

## LARGO LEADER

### American Idol finalist stops in Largo to visit summer campers

Also, make your Fourth of July plans with events in Largo and beyond ... Page 2B.



INSIDE



## Firefighters resign over handgun

Three Largo firefighters didn't report 9 mm Glock turned into fire station

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO - Two Largo firefighters resigned and one was suspended in the wake of an internal investigation involving a loaded handgun turned into Station 40. The 9mm Glock 26, complete with a loaded 32-round magazine, was found by a lawn service crew in a ditch along Whitney Road and Shoreline Drive June 10, according to the city's investigation report. That afternoon,

an anonymous worker rang the doorbell of Station 40, at 2990 Whitney Road, and gave the gun to firefighter/paramedic Lewis Bradford. He told Bradford that he had called police but they never came, and he couldn't wait for them any longer, Bradford would later explain. But Bradford didn't call law enforcement that day to report the gun. Per city policy, firearms and weapons are not permitted around city facilities, including fire stations.

Instead, Bradford donned medical gloves and showed the gun to his fellow firefighters when they woke from a nap, the investigation revealed. "Look what I got," Bradford said, displaying the gun to firefighter/paramedic Mike Ledford, who was acting lieutenant at the station, and firefighter/EMT Brad Lonkey. According to Lonkey's statements, Bradford speculated

See FIREFIGHTERS, page 4A

ENTERTAINMENT



### Opening this week

FBI Special Agent Sarah Ashburn (Sandra Bullock) and Boston cop Shannon Mullins (Melissa McCarthy) couldn't be more incompatible. But when they join forces to bring down a ruthless drug lord in "The Heat," they become the last thing anyone expected: buddies. Also opening is "White House Down," starring Channing Tatum and Jamie Foxx. ... Page 1B.

POLICE BEAT

### Contractors arrested in sting

The Pinellas County Office of Consumer Protection announced results from a sting June 21 aimed at cracking down on unlicensed contractors. In all, nine individuals were arrested and charged with 15 misdemeanor counts of unlicensed contracting and nine felony counts of failure to secure workers compensation insurance. ... Page 5A.

COUNTY

### Drug court restarts diversion program

With newly allocated funding by the Florida Legislature becoming available on July 1, Pinellas Adult Drug Court has restarted its diversion program that allows some felons to choose treatment over time in Florida's prison system. ... Page 6A.

VIEWPOINTS

### Debra Saunders

President learns from Egypt and Libya events, columnist says. ... Page 12A.



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## Capturing a legacy of love

This year's Miss Largo works to help children deal with Alzheimer's in their family

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO - Olivia Stacey used to be one of the youth she's now trying to reach through her nonprofit, Olivia's Legacy of Love. When Stacey, now 23, was in fourth grade, her grandmother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

"I really feared that she wouldn't know who I was and she wouldn't remember the relationship that we had," she explained. "I wanted to create something that would honor her legacy but also create something that would help me cope with the changes that were happening."

Stacey started going through her house, looking for photos, mementos and recipe cards that memorialized her grandmother. Stacey and her mother enjoyed scrapbooking as a family activity. It was a natural fit to create one for her grandmother.

The process helped her family and later, when her grandmother moved into an assisted living facility and continued to lose her memory, the book benefited her directly.

"When she got to the point where she couldn't tell stories about herself, the book told those stories for her," Stacey said. "I saw then how that book was able to spark a connection between medical practitioners

and nurses." By then, Stacey was growing up and realized that she could help other families in the same way. She began to hone the concept of the program, as well as her own knowledge, with other professionals and those studying the disease.

Her idea was to host workshops for children where she would talk to them about the disease and emphasize to them that their grandparent, or sometimes a parent, still loved them, despite their actions. Then, she would lead them in the creation of their own scrapbook.

"Through talking to people in the Alzheimer's community, I realized that there wasn't a program like this. That was a little bit surprising to me," Stacey said. "I realized the potential this had."

Since 2011, Legacy of Love has been introduced at 45 different healthcare facilities, schools and community organizations. Stacey has personally spoken to more than 5,000 people, many of them children, about the impact of Alzheimer's disease on families.

The program really took off in 2011 after Stacey competed in the Miss University of Florida pageant, a Miss America preliminary competition. At the suggestion of a friend who knew she needed scholarship money for graduate school, Stacey re-



Photo courtesy of OLIVIA STACEY Above, Miss Largo Olivia Stacey reads "What's Happening to Grandpa?" a story that helps her introduce how Alzheimer's disease can affect children's family members during a Legacy of Love workshop. Stacey's nonprofit helps children cope with the disease through education, discussion and the creation of a scrapbook that memorializes their loved one's life.

resented her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha, and was named first runner up.

Aside from enjoying her first beauty pageant experience, Stacey realized that the Miss America organization could help

promote Legacy of Love and highlight her efforts to help the Alzheimer's community.

"When I made it my platform, it just really opened up so many opportunities for me to meet new families who were strug-

gling and really create awareness for programming what I was building," she said.

After graduating from the University of Florida, Stacey moved back to Pinellas County where she had grown up. She started a graduate program in strategic communications at the University of South Florida. She currently works as a marketing director for a financial planning company.

And in February, Stacey was crowned Miss Largo. She will compete in the Miss Florida Pageant in St. Petersburg in July.

She deferred her graduate studies for a semester, but just working a fulltime job and advancing Legacy of Love takes a lot of time. But her efforts with the nonprofit never feels like work, she said.

"It's an outlet for me, just as much as it is for the families and the kids that I work with. It does just as much for me as it does for them," she said.

Stacey has been building the program slowly, giving herself time to try out what activities and conversation starters work with children. For teenagers, she shows a video to introduce the idea. The scrapbook activity helps them discover their loved one's history.

For the younger children,

See LEGACY, page 4A

## Team works to end fatal domestic violence cases

By JULIANA A. TORRES

This year, the Pinellas County team that convenes to analyze domestic violence cases that end in death decided to take a different approach in the publication of their findings.

The factors surrounding fatal cases of violence between intimate partners hasn't changed much. In 70 percent of the cases they've analyzed over the years, the couple's friends, family, co-workers or neighbors knew about the violence but didn't know what to do about it. And then it was too late, and their loved one, friend or acquaintance was dead at the hands of their abuser.

That statistic in particular frustrates the fatality review team of the Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force, a team that has been trying to identify patterns in order to prevent more fatal cases, year after year, since 2000. Their annual report for 2012, released this month, is designed with laypersons in mind instead of the professionals who are working on the front lines of domestic violence every day.

"We're continuing to feel like we can talk to professionals over and over and over again about this issue and they get it, but if the everyday person on the street doesn't understand how to help their friend, their neighbor, their co-worker when this issue arises, then we're not really preventing domestic homicide, are we?" said Frieda Widera, chairwoman of the fatality review team and victim advocate for Largo Police Department.

In fact, 2012 was one of the worse years for domestic fatalities in Pinellas County. Their intimate partners killed 13 people last year, the highest number in more than a decade. Statistically, domestic violence has accounted for 18 percent of the homicides reported in Pinellas County over the years. But in 2012, those 13 deaths were 29.5 percent of murders reported countywide on the

### Believe, Speak and Act

Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force offers the following tips to residents who want to help stop domestic violence in their community.

- Believe it's a community problem that affects and kills women ... still.
- Believe when women speak up and believe there is a solution.
- Encourage women to speak up and listen to them.
- Speak on behalf of women who are being abused.
- Act to empower victims and help them leave.
- Act to build communities that are conscious of local resources to help domestic violence victims.

