell! All residents 55+. No Pets, No Rentals. Close to beach and shopping. Call Mon-Fri 9:00AM-4:00PM. (727)391-6268.

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5. Real Estate Sales

35. Mobile Home Sales

SEMINOLE, FURNISHED, 2BR/1BA/Carport, Double-wide, enclosed porch. Central A/C. Appliances. Utility room w/W/D. Lot rent includes water, garbage, lawn. 1 block from Lake Seminole, 55+ park. No pets. \$4,500. (727)519-5810.

95. Property Management



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

100. Real Estate Wanted

WANTED: 1BR OR LARGE Efficiency close to beach. Unfurnished, all utilities included. Lease preferred. Smoking/cat OK. Immediate. \$750/month (727)288-5097

125. Out of State

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RENTALS

145. Unfurnished Houses
SUPER CONVENIENT Belcher/ Ulmerton. 3BR/2BA/1CG. Completely Tiled, New Cabinets, Freshly Painted, Fenced, Quiet Street. \$1,200/Month, Includes Lawn Service. (727)215-1352, (727)463-6692.

155. Furnished Condos

LARGO, 1BR, WALK TO BEACH Non-smoking/ no pets. \$750/month + security includes cable/Internet. (727)667-2139 or (727)259-1307

ST PETE, 2BR/2.5BA, 55+ on Boca Ciega Bay. New kitchen, W/D, 2,210SF, community pools. Covered parking. No pets. \$2,200 + security (727)638-0448

160. Unfurnished Condos

BAY PINES 1BR/1BA, 55+ IN Front of Veterans Hospital. Elevator, Pool, Clubhouse, Very Clean & Quiet. \$585/Month. (727)398-7699.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS, 1BR/1BA, Spacious, bright, inside laundry room, 2nd floor. Very safe complex. No smoking, no pets. \$675/month + utilities. (727)698-6735.

FIVE TOWNS, 2BR/1.5BA/1CP, 55+. Updated. \$795/Mo. Includes Gas Stove/ Heat, W/S/T, Cable, Recreational Facilities. (727)548-7641.

LARGO, 55+, BARDMOOR 2BR/1.5BA, garage. Small pet OK w/ deposit. Non-Smoker. \$875 Available mid-March. (727)409-3672

SEMINOLE, LONG BAYOU, Newly Remodeled. Modern Condo. 1BR/1BA, 1,200SF, 2nd Floor. 55+, Gated community, Resort Style Living. \$750/Month. (727)385-7718.

BEAUTIFUL INTRACOASTAL Largo, 2BR/1BA, Gated. Assigned Parking. Free Basic Cable/Internet. Heated Pools, Jacuzzi, Clubhouse, Tennis Courts \$810/Mo. (727)482-9102.

CHECK YOUR ADS THE FIRST DAY

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

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

160. Unfurnished Condos

PINEHURST VILLAS, DUNEDIN. 55+. Large 1BR/1BA, Completely Remodeled, Screened Porch, Heated Pool, Laundry Facility. \$675/Month +\$675 Security. (727)204-5576.

SEMINOLE GARDENS 2BR/2BA, 1,056SF, 55+, 2nd Floor Elevator, New Floors! \$800/Month-Yearly. Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp. (727)397-2534

SHIPWATCH: 2BR/2BA UNIT. Walk To Beach! \$1,300/Mo. Non-smoking, No Pets. Shipwatch Rlty, Inc. www.ShipWatchRealty.com (727)596-6508.

170. Furn. Apartments

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

175. Unfurn. Apartments

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

BELLEAIR BLUFFS Deluxe 1-2BRs, 1st-2nd Floor. Overlooking Non-smoking Court yard w/Beautiful Pool. Great location 1 block from shopping & Intracoastal. 2942 West Bay Dr. Res. Mgr. #1 (727)483-4853.

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

LARGO, NEAR DIAGNOSTIC Clinic. 2BR, Duplex, C/H/A, Nice Condition. Laundry/Utility Room, Smoke Free, Credit Check, \$675/Month. (727)584-6283.

CLEARWATER STUDIO, \$445/Mo. 2BR House \$695/Mo. **DUNEDIN*** Room \$90/Wkly or Studio \$180/Wkly *Free Utilities. Call Or Click 586-2412.com

DOWNTOWN CLEARWATER, 1BR. Close To Bus Terminal. \$465/Month. Call Bob, (727)515-0994.