For more specifics, download the annual report on domestic violence fatalities at bit.ly/16wVtXR.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement's uniform crime report.

Also disturbing was the fact that in five of those homicides, the partner took his own life as well as his loved one's.

"In all of our time looking at cases, we've not had five cases that were homicide-suicides in a year," Widera said. "We can't really explain it. But it's certainly a concern when we go from having one or two homicide-suicide cases in a year to five in a year."

Unfortunately, the prevalence of domestic violence in Pinellas County is not unique. The World

See DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, page 4A

## Largo contractor, activist dies at 82

By JULIANA A. TORRES

TALLAHASSEE - Norman Lyell Barringer, retired building contractor, longtime Largo community supporter and father to former Florida Secretary of State Sandra Mortham, died at midnight in Tallahassee June 23, 2013. He was 82.

If the family man with 15 great-grandchildren had one regret, it was that he never moved back to Largo, his daughter said.

"The one thing he wanted to do was to come back. He hadn't been able to because of health and so forth," Mortham said. "I think his heart never left Largo."

The critical health trouble for Barringer started 24 days before his death. The octogenarian, known for his indomitable work ethic, was in the backyard working on a project "he really shouldn't have been doing," when he fell, Mortham said. He developed a hematoma and underwent brain surgery, but died from complications.

"In the big scheme of things, it's the way he would have wanted it, because he was doing what he liked," she said.

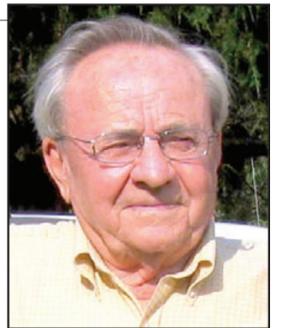
Throughout his life, Barringer was always willing to help. "If there was a project that required some construction, he was always Johnny-on-the-spot, giving the help that they needed," Mortham said.

She remembered her father "smack in the middle" of the creation of elaborate haunted houses during her and her siblings' elementary school days. Barringer was very active with the Largo Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Largo Jaycees and Kiwanis club. As an activist, he supported many Largo projects, from the bi-centennial celebration to the Largo Public Library.

Mortham described her father as "kind of feisty," warm and very friendly.

"Everybody liked him," she said. "He was easy to talk to."

See BARRINGER, page 4A



Norman Lyell Barringer

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# American Idol finalist visits campers at Southwest Complex

LARGO – In town for the release of his debut single, “Her Crazy” American Idol finalist DeAndre Brackensick stopped by Largo’s Southwest Recreation Complex to sing for campers and talk to them about his experience on the show June 19.

Brackensick, who finished eighth in season 11 of American Idol, answered questions, posed for photos, signed autographs and sang with campers, who were thrilled to meet him.

DeAndre was “enthusiastic and engaging with the campers and was one of the most humble young men he has met,” said Andre Jones, camp leader at Southwest Recreation.

The highlight of DeAndre’s visit was when he sang along with the campers, some of whom competed in Largo’s own Teen Idol Competition.

Brackensick hosted a free release party on June 19 at the Museum of Science and Industry. He also made appearances throughout the Tampa Bay Area including the Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Petersburg, Springhill Community Center and the Moffitt Cancer Center.

“Her Crazy” debuted June 4.

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



Photos courtesy of the CITY OF LARGO  
At left, American Idol finalist DeAndre Brackensick speaks with campers at Southwest Recreation Complex in Largo June 19. Above, Brackensick signs autographs for campers.

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## Celebrate Fourth of July in Largo and beyond

LARGO – Come see one of the best firework shows in Pinellas County at the city of Largo’s free Fourth of July celebration on Thursday, July 4, 6 to 10 p.m., at Largo Central Park.

Enjoy a DJ, activities and food, with a fireworks display at about 9:15 p.m.

Limited on-site parking will be available for \$5. Park and walk from Largo Middle School and Largo High School. Do not park in surrounding neighborhoods. No alcohol, coolers, pets, personal fireworks or sparklers will be permitted.

Community Event Friends, who have helped to support this event, will be on display in the park on the night of the event. Presenting sponsors are Hampton Inn & Suites and Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Additional sponsors are Pinch A Penny, Creative Contractors and Biltmore Construction.

LARGO – A patriotic celebration featuring the Gospel music of God’s Country will be presented Wednesday, July 3, at First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks, 12685 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

The event will feature a night of patriotism, prayer, and praise. The evening starts at 5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Center with a traditional barbecue. At 6:45 p.m., attendees will head into the Worship Center for a night of praising God and celebrating how much He’s blessed the United States.

Other than the dinner, the whole event is free. For information, call 595-3421.

### Clearwater

Clearwater Celebrates America will be Thursday, July 4, 4 p.m., at Coachman Park, 301 Drew St., Clearwater.

The Bright House Clearwater Celebrates America event will feature the largest fireworks show in Tampa Bay. Gates will open at 4 p.m.

## City offers summer sports camps

LARGO – The city of Largo is taking a step to grow healthy kids through nutrition, wellness and activity in summer camp programs this year.

Sports camps are jam-packed with fitness and health related activities. Each week, campers will participate in physical activity, learn about healthy habits and participate in activities that reinforce and apply the fundamentals of team sports.

Indoor soccer camp, for ages 8 to 14, is July 1-5, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Pinellas Indoor Soccer Academy, 611 Commerce Drive W., Largo. This camp also will be held Aug. 12-16.

Basketball camp, for ages 8 to 13, is July 8-12, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave. Campers will learn drills and games to increase their skill level. Basketball camp also will be offered Aug. 5-9.

Baseball/softball camp, for ages 8 to 14, is July 15-19, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Largo Sports Complex, 13120 Vonn Road. Campers will learn the proper techniques for hitting, fielding and base running.

Flag football camp, for ages 8 to 14, is July 22-26, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Largo Sports Complex. Campers will focus on fun through instruction and games.

Register early as summer camps are filling up fast. For more information on all Largo summer camps, visit [LargoCamps.com](http://LargoCamps.com) or call 518-3125 or 518-3016.

Kids can join Radio Disney at the Natalie’s Juice Kid’s Zone from 5 to 9 p.m. This free event will feature games, performers, mascot parade and more. Attendees can celebrate Independence Day as the Mostly Pops Orchestra featuring the Wilsons perform at 7:30 p.m. The night will conclude with the Clearwater Gas Sparks the Sky fireworks display, set for 9:30 p.m.

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

For more Fourth of July events throughout Tampa Bay, see page 4A.

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## City calendar

### Largo Community Center

The Largo Community Center is at 400 Alt. Keene Road. Visit LargoCommunityCenter.com or call 518-3131.

#### Kiwanis host tribute concert

LARGO – In an effort to raise funds for service projects, the Kiwanis Club of Largo/Mid-Pinellas is sponsoring a concert featuring The Chilly Winds, a tribute to the music of The Kingston Trio on Thursday, June 27, 7 p.m., at the Largo Community Center.

General admission tickets are \$15, and reserved seats are \$17. All tickets at the door on the night of the show will be \$18. For advance tickets, call the club at 536-0412 or the Community Center.

#### Black Box presents show with a trivia twist

LARGO – Black Box Theater Productions presents “So You Think You’re A Movie Buff” by the Gypsy Stage Repertory Company, July 19, 8 p.m., at the Largo Community Center.

The cost is \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Enjoy a night of fun and unique entertainment where scenes, monologues and iconic one-liners from famous films are performed live with a trivia twist.

Follow along and answer questions like name the movie, the actors, characters name, movie theme song and more. People with the most correct answers win prizes.

The show contains some adult content, dark humor and adult language. The show is not recommended for children 15 and younger.

#### Weekly events

• **Square dancing:** Fridays, 7:30 to 9:45 p.m. Spend the evening dancing country-style to professional caller Allen Snell. The cost is \$6.

• **Swing dancing:** Saturdays, 7 to 11 p.m. – Enjoy an evening of dancing and socializing on a 5,600-square-foot sprung hardwood floor. Free lessons offered from 7 to 8 p.m., followed by a dance. The cost is \$6 with a recreation card and \$7 without a recreation card.

### Southwest Recreation Complex

Southwest Recreation Complex, which includes an aquatic complex, is at 13120 Vonn Road. Call 518-3125 for recreation or 518-3126 for the pool. Visit PlayLargo.com or LargoPools.com.

#### Float and watch a movie

LARGO – The summer brings Flick N Float Family Movies on Fridays, July 12, 19, and 26 at the Southwest pool.

Themed games and activities begin at 7:30 p.m. with the movies beginning at dusk, at around 9 p.m. The cost is \$4 with a Largo recreation card and \$5 without one.

Bring your favorite float or chair from home to watch the Friday night family movie. Free hot dogs, prize giveaways and food from a featured restaurant sponsor will be available while supplies last.

Lifeguards will be on duty during the events.

#### Hunt for treasure at the pool

LARGO – The city of Largo will host Splash’s Treasure Hunt on July 27, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Southwest pool.

Children are invited to look for hidden treasure all over the aquatic facility. Hunts are divided by age group: 2 to 4 years, 5 to 7 years, 8 to

10 years and 11 to 12 years. Hot dogs will be given away throughout the event, while supplies last.

All ages can take advantage of a special four-hour swim session and visit with Ye Mystic Krewe of the Santa Margarita Pirates.

The cost is \$3 with a Largo recreation card and \$5 without one.

#### Rotary club to host car show

LARGO – The Rotary Club of Largo will present the inaugural Cruisin’ the Park charity car and truck show Saturday, June 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Ulmer Park, 301 West Bay Drive in Largo.

The show is open to all classic and custom cars and trucks. A total of 85 trophies will be awarded. Registration is \$20 the day of the show. Spectator parking and admission is free.

The event will feature fun for the entire family, with activities for children, specialty vendors and cash raffles. Food and drinks will be available. The car show will take place rain or shine.

All proceeds will benefit the Rotary’s Camp Florida, a 21-acre nonprofit camp for children with special needs and challenges.

The Rotary Club of Largo is looking for sponsors for the show, as well as raffle prizes and cash donations. Make checks payable to the Rotary Club of Largo Foundation, P.O. Box 578, Largo, FL 33779-0578. Walker Ford and DuPont Registry are current sponsors of the event.

For more information, visit www.largorotary.com, email info@largorotary.com.

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Together, parents and children can help each other form lifelong healthy eating habits.

Children gain confidence in the kitchen and parents get an opportunity to make mealtime family time.

This is a special 5-week series designed for children ages 8 and up that focuses on good nutrition, making healthy choices and gaining valuable culinary skills. Sessions begin on July 10th.

To enroll, families must email [Fit4Allkids@allkids.org](mailto:Fit4Allkids@allkids.org). For questions, parents can call 727-767-2308.

Space is limited so please email to **R5VP!**

Classes are offered from 6:30pm to 8pm at **Anona Aftercare Center at Anona Methodist Church** 13233 Indian Rocks Road Largo, Florida 33774

**Fit4Allkids** Anona United Methodist Church

# Pinellas celebrates Independence Day with fireworks, parades

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Even before the sun goes down and fireworks light up the night skies over Pinellas County marking Independence Day 2013, festivities will be underway.

The Fourth of July commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, the document in which American colonies effectively declared independence from Great Britain.

According to www.census.gov, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. The website goes on to list a number of interesting facts, such as:

- The estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation in 1776 was 2.5 million. The nation's estimated population on this July 4 will be 316.2 million.
- Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston comprised the Committee of Five that drafted the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson, regarded as the strongest and

most eloquent writer, wrote most of the document.

- John Hancock, President of the Second Continental Congress, was the first signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- Two future presidents signed: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Both men died on the 50th anniversary of signing, on July 4, 1826.

- In 2012, the dollar value of U.S. imports of American flags was \$3.8 million. The vast majority of this amount (\$3.6 million) was for U.S. flags made in China.
- The value of fireworks imported from China in 2012 totaled \$218.2 million.
- As of March 1, 2013, there were 65.9 million hogs and pigs in the United States. Chances are that the pork hot dogs and sausages consumed on the Fourth of July originated in Iowa: The Hawkeye State was home to 20.3 million hogs and pigs. North Carolina boasted 8.9 million and Minnesota had 7.8 million.

As always, this most American of holidays will be marked by parades, fireworks and backyard barbecues across the country. Locally, to celebrate the event, displays of fireworks, parades,

concerts and other events are planned. Following is a summary of some of the scheduled events.

## Belleair Bluffs

An Independence Day Picnic will be presented Thursday, July 4, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Belleair Bluffs Community Center and Park, 2747 Sunset Blvd.

The event is co-sponsored by the Bluffs Business Association. The picnic will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will feature raffle prizes, a dessert contest, inflatable bounce house, entertainment and a dunk tank. Attendees will have an opportunity to dunk city commissioners.

For information, call Debra Sullivan at 584-2151 or Bonnie Trembulak at 686-8797.

## Kenneth City

The Kenneth City Fourth of July Parade will be Thursday, July 4, 11 a.m.

The city's parade is a relatively new parade in the community, but has quickly gained a reputation as a great hometown parade. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. on 62nd Street and will proceed eastbound on 54th Avenue until it reaches 58th Street. At that

point, the parade procession will turn right and head southbound on 58th Street coming to an end at the Kenneth City Community Hall, 4600 58th St.

## Madeira Beach

July Fest will take place Thursday, July 4, at Archibald Beach, on Gulf Boulevard at the end of Madeira Way, Madeira Beach.

The event will kick off at 11 a.m. and will include live music, the biggest tiki bar on the sand with beer buckets and frozen cocktails, food vendors and a kids' area with aqua bubbles and slide, hula hoop contests and a gyrosphere.

Fireworks will begin at 9 p.m. All-day parking costs \$10. For information, visit www.madbeachevents.com.

## St. Pete Beach

The city of St. Pete Beach will host its annual fireworks display on Thursday, July 4, beginning at dark.

The fireworks will be launched from Upham Beach, 6850 Beach Plaza. All normal beach and parking ordinances will be in effect. The Upham Beach entrances will be closed to the public start-

ing at 6 p.m. and a beach launch area will be established to prepare for the fireworks at dark. For information, call 367-2735.

## St. Petersburg

Ralphie May, one of Variety's "10 Comics to Watch," will be the headliner for the Cowhead Show's Fourth of July Brew-Ha-Ha, a holiday celebration, on Thursday, July 4, at the Mahaffey Theater, 401 First St. S., St. Petersburg.

The schedule calls for a 6 p.m. barbecue, a 7:30 p.m. comedy show, fireworks and outdoor concert with Pitbull Toddler.

Tickets for the show start at \$20. Call 893-7832 or visit TheMahaffey.com.

Since Ralphie May's debut on season one of "Last Comic Standing," audiences can't get enough of the larger-than-life comedian whose no-nonsense point of view strongly connects with diverse audiences. May doesn't shy away from touchy topics or ethnic jokes because he sincerely believes that as long as what he's saying is true, people need to hear it.

Following the fireworks, music will be performed by Cowhead's band, Pitbull Toddler.