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

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

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

185. Beach Rentals

CLRWTR / SAND KEY BEACH, Ulmirt 1st, Gulf Front, Intracoastal Views. Large 2BR/2BA, Dining Room +Nook/ Office.

Wrap-Around Balconies. Nicely Furnished. All Amenities Including Fitness Center. Available 4/1/13, Short/ Long Term. Owner, (813)431-9381.

CONTINENTAL TOWERS/ SAND Key: South Clearwater Beach. Furnished. Large 1BR/1.5BA condo, pool, carport. Seasonal/ Annual. Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton (727)644-0400.

DAN'S ISLAND, 2BR/2BA Almost 1,900SF, Marina View Pets OK, Clubhouse, Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton (727)644-0400.

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185. Beach Rentals

INDIAN SHORES, 1BR/1BA Condo, Furnished. W/S/G, Cable. Included. Community Pool. No Pets. Background Check. \$800/Mo. +Security. Florida's Best Accommodations, (727)517-9404.



TREASURE ISLAND, 1BR/2BA On the Beach/ Pool. \$800 + security. All Utilities, including cable. No Pets. Available Immediately! (727)367-2727.

190. Waterfront Rentals
DIRECTLY ON BEACH Sand Key overlooking the Gulf. Spectacular, 2BR/2BA Unfurnished Condo. 110% Newly renovated from concrete slab to ceiling. All new appliances, miles of custom millwork throughout. Be the first to live in this exceptional waterfront condo. For viewing call (727)595-6565.

SAND KEY EXCEPTIONAL Condominium Residence With Commanding Waterviews From Every Room. Large, 2,172SF, 2BR/2BA, Unfurnished. \$1,945/Monthly. (727)595-6565.

Tara Cay, Seminole, Beautifully Remodeled 2BR/2.5BA/1CG Townhome w/super views of the Intracoastal waterway. New carpet, tile, paint, Bright & airy end unit. Next to heated pool, boat dock. \$1,450/month, annual lease. (727)421-3503.

TREASURE ISLAND 2BR/2BA, Condo, Furnished/ Unfurnished, Adults, No Pets, Pool, Dock. Fantastic Water Views. One Block to Beach. 1/Year Lease. (763)458-7401.

195. Seasonal Rentals

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

200. Vacation Rentals

BEAUTIFUL CLEARWATER Beach Waterfront Condo, Fantastic View of Gulf, 2BR/2BA, Sleep 5. Available \$2,700/Month. April, May, October, December 2013/ 2014. (727)421-9920.

BELLEAIR BEACH BEAUTY! Ocean Front / Pool. 2nd Floor, 1BR/1BA, Sleeps 4. Beautifully Furnished. \$700/Wkly. After 4/1/13. (727)656-2214, Mark.

INDIAN SHORES, 1BR, WATERFRONT Condo, Courtyard, Large Heated Pool, BBQ. Available March 23rd on. (711)662-6618.

215. Efficiency Rentals

CLEARWATER IN-LAW SUITE Efficiency type living. Private entrance w/deck. Complete kitchen, full bath. Non-smoker. \$600/month includes WiFi, utilities. (727)678-4594

245. Room For Rent

SAFE, CLEAN, QUIET. Fully Furnished. Utilities, Cable Included. Deposit, References, ID Required. From \$140/Week. (727)547-1199.

SEMINOLE, Heartbreak Mansion Quiet, Furnished, Share house, Pool, Cable W/D. No illegal smoking/ drugs. \$125/Week and up. Utilities Included. B.G.C. (727)331-3935.

255. Accom. to Share

SEMINOLE: 1BR +PRIVATE bath and entry. Female. Share remainder of house. \$400/month +1/2 utilities. Requires background check and security deposit. (727)392-0175.

265. Commercial Rentals

LEASE NOW! LAST UNITS For Lease in New Complex. 1/Year Lease. 6/Months FREE. Shoppes at 66. Call for Details. Rob (727)544-1403 Broderick Associates, Inc.