## Seminole

The Celebrate America Bash will be Thursday, July 4, 1 to 5 p.m., in Sandwedge Food and Spirits at Baypointe Golf Course, 9399 Commodore Drive, Seminole.

The event will feature fun, music and barbecue. Music will be provided by the seven-piece Ocean Road Band. Admission is \$10 a person, which includes a choice of a free drink or a hot dog and soda.

For tickets, call 593-3900.

## Treasure Island

The Treasure Island Chamber of Commerce and the city of Treasure Island will present "It's a Freedom Thing" on Thursday, July 4, noon to 9 p.m., on the beach behind Sloppy Joe's, at 104th Avenue and Gulf Boulevard.

The event will feature arts, crafts, food, drink and activities for the kids. Horses Wild will perform at 5 p.m. A breath-taking display of fireworks is set for 9 p.m.

All day parking costs \$10 on the beach and \$5 at the Community Center Park.

For information, call 360-4121.

## FIREFIGHTERS, from page 1A

that he could have another gun for his car. Lonkey said he suggested they needed "to tell somebody" about the gun. But Bradford and Ledford pressured him to keep his mouth shut, saying that no one would ever find out, Lonkey later reported.

Bradford did call law enforcement the following afternoon, on June 11. A friend who was a Sheriff's Office deputy told him to pull over right away and call 911, according to his statements. He turned in the gun to the Hernando County Sheriff's Office, near where he lived.

He called acting Fire Chief Shelby Willis that afternoon to tell her about the gun. According to Willis' statement, Bradford said he knew he couldn't take the gun inside the station, and so he locked it up in the glove compartment of his personal vehicle and resumed his nap, forgetting about it until the following day.

The Largo Police Department was called to investigate if the gun had been used in any crime. If it had been, Bradford could be facing criminal charges, Willis warned. She placed Bradford on paid administrative leave until the case could be investigated.

Lonkey called the chief June 12 and asked to meet with her. He had to talk about the gun because he couldn't eat or sleep and needed to do the right thing, Willis stated in her report.

She launched an internal investigation as a result of Lonkey's description of events, which contradicted Bradford's. By this point, Largo police had determined that they would not be pressing criminal charges in the case.

Willis and department officials met with Ledford in person that afternoon. Ledford tried to explain that he wasn't aware of any gun until Bradford had called him about it that morning. He was told not to speak until the formal interview and was informed that he also was on paid administrative leave.

That evening, Bradford called Willis to say that he knew she was aware of the actual events on June 10. He wanted the investigation to stop, and said he would give a statement the next day and resign.

Ledford resigned June 14. In his statement, he said he found Bradford and Lonkey assembling and disassembling the handgun June 10. He said he thought Bradford was considering purchasing the gun and wanted to show Lonkey, who asked Bradford several times that day how much he wanted for it.

Ledford said he did not ask how the gun made it to the station, but did ask Bradford if he had contacted police. Ledford wanted no knowledge of the incident, he said. He admitted that he hadn't acted appropriately as the officer in charge, but didn't want to get anyone in trouble.

Willis noted in her statement that Ledford's account still didn't match up with his colleagues'.

Because Lonkey came forward with the details of June 10, admitting to doing wrong, he was repre-

manded with a three-day suspension without pay. One other firefighter present at the station was cleared of any knowledge of the gun or the events on June 10.

Bradford and Ledford's biggest infraction in the incident was not adhering to the department's code of conduct, Division Chief of Professional Standards Keith Hatten concluded in his report.

"They betrayed the trust of the public, which is inexcusable," he stated.

Bradford was hired with the Largo Fire Department June 1, 1992. He made \$66,159 per year. Ledford was hired Jan. 23, 2006 and made \$51,406 annually.

This is the Largo Fire Department's second internal affairs investigation this year. The first involved then-Fire Chief Mike Wallace, who resigned April 1 amid speculation that his leadership and decisions had been contributing to the department's low morale. Willis has been acting fire chief until the city chooses a replacement.

## LEGACY, from page 1A

their scrapbook is more of a tribute to how they feel about their grandparent. Stacey asks them to bring in photos and mementos and encourages them to share favorite memories. Stacey also found a children's book on the topic of Alzheimer's disease.

In "What's Happening to Grandpa?" by Maria Shriver, the main character helps preserve her grandfather's legacy through a scrapbook. By happenstance, it's a perfect introduction to her program.

"When I read it, it really touched me because it reminded me of myself and what I'm trying to do," Stacey said.

The book helps the children identify with their own feelings.

"Some of them, I think, are very lost and confused," she said. "It's such an emotionally charged disease. There can be so many complex situations."

Stacey helps the children understand that when their grandparent is yelling at them or acting strangely, it's not his or her fault. After working with the children for a few sessions, Stacey said the children start to recognize the symptoms of the disease and tell her, "I know she's not angry at me, she's angry at Alzheimer's."

"When kids say things like that, that's when you realize it's making a difference," Stacey said. "They can say, 'I know now, and it helps me, and I don't get as upset because I know it's not what she's meaning to do. She's just confused.'"

More and more children and teens, especially in strained economic times, are helping their families care for their loved one who has Alzheimer's disease, helping to prepare meals and spend time with their grandparent, Stacey said. Children need a support system too. Stacey's mother, Tricia Stacey, is a third-grade teacher at Brooker Creek Elementary School and has been an invaluable

asset in helping her daughter develop appropriate materials for all ages.

Stacey adopts the Legacy of Love program to fit different times and space availability. She tries to head a workshop personally about once a month, but is working to give Legacy of Love a presence across the state of Florida and eventually nationwide. To that end, she is recruiting volunteers with personal or professional experience with Alzheimer's to head new workshops in different areas.

Legacy of Love also offers a ready-made packet of information and materials available for download to anyone who wants to head a workshop. Stacey envisions different Legacy of Love chapters across the country.

Stacey works to provide as much of the scrapbooking supplies herself or through donations and sponsorships. Ideally, she would like to secure a chain crafting store as a sponsor, create an official Legacy of Love scrapbook whose proceeds could go to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America and give each child she speaks to a copy of "What's Happening to Grandpa?"

"I have a lot of ideas," she admitted. "I want to take it one step at a time to really make sure that each step is the most meaningful it can be."

Seven years after official diagnosis, Stacey's grandmother passed away from the disease. Olivia's Legacy of Love, which has a pending 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, has been cathartic for her. She was very close to her grandmother, who attended her "every dance recital, every performance, every practice."

"I'm able to still honor her in what I do," Stacey said. "A lot of people are scared of the disease and at first, can be in somewhat denial. So it's helpful to have that experience of living through it."

For updates about Olivia's Legacy of Love, visit www.facebook.com/LegacyofLoveOrg or twitter.com/LegacyofLoveOrg.



Photo by DEB KNOSKE

Olivia Stacey, this year's Miss Largo, founded Legacy of Love, a nonprofit aimed at helping children deal with Alzheimer's in their families.

## Mahaffey Theater to host Miss Florida Pageant

ST. PETERSBURG – For the ninth consecutive year, the city of St. Petersburg will host the Miss Florida Pageant when 47 contestants arrive July 6 to begin a week of competition and appearances.

The pageant will conclude with the crowning of Miss Florida 2013 on Saturday, July 13, at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg.

The pageant is a preliminary to the Miss America Pageant. Tickets start at \$40 for one night of preliminaries; and \$85 for the finals night of competition. Call 893-7832 or visit www.themahaffey.com.

The schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, July 9, 7:30 p.m. – Miss Florida Pageant preliminaries.
- Wednesday, July 10, 7:30 p.m. – Miss Florida Pageant preliminaries.
- Thursday, July 11, 7:30 p.m. – Miss Florida Pageant preliminaries.
- Friday, July 12, 4 and 7:30 p.m. – Outstanding Teen preliminaries.
- Saturday, July 13, 4 p.m. Miss Florida Outstanding Teen finals.
- Saturday, July 13, 7:30 p.m. – Miss Florida 2013 finals. More than \$50,000 in cash scholarships will be awarded to

this year's Class of 2013.

The week will kick off with the contestants attending the July 6 Tampa Bay Rays' game vs. the Chicago White Sox and the first pitch tossed by Laura McKeeman, Miss Florida 2012.

Also taking place that week is Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen contest. Thirty-seven young women vying for the 2013 title will arrive in St. Petersburg on July 10. The winner will continue and compete for Miss America's Outstanding Teen in August.

Mary Sullivan, executive director of the Miss Florida Pageant, said 120 Sunshine Princesses and Princes, children who are selected by a contestant and mentored during her year of service, will accompany the titleholders for both competitions.

"We are very thrilled to return to St. Petersburg for a great week of pageantry," Sullivan said in a press release. "Our first class venue combined with the area's many attractions will delight the families, directors, volunteers and friends who will be in town supporting their favorite contestants, one who will become Miss Florida 2013 and, quite possibly, Miss America 2014."

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, from page 1A

Health Organization announced June 20 that intimate partner violence affects 30 percent of women worldwide, citing the first systematic study of global data on the prevalence of violence against women. The study found that their intimate partners in fact killed 38 percent of all women who were murdered globally.

The fatality review team has reviewed 114 reviews cases since 2000 and 11 in 2012. The team isn't able to analyze each case until it closes, usually after the case makes its way through the courts as prosecutors try to convict the responsible party.

"Most of the time we're looking at cases that are three or four years old. It takes us many years to really be able to see a pattern or trend," Widera said.

The exception is homicide-suicide cases that don't have to be pursued in court. The team has already reviewed two of the cases from last year. The first case occurred in April 2012, when 35-year-old James Wolski, a firefighter for Pasco Fire Rescue, shot his wife, Stacie Wolski, 40, and then

himself in the parking lot of a Largo Walgreens, according to Largo police. In March 2012, Eugene Agbebaku, 33, shot his wife, Ingrid Agbebaku, in Clearwater before turning the gun on himself, according to media reports.

Widera said the team statistically couldn't pinpoint any specific factor that seems to turn one domestic violence death into two.

"There really do not seem to be any ... patterns or trends that are different in the homicide-suicides than in the other cases," she said. "There's nothing that stands out for us."

The team meets every other month and reviews two cases. In June, they reviewed a 2008 Largo case that took some time to make it to court and the 2011 case in which Darlene Mayfield, 59, was suffocated by her husband, David Ernst, and left in a bathtub to decompose for weeks. Ernst, now 47, of Indian Rocks Beach pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and was sentenced to 15 years in jail in February.

In the 2008 case, Joseph Keeler, 44, was convicted of killing his wife Lisa Keeler, 76, and sentenced

to life in jail without parole.

Widera said an age gap between the murdered and their assailant is a trend that is particular to Pinellas County.

"We've seen it in a lot of cases. We don't know why it's there, but it's there," Widera said.

The team looks for a variety of other factors: whether the victim had been trying to leave his or her partner, if there is any criminal history from either party, any previous threats to harm or kill and whether those threats involved a weapon of some kind. They want to know if the victim sought help at a domestic violence center and if and how law enforcement handled any past reported violence between the couple.

Within an hour, the team hears from the detective who investigated the death, any domestic violence professionals who worked with the couple, perhaps a representative from the health department and whoever was involved in the potential court case.

"For many of us who have been sitting at that table for a long time, as the review is happening and details come out, little check marks go off in

our heads," Widera explained.

By the end of the review, the team lists patterns they noticed and tries to define any intervention or prevention opportunities that were missed. Sometimes, the team can pinpoint the fact that one of the partners witnessed domestic violence while in foster care as a child and recognize that they never received any counseling to deal with that.

"Those are the harder ones," Widera said. "But we like to look at it, because if there's a way to learn what we can do to prevent cases, then ultimately we will help our society."

But the patterns and trends have been pretty consistent year to year. And so this year, the team's report is filled with less statistics and more tips on how the everyday person can help if they see domestic violence occurring to a loved one.

To download the fatality review team's report from the city of Largo's website, visit bit.ly/16wVIXR. The report also is available at the National Fatality Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, along with the reports from communities nationwide, at www.ndvfrf.org.

## BARRINGER, from page 1A

Barringer was 23 when he moved to Largo in 1953 with his wife, Ruth, and their then two children. The native of Erie, Pa., had decided to start a building business with his father in the warmer climate of Florida.

Together, the father and son built more than 100 Treasure Homes. Barringer Builders continued as a successful construction company for 36 years. The Barringers built mostly houses, many of them custom homes.

"That was the boom of the transition of Largo," Mortham said. "I think his buildings had an impact, certainly in the housing market." Barringer's architectural fingerprints are still present in the Largo community. The Barringer Building is a professional complex that he built at 152 Eighth Ave. SW in Largo. In 1987, the then-new Largo Chamber of Commerce building was dedicated in honor of the Barringers.

Mortham said her family discovered the existence of the Barringer

Subdivision in Largo only after her father mentioned it while in the hospital. The subdivision is in the southwest section of the city, where the Barringers began building homes.

"It was clearly named after them for having built all the homes in that little area," Mortham said.

Norman and Ruth Barringer also owned and operated two flower shops. Norman Barringer passed his tireless work ethic on to his four children, Mortham said.

"He influenced my life phenomenally because he was probably the hardest worker that I've ever seen," she said. "He never complained (and) didn't really take vacations."

He also was a "huge cheerleader" for Mortham as she ran for Largo commissioner, then state representative and finally Florida secretary of state. Her campaigns piqued his interest in politics.

"Up here in Tallahassee, even though he was older, he stayed pretty involved in politics, knew everything that was going on with most every candidate," Mortham said.

The Barringers were married 55 years before Ruth died in 2004, after struggling with various health problems. Norman Barringer lived with family in Tallahassee until he married Mildred Kelly in August 2006.

He was grateful for six years he shared with Mildred, the family stated. The couple attended Gospel Light Baptist Church. Barringer's family and his dog, Champ, were the pride and joy of his life.

Barringer's family had grown to seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandson. Along with them, he is survived by his wife; his sister, Marilyn Lowery of Largo; daughters Karen Norton of Largo, Carol Barringer and Mortham, both of Tallahassee. Among those who preceded him are his son, Norman L. Barringer Jr. of Largo, and granddaughter Indi Marie Barringer of Largo.

His family will hold a memorial service Saturday, June 29, 2 p.m., at Gospel Light Baptist Church, 3415 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee. A reception will follow the service.

Donations may be made in lieu of flowers to All Children's Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 3142, St. Petersburg, FL 33731-3142.

## Police beat

### Bicyclist dies after crash with car

SEMINOLE – A Pinellas Park man died Saturday morning from injuries he received when struck by a car about 10:30 p.m. Friday, June 21, on Park Street just north of 46th Avenue North in Seminole.

Detectives with the Pinellas County Sheriff's major accident team said John Patrick Campbell, 52, of St. Petersburg was driving his 2005 Chrysler Pacifica southbound on Park Street when a bicyclist rode out in front of his car.

The bicyclist, Joshua David Gaddy, 27, was ejected from his bicycle and transported to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. Gaddy died the next morning. Campbell was not injured.