NEWLY RENOVATED, TWO offices/ connecting door. Includes shared signage, parking lot, lobby, kitchen, restrooms and server/ phone room. \$750 plus electric. John (727)631-5900.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE From \$451 Per Month. Ample Parking. Madeira Beach. (727)641-6465.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE Space available for rent/lease. PRIME LOCATION in heart of Seminole. 1,000 sq. ft. Located among Medical, Dental, and Financial Advising professionals. Abundant private parking. Contact Trudy (727)748-2049 for more information and exclusive showing.

WAREHOUSE - COMMERCIAL Small Business, 2,000 Sq. Ft. w/Bath & Office, 20' Garage Door. Just Off Bryan Dairy Road. Call (727)667-1647.

300. Notices

INCOME TAX PROS 1910 Drew, Clearwater, 33765 (727)851-6575 Español

WHY IS YOUR BUSINESS waiting to file a BP Claim? For more information visit: www.ClearwaterBPclaim.com. The Law Office of Michael A. Ziegler, P.L. Clearwater, Florida (727)548-4188

300. Notices

A Research Study of Relaxation Instructions for Women Aged 30 to 65 is Being Conducted.

The requirements for participating are being female, aged 30 to 65, non-hospitalized, and speaking English as a first language. Participants practice relaxation activities for two months and record these times on an activity calendar.

To apply for the study, please call 727-776-8361.

The researcher, Ms. Roberta Bennett, a graduate student at Capella University, will return your call. Materials will be mailed to participants.

315. Personals

SOULMATE East Indian Male, 64 Years Old, Professional Seeking WF, Slim, Pretty, Between 50-64 Years Old. NS, NA. (727)623-9532 am.



355. Adoption

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

360. Legal Service

1-SIGNATURE DIVORCE, Missing Spouse Divorce, Wills and Evictions! Starting at \$65. We Come to You! Since 1992. (888)847-19

485. Help Wanted

REGAL PALMS PREMIER
Assisted Living on the Palms of Largo campus is seeking a flex receptionist to work evening or night shifts most weekends. Dependability, good phone and computer skills are a must. Position could work into a steady or FT schedule if desired. Apply online at regalalf.com. EOE

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

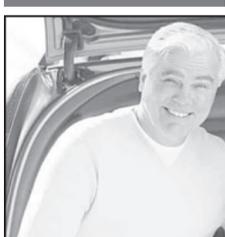
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Company hiring part-time maids. Professional background cleaning experience required. Must have reliable vehicle. Background check. Prefer nonsmoker. (727)526-7656.

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A message from Tampa Bay Newspapers and the FTC.

505. Part-time Help



Wondering How To Pay Off All Of Those Bills?
We are looking for men and women to deliver FREE community newspapers in Pinellas County. Must be available either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Experience preferred but will train the right person. This is a supplemental income. Applicant must have good transportation; preferably a van, large car, SUV or pickup truck. For more information, please contact Mr. Shiflett at 727-530-5521.

505. Part-time Help

BAIT HOUSE CASHIER.
Part-time. Retirees Welcome! Call Between 10am-3pm & Ask For Sue, (727)244-7550.

DRY CLEANERS/Counter Help.
Part-time including Saturdays. Apply: Belleair Bluffs Cleaners, 2924 West Bay Drive. (727)585-1101.

LIBRARY AIDE:
\$8.50 to \$12.33/hr. 20 hrs/wk. Details at myseminole.com, or at City Hall, City of Seminole, 9199- 113th Street N., Seminole, 33772. EOE, DFWP, VP. Deadline: 3/14/13.

PART TIME SHIPPING AND
Receiving Position. We are a growing electronic components distributor. Seeking a reliable person, Monday-Friday, 1-5PM. Must be able to lift 50lbs and be able to climb 8FT ladder. Warehouse is heated/air conditioned. Retirees welcome. Please email shosmer@electronicprecepts.com

515. Hospitality Help

LINE COOK, SERVER, SERVER ASSISTANT & HOUSEKEEPING
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525. Medical Help

CNAs, HHAs NEEDED FOR
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525. Medical Help

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OBO. Trade? (727)596-8239.

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FILM CAMERAS WANTED!
Buying quality film photo equipment. Leica, Nikon, Hasselblad, Rollei, Zeiss, Alpa, MORE. What's in your closet?
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535. Business Opportun.

660. Want to Buy

HYUNDIRA 2005 GLS, 4 DOOR,
190K Miles, A/C, Power, Clean Inside/ Out, \$2,900. Bob, (727)515-0994.