Detectives said Gaddy was crossing mid-block, not in a crosswalk and did not have the right of way. His bicycle was not equipped with lights or reflectors.

Detectives also said use of alcohol and/or controlled substances by the bicyclist might be a factor in the crash. The investigation continues.

### Palm Harbor man killed by falling tree

PALM HARBOR – A Palm Harbor man died June 17 when a branch from a falling tree impaled him.

Pinellas County sheriff's deputies said the death appears to be accidental. Deputies responded to the home on Leprechaun Lane about 3:15 p.m.

According to the sheriff's report, Dan Paul Butts, 63, and his girlfriend, Beverly Drew, 50, were clearing trees from their backyard. Butts cut a tree with a chainsaw, and Drew was in the couple's Ford SUV pulling the tree, using a rope tied on the tree to the vehicle.

Drew heard a scream and saw that the tree had fallen on Butts and a branch had impaled him. She

called 911 and attempted CPR. EMS responded. Butts was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Medical Examiner's Office responded to the scene to take custody of the body.

The investigation continues.

### Deputies investigate aggravated battery

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County patrol deputies are investigating an aggravated battery that occurred between midnight and 1 a.m. June 17.

According to the sheriff's report, a 25-year-old female was walking from a friend's house to her home in the High Point area of Clearwater, when she was reportedly knocked to the ground by two males and apparently cut on the back. The distance from one house to the other is just a couple of blocks.

Deputies said at some point following the attack, the victim made it home and began to tap at the door; her roommate came out, saw that she was injured and called 911.

The victim was transported to a local hospital by air for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

No description of the suspects is available at this time.

Deputies say nothing was stolen from her during the attack.

The victim will not be identified at this time, as the suspects are still at large.

The investigation continues.

### Man drives into building

CLEARWATER – Clearwater firefighters and police responded to a call where a man drove his car into a building on June 18, according to a Clearwater Police Facebook report. The senior citizen was trying to park his car at 1735 Drew St. near Quick Cash

## Unlicensed contractors arrested after multi-agency sting

CLEARWATER – The Pinellas County Office of Consumer Protection announced results from a sting June 21 aimed at cracking down on unlicensed contractors.

The suspects were found through Craigslist ads, business cards posted to bulletin boards at local businesses and phone number "tear-off" solicitations. Investigators sought bids for general home renovations, including kitchen remodeling, flooring, drywall repairs and electrical work.

The purpose of the operation was to protect consumers from the dangers of hiring an unlicensed individual, which could result in financial harm, safety concerns and damage to consumers' homes. In all, nine individuals were arrested and charged with 15 misdemeanor counts of unlicensed contracting and nine felony counts of failure to secure workers compensation insurance.

The sting operation was a joint investigation with Pinellas County Consumer Protection, the

Office of the State Attorney 6th Judicial Circuit and the Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Insurance Fraud. Pinellas County Consumer Protection urges consumers to follow these tips before hiring anyone to work on their property:

- Only hire licensed contractors and ask to see their license. Verify the license at [www.myfloridalicense.com](http://www.myfloridalicense.com)

- Check the complaint history of a business at [www.pinellascounty.org/consumer](http://www.pinellascounty.org/consumer)

- Don't pay more than 10 percent as a down payment

- Obtain at least three bids, check references, and get a written contract

- Be suspicious of individuals who ask for payment in full up front, solicit door-to-door or ask to be paid in cash only

For more information on Pinellas County services and programs, visit [www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org).

Pawn when he apparently hit the gas pedal instead of the brake, the report said, sending the car crashing through the front of the pawnshop. The car ended up totally inside. The driver was taken to the hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Firefighters had to shore up the building to ensure it was safe.

### Information on arson sought

CLEARWATER – Clearwater fire and police offi-

cials seek information on a Howard Street arson.

The fire at 1124 Howard St. was started around 5:30 a.m. on June 6, and it took 32 firefighters about 20 minutes to extinguish it, according to a Clearwater police. No one was hurt.

A reward of up to \$2,500 is available to anyone providing information leading to the arrest of the arsonist.

To submit information, call 877-662-7766.

## Finally, Answers To Your Medicaid and Nursing Home Questions!



Elder law attorney Sean W. Scott will show you how you may be able to:

- Avoid being impoverished by nursing home costs.
- Save your assets, your house, car, and way of life and still obtain long-term nursing care.
- Keep from making the top 5 medical mistakes.
- New, up-to-date information for 2013 includes the most recent federal Medicaid law changes.

### FREE Medicaid Seminars

**Seminole Library**  
Monday, July 1, 2013 at 2 pm  
9200 113th Street North, Seminole  
(St. Petersburg College Seminole Campus)

**Palm Harbor Library**  
Tuesday, July 2, 2013 at 2 pm  
2330 Nebraska Avenue, Palm Harbor  
(One block West of 19 U.S. 19 N)

**New Port Richey Main Library**  
Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at 2 pm  
5939 Main Street, New Port Richey  
Located near City Hall

**Arbor Oaks Assisted Living**  
Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 2 pm  
1701 68th Street North, St. Petersburg  
(Near Tyrone Mall behind Chili's)

**Largo Library**  
Friday, July 5, 2013 at 2 pm  
120 Central Park Drive, Largo  
Jenkins Room  
(Just across from The Largo Cultural Arts Center)

**South Shore Regional Library**  
Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 2 pm  
15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin  
(Off 19th Ave. N.E.) (813-273-3652)

**Lakes Regional Library**  
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# Pinellas commissioners move ahead with surface water fee

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER - Pinellas County Commissioners are poised to levy a fee to help pay for operations and maintenance of stormwater systems in unincorporated areas.

Commissioners approved two items of business June 18 that pave the way to begin collecting money during the next fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1. Commissioner Norm Roche cast the lone no vote to both. Commissioner John Morroni was absent but left a letter stating his support as long as the Adopt-a-Pond program could be reinstated.

Property owners in unincorporated areas will see a line item for surface water on the Truth in Millage Notice coming from the Property Appraiser in August. Just like other taxes, the amount could go down when the commission approves the budget and millage rates in September, but cannot increase.

County staff estimates that the fee could bring in about \$17 million a year to pay for operations and maintenance. Staff has been working on a plan for the last couple of years to provide a dedicated funding source to pay for stormwater management services.

In past years, money for stormwater needs has come from the transportation fund, which is quickly becoming depleted, and the dwindling dollars in the general fund. Capital improvement projects for stormwater have been funded by Penny for Pinellas.

However, those funding sources have never provided enough money to keep up with the needs of an aging system. Public complaints about flooding due to stormwater runoff, ponding water on streets, erosion and water quality continue.

Changing state and federal regulations on discharge of pollutants coming from stormwater runoff enhanced the necessity of providing more funding

for operations and maintenance of surface water systems to comply with the new rules.

Property owners in unincorporated areas will be assessed a fee based on the estimated amount of stormwater runoff generated by impervious surfaces per parcel. Impervious surfaces are those that water can't pass through, such as roofs, patios, driveways and parking lots.

County staff determined that the median single-family residence in unincorporated Pinellas includes 2,339 square feet of impervious surface, which is the value of one equivalent residential unit or "ERU Value." Single-family residences are categorized into one of four ERU tiers based on the estimated impervious area, which is calculated using the building footprint of the residence.

The fee for condominiums is calculated by taking the total number of ERUs for the complex as a whole and dividing by the total number of residential units in the complex. The fee for commercial properties is figured by taking the number of ERUs for each parcel and dividing the impervious surface area by 2,339 square feet. Property owners can apply for credits if they have privately maintained stormwater management facilities that affect the amount of runoff coming from a parcel.

The annual surface water fee assessment rate for fiscal year 2013-2014 is set at \$116 per net ERU.

Opposition to the new fee was scant during the June 18 public hearing. Roche continued to object, saying a countywide solution was the better way.

Deb Caso from Palm Harbor called the new fee an "unfair tax," and described the ordinance that governs the assessment as "ungodly."

"It goes against nature," she said. Her husband, Tony Caso, also objected to the "tax on rain."

"Has common sense left this building permanent-



Above, left, heavy downpours are common in Florida this time of year. The rain hits impervious surfaces, such as the roof at top right, and eventually makes its way to stormwater systems throughout Pinellas County, such as the storm drain on the side of a street in a residential neighborhood, pictured at bottom right.

Photos by TERRE PORTER

ly," he asked. "You're looking to tax rainwater. The only one that controls the rain is God. Send him a bill and see how far you get."

Commission Chair Ken Welch expressed concern about the cost to property owners. The fee is based on a charge of \$9.60 a month. He pays \$6.84 to the city of St. Petersburg for stormwater. His opinion is that the proposed fee could be too high. The amount was calculated based on the amount of money required to pay for operations and maintenance.

Commissioner Karen Seel was "disappointed" that the fee would not allow for capital projects. County Attorney Jim Bennett said due to board policy that requires users to pay the costs, the fee

could only be used for operation and maintenance that would benefit the unincorporated area as a whole. A separate fee could be assessed for capital projects and for only "those folks who benefit," he said.

A final decision on the surface water fee is set for Sept. 10, 6 p.m., in the Fifth Floor Assembly Room of the Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court St., Clearwater.

If approved, property owners in unincorporated areas will be billed by the tax collector. Failure to pay the assessment will result in a tax certificate being issued against the property, which could result in the loss of title to the property.



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**Sunstar Paramedics earn accreditation for operations**

LARGO - Pinellas County's Sunstar Paramedics recently received accreditation from the Commission of Accreditation of Ambulance Services.

East Texas Medical Center Regional Healthcare System Emergency Medical Services announced that CAAS had accredited all five of the company's divisions, including the Pinellas County branch.

CAAS is an independent commission that established a comprehensive series of standards for the ambulance service industry. CAAS accreditation signifies that

an EMS service has met the "gold standard" determined by the ambulance industry to be essential in a modern emergency medical services provider.

These standards often exceed those established by state or local regulation. The CAAS standards are designed to increase operational efficiency and clinical quality, while decreasing risk and liability to the organization.

In addition to the CAAS accreditations, Sunstar's operations dispatch center is ACE accredited by the National Academies of

Emergency Dispatch. Also, the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport System accredits the Pinellas County Paramedics Plus operation, Sunstar, for its critical care transport services.

"We are thrilled to hear that we renewed our accreditations with CAAS," said Mark Postma, COO with Sunstar Paramedics. "These accreditations are important to us, as they signify our level of standards for EMS services."

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



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# Surface water treatment plant back in business

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Recent rains have allowed Tampa Bay Water to relax its water shortage status from a Phase 4 to a Phase 3, and the surface water treatment plant is now back on-line.

Early June rainfall increased flows in the Alafia River and Tampa Bypass Canal above permitted threshold limits to provide steady water to the regional surface water treatment plant, according to a press release from Tampa Bay Water.

Improving conditions mean more of the region's water supply can come from surface water sources. In addition, Tampa Bay Water has shut down the more costly seawater desalination plant, which will remain offline for at least the rest of the summer, officials said.

TBW's "phase" designations are set to match supply availability. Phase 4 is the highest alert. TBW moved to a Phase 4 April 17 when surface water sources ran dry. The public was asked to conserve water as much as possible.

The C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir also is out of service due to repairs of the interior lining that won't be complete until at least the summer of 2014. When the reservoir is in service, TBW can use water stored during the rainy season to supplement surface water sources during the dry season.

Tampa Bay Water officials expect conditions to continue to improve throughout the summer, which could allow the agency to transition to a Phase 1 drought alert – the lowest alert in the mitigation system. However, officials caution that without the reservoir, drought phases are "very highly dependent on river flow and can change on short notice." Tampa Bay Water remains well below its permitted groundwater pumping limits.

According to the June 18 U.S. Drought Monitor, most of the state of Florida is no longer experiencing drought conditions. The drought outlook shows drought-free conditions to continue through September. Above-normal rainfall is expected.

Tampa Bay Water's status designations do not change regional watering restrictions set



Photo courtesy of TAMPA BAY WATER  
Thanks to recent rains, Tampa Bay Water is now processing drinking water from its surface water treatment plant.

by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Phase III water restrictions began March 13 in Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties and continue until at least July 31. Per Swiftmud rules, first time violations of watering restrictions result in a \$193 fine.

Phase III restrictions apply to lawn watering, car washing, fountains and more. The schedule for lawn and landscape watering is restricted to one-time per week on a specified day based on address. Watering is allowed only before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. For more information on specific watering days, visit [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/water-restrict.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/water-restrict.htm).

Rainfall totals in May averaged about 2.95 inches, which is near normal, Tampa Bay Water officials said. Heaviest rainfall occurred from northwest to central Hillsborough County with amounts generally between 2.5 and 3.5 inches of rain. Western and central Pasco County received less than 1 inch.

Rainfall totals are above normal on a 12-month running average, partially due to recent June rains and Tropical Storm Andrea, which also helped reduce regional water demand due to lack of outdoor watering. Regional water supply demands averaged about 242 million gallons per day, about 15 mgd less than May 2012 demand.

Hillsborough River flow was 69.92 percent of the mean monthly flow for May, while the Alafia River flow was 62.54 percent of normal.

Tampa Bay Water provides wholesale water

to the public utility systems of Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties, as well as the cities of New Port Richey, St. Petersburg and Tampa. To learn more about Tampa Bay Water, visit [www.tampabaywater.org](http://www.tampabaywater.org).

## New general manager selected

By a vote of 8-0, Tampa Bay Water's Board of Directors hired Matthew W. Jordan, P.E. June 17 as the agency's new general manager.

Jordan is Tampa Bay Water's third general manager since it was created in 1998. He will start work on July 8 and will be paid \$180,000 annually.

Jordan comes to Tampa Bay Water from the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority in Wilmington, N.C., where he served as its first chief executive officer. Before joining the Cape Fear Authority, Jordan served as the director of public works and utilities for the city of Gastonia, N.C.

Jordan is a past president of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Public Water Association and was awarded the Chapter's Distinguished Service Award. He received his bachelor of science degree in engineering technology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, N.C. He is a registered professional engineer in North Carolina.

Tampa Bay Water began the search the fill the position after its former general manager, Gerald J. Seeber, informed the board in February of his intentions to leave the agency.

More than 180 applications were received. Fifty-two met the minimum qualifications and were reviewed by a screening committee, which included the agency's three officers, the outgoing general manager, representatives from each member government and the board chair.

Tampa Bay Water's board interviewed the top five candidates on April 29, before beginning negotiations with Jordan. The agency's chair and general counsel completed contract negotiations with Jordan May 20.

The agency's board of directors also approved its 2014 budget, which includes a zero percent increase over the previous year. This marks the second consecutive budget with no rate increase.

# Adult Drug Court restarts diversion program

CLEARWATER – With newly allocated funding by the Florida Legislature becoming available on July 1, Pinellas Adult Drug Court has restarted its diversion program that allows some felons to choose treatment over time in Florida's prison system.

Defendants with substance abuse issues who score no more than 60 points on state's sentencing guidelines can apply for admission to the program. Until 2012, the threshold had been 52 points, eliminating many likely candidates.