885. Autos Wanted

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1982 35' HERITAGE PARK RV,
Full Length Pull Out, Private Campground, \$8,500. 1998 Oldsmobile 88, 49K Miles, \$3,900. Both OBO. (727)595-6291.

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LARGO, FRIDAY-SATURDAY, 8AM-3PM. Large assortment of fishing rods/reels. Penn-Senator still in box. R.L. Winston fly rod 12wt cost new \$800, sensible offers. Other makes including Loomis, Tsunami, Shimano, Trout and Saltwater fly's 100's to choose from. Lures, Jig's, Filleting knives and much more. 10375 Holiday Shores Dr, off 104th near Sweet Bay. (727)331-5948.

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Fri. & Sat., 9am-4pm, 13250 Ridge Rd. Largo. (Clubhouse) BARGAINS GALORE!

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Flamenco guitarist Ottmar Liebert plays Clearwater's Capitol Theatre

CLEARWATER - According to Ottmar Liebert, "flamenco is a music both romantic and dangerous; it is an attitude as much as it is a musical genre."

Liebert and his band Luna Negra will perform Friday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St.

Tickets start at \$35. For information about or to purchase tickets for upcoming performances, call 791-7400 or visit www.atthecap.com.

Liebert's philosophy regarding his music catapulted him to fame at the end of the '80s with an engaging mix of subdued flamenco guitar and South American percussion, rock, jazz, and pop influences. His attitude actually suppresses the more challenging and dangerous aspects of flamenco in favor of the romantic and the stylish. He's not a technical wizard on the guitar, but he has a feel for the music's innate sensuality and a gift for creating memorable melodies.

Liebert was born in Cologne, Germany, to a Chinese-German father and Hungarian mother. He was 11 years old when he began playing guitar. During his youth, he had the opportunity to travel extensively to European and Asian destinations. At each vista, Liebert absorbed each musical tradition he encountered.

Liebert initially pursued a different dream: He tried to get a foothold in the rock and roll industry, both in Germany and later in Boston. He eventually abandoned his aspirations, leaving the East Coast and settling in Santa Fe, N.M.

According to Segue Entertainment, it was only after years of trying to hit the big time in various jazz-funk bands that Liebert began playing acoustic guitar in Santa Fe restaurants. His first self-produced cassette, "Nouveau Flamenco," was basically recorded for friends, but the album received heavy radio airplay in Los Angeles. In 1990, Higher Octave Records re-released it nationally, expanding the artist's audience.

His subsequent album, "Borrasca," quickly climbed the charts and Liebert was picked up by a major label, Epic. Since then, Liebert has brought flamenco to mainstream America with a level of class and accessibility. His prowess as a composer and instrumentalist has steadily improved over the years.

According to the biography on the artist's website, by 1989, Liebert had founded the first incarnation of his band Luna Negra. Those transitional years proved to be quite a culture shock.

"I was honestly happy playing this music in hotels and restaurants in Santa Fe, and going in one year from doing that to opening for Miles Davis was a pretty intense jump," he said in the biography. "Most shocking for me was to realize how many different people from so many diverse cultures embraced it."

Liebert is now recognized as one of the most successful instrumental artists of the past quarter century, performing before loyal fans on the road and releasing a series of classic recordings. His discography includes the remix collection "Euphoria" (1995), the live album "Viva!" (1995), the double CD "Opium" (1996), "Leaning into the Night" (1997), "Little Wing" (2001), "Arms of Love" (2002), "The Santa Fe Sessions" (2003), "La Semana" (2004), "Winter Rose" (2005).

Well into his career - after 22 releases - the award-winning guitarist released a daring and unadorned recording in 2006, "One Guitar," on his own record label SSRI. "One Guitar," Liebert's first solo guitar recording, is filled with gorgeous soulful performances and a palette full of intimate moods and lush landscapes. The album earned Liebert his fourth nomination for a Grammy.

Since then, Liebert has continued to record and release new material, including "Up Close" (2008), "The Scent of Light" (2008), "Petals on the Path" (2010), "Santa Fe" (2011) and "Dune" (2012).



Capitol Theatre welcomes Ottmar Liebert March 22. Photo by LUIS ALVAREZ

OPENING, from page 1B

with dubious ethics, is hurled away from dusty Kansas to the vibrant Land of Oz, he thinks he's hit the jackpot - fame and fortune are his for the taking - that is until he meets three witches, Theodora (Mila Kunis), Evanora (Rachel Weisz) and Glinda (Michelle Williams), who are not convinced he is the great wizard everyone's been expecting. Reluctantly drawn into the epic problems facing the Land of Oz and its inhabitants, Oscar must find out who is good and who is evil before it is too late.

Putting his magical arts to use through illusion, ingenuity - and even a bit of wizardry - Oscar transforms himself not only into the great and powerful Wizard of Oz but into a better man as well.

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

'Beyond the Hills'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Cosmina Stratan, Cristina Flutur, Valeriu Andriuta, Dana Tapalaga and Catalina Harabagiu
Director: Cristian Mungiu
Not rated

In an isolated Orthodox convent in Romania, Alina has just been reunited with Voichita after spending several years in Germany. The two young women have supported and loved each other since meeting as children in an orphanage.

Alina wants Voichita to leave and return with her to Germany, but Voichita has found refuge in faith and a family in the nuns and their priest, and refuses. Alina cannot understand her friend's choice. In

her attempt to win back Voichita's affection, she challenges the priest. She is taken to a hospital and the people of the monastery start to suspect that she is possessed.

When the doctors send her back, Alina is included in the monastic routine in the hope that she will find peace. But her condition worsens and they finally have to tie her to a wooden plank to prevent her from hurting herself. After ruling out all other options, the priest and nuns decide to read her prayers to deliver those possessed by the Evil One. They perform an exorcism, but the result is not what they had hoped, and Voichita begins to doubt the religious choice she has made. She decides to free Alina - but her decision comes too late.

The film is inspired by the nonfiction novels of Tatianna Niculescu Bran.

'Emperor'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Tommy Lee Jones, Matthew Fox and Eriko Hatsune
Director: Peter Webber
Rated: PG-13

A gripping tale of love and honor forged between fierce enemies of war, "Emperor" unfolds the story, inspired by true events, of the bold and secret moves that won the peace in the shadows of post-war Japan.

Matthew Fox joins with Academy Award winner Tommy Lee Jones, newcomer Eriko Hatsune and award-winning Japanese star Toshiyuki Nishida to bring to life the American occupation of Japan in the perilous and unpredictable days just after Emperor Hirohito's World War II surrender. As Gen. Douglas MacArthur (Jones) suddenly finds himself the de



Tommy Lee Jones, left, and Matthew Fox star in Peter Webber's "Emperor." Photo by KIRSTY GRIFFIN

facto ruler of a foreign nation, he assigns an expert in Japanese culture - and psychological warfare - Gen. Bonner Fellers (Fox), to covertly investigate the looming question hanging over the country: should the Japanese Emperor, worshiped by his people but accused of war crimes, be punished or saved?

Caught between the high-wire political intrigue of his urgent mission and his own impassioned search

for the mysterious school teacher (Hatsune) who first drew him to Japan, Fellers can be certain only that the tricky subterfuge about to play out will forever change the history of two nations and his heart.

'The Silence'

Genre: Crime and thriller
Cast: Ulrich Thomsen, Wotan Wilke Möhring, Sebastian Blomberg, Katrin Sass and Burghart Klausner
Director: Baron bo Odar
Not rated

"The Silence" begins 23 years ago on a hot summer day, when a girl named Pia is brutally murdered in a field of wheat by Peer (Ulrich Thomsen), as his helpless friend Timo (Wotan Wilke Moehring) watches.

Now, in the present day, on the exact same date, 13-year-old Sinikka is missing, her bicycle abandoned in the same spot, leading police to suspect the same killer may be at work again. Recently widowed Detective David (Sebastian Blomberg) and his colleague Janna (Jule Boewe) struggle to solve the mystery of these parallel crimes with the help of Krischan (Burghart Klausner), the retired investigator of the unresolved case.

While Sinikka's distraught parents are trapped in an agonizing period of waiting and uncertainty, their daughter's fate rips open unhealed wounds in the heart of Pia's mother (Katrin Sass) and sends Timo in search of Peer and their own old desires.

In his strikingly commanding debut feature, Swiss born Baron bo Odar adapts Jan Costin Wagner's novel with his own unmistakable signature.

For more movie news including what's playing at local theaters and trailers, visit www.TBNweekly.com.

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