The program – formally known as Circuit Court Division Z – is for convicted felons facing 12 to 17 months in a Florida Department of Corrections prison. The voluntary participation opens post-adjudicatory drug court jurisdiction to third degree non-violent felony offenders, including those charged with third degree burglary, as well as some select non-violent offenders convicted of second degree felonies.

In the spring, the Legislature budgeted for continuation of the program that began in 2009 after the State Courts System was awarded Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to fund this pilot in nine Florida Counties, including Pinellas.

The Legislature funding goes to Pinellas County, which is expected to designate approximately \$916,000 for treatment and ancillary services for approximately 120 defendants.

Pinellas, one of eight counties targeted by the Legislature's

approval for another year of the pilot, had stopped accepting new defendants in December when it was uncertain if treatment dollars would be available at the end of this month. The pilot, operated by the State Courts System in collaboration with the State Attorneys Offices, the Public Defenders Offices and the Department of Corrections, aims to reduce future prison admissions, thereby saving state tax dollars.

Adult Drug Court is a voluntary program that features court-supervised, comprehensive substance abuse treatment with frequent appearances before a drug court judge. Frequent hearings enable the court to closely monitor a participant's progress in treatment and the results of drug testing. The drug court judge may reward progress or sanction non-compliance.

Since its beginning, 86 persons

See COURT, page 11A

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## Business updates

### HomeBanc names vice president

LARGO - Tampa-based HomeBancorp Inc. recently named Tricia Kinem as vice president, retail branch manager for HomeBanc. She is based in HomeBanc's Walsingham office. She brings to HomeBanc more than 26 years of local banking experience.

### Proforma opens

LARGO - Proforma Specialty Products celebrated the grand opening of its new business showroom Monday, June 24, at 12300 Seminole Blvd. Suite 4. The new business showroom is located in Largo and will serve all of Pinellas.

### Organizing firm launches

CLEARWATER - Space Organizing Solutions LLC, a professional organizing firm located in Clearwater, recently launched. The company serves the greater Tampa Bay area. Working with both residential and commercial clients, Space Organizing Solutions LLC specializes in home and office organizing, relocation management, space planning and design, home staging, sorting and downsizing. Space Organizing Solutions LLC is fully licensed, bonded and insured and is a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers. Visit [www.organizetampabay.com](http://www.organizetampabay.com).

### Taste of the Beaches set

ST. PETE BEACH - The fifth annual Taste of the Beaches: Sizzlin' Summer Event will be Saturday, July 20, 4 to 9 p.m., at Horan Park located in St. Pete Beach, 7701 Boca Ciega Drive. The festivities will include auctions, raffles, tastes from more than 25 restaurants and live music by

The Hamiltones & the Hunks of Funk. The event is sponsored by Bright House Networks, Bayprint, Busch Gardens, Caputo Creative, Crown Audi, Great Bay Distributors, Tampa Bay Times, Walgreens and Zonin.

Auction and raffle opportunities will include a weekend getaway with a two-day rental of a 2013 Audi A5 Convertible, a new Beach Cruiser bicycle and many other exciting packages.

A cash bar for beer and wine will be available. The cost is \$25 and includes 10 food tickets. Registration is required. To register, call Amanda Page at 360-6957 or email [RSVP@TampaBayBeaches.com](mailto:RSVP@TampaBayBeaches.com).

### Local BPW chapter earns awards, honors

ST. PETERSBURG - Of the 17 statewide affiliates, the St. Petersburg-Pinellas chapter of Business and Professional Women garnered the most awards and top honor at the 93rd annual state conference presented June 14-16, in Tampa.

The seven awards that recognized BPW/St. Petersburg-Pinellas for its achievements in educational and legislative programming, developing young professionals 35 and under, and membership growth, also earned the chapter the coveted distinction of 2013 Local Organization of the Year.

Local attorney Pye Young acquired additional recognition for the chapter as winner of the statewide Young Careerist competition. Young had advanced to the state finals as a result of winning at the local level against three other young professionals.

"We are honored that our yearlong efforts in programming, membership and the development of young professionals have been acknowledged by our peers around the state," said Cynthia Gramberg in a press release. Gramberg is owner of JonBishop Sa-

## Sweet Tooth to host grand opening event

LARGO - Sweet Tooth Yogurt will host a grand opening celebration on Saturday, June 29, 1 to 4 p.m.

Sweet Tooth Yogurt is located next to Bonham Dental at 12720 Ulmerton Road.

The event will feature a bounce house, face painting, a balloon artist and free samples.

Sweet Tooth Yogurt customers may build their own self-serve yogurt masterpiece by filling a cup with their favorite flavors of frozen yogurt and adding toppings. Sweet Tooth Yogurt features 22 delicious flavors and more than 30 toppings, including fresh fruit.

For information, call 216-6792 or [SweetToothYogurt.com](http://SweetToothYogurt.com).



Sweet Tooth Yogurt, located next to Bonham Dental at 12720 Ulmerton Road in Largo, plans to celebrate its grand opening June 29.

lons and immediate past president of BPW/St. Petersburg-Pinellas for 2012-13. "Designation as BPW/Florida's Local Organization of the Year certainly validates our chapter's commitment to achieving equity for all women in the workplace."

The following awards were presented to BPW/St. Petersburg-Pinellas for 2012-13:

- Local Organization of the Year
- Bernie Shuhi Education Award: Local Organization with the best program to extend educational opportunities which stimulate initiative, self-education, or retaining for the members in order to provide new skills and adopt new attitudes.
- Local Organization with Best Young Careerist Program: The Virginia Allan Young Careerist Program recognizes the professional, personal and political achievements of women and men, ages 21-35; they compete on the local and state level by delivering a prepared four-minute speech, interviewing with judges, and preparing a biographical statement and application.
- Eagle Award: Local Organization that consistently advocates, educates and informs members on the focus issues of economic equity, healthcare, domestic violence and the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).
- Hortense K. Wells Trophy: Best program designed to create a continued overall interest in legislation/government.
- Plus 5 Recognition: Members who have recruited five or more new members from June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013: Ashley Adams.
- Susan B. Anthony Award: Local Organization with highest percentage of new members younger than 35 as of Feb. 15.

### Cooters earns awards

CLEARWATER - Cooters Restaurant and Bar recently added to its string of awards.

Cooters was the winner of the 2013 Clearwater Beach Restaurant Week Award for Best Entrée. The establishment also placed second for both Best Appetizer and Best Overall Experience. The 2013 Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence designation adds credence to customer satisfaction. As for consistency, Tampa Bay Magazine for the past six years has

voted Cooters the Best Florida Style Restaurant.

"The family-friendly restaurant offers locals and visitors alike a fun, casual atmosphere where culinary delights meet up with exemplary customer service to make dining a memorable occasion," according to a press release. "Cooters also features a sociable bar area, where every day is a party and where imaginative tropical beverages are created to tempt and please."

### Wawa hosts fundraiser for USO Tampa Bay

PINELLAS PARK - Several Tampa Bay area Wawa locations are sponsoring the Show the Troops You Care Promotion through July 7, including the store at 8519 Gandy Blvd., Pinellas Park.

Wawa convenience stores are hosting various promotions to support active duty military in the Tampa Bay community. Part of the proceeds will go to USO Tampa Bay to help with programs such as the Welcome Center, Day Room at James A. Haley Veteran's Hospital and United Through Reading.

When customers are checking out at the register, they may simply drop extra change in the coin collection box or add a donation to their total purchase using one of the tear sheets. By donating spare change in the coin collection box, customers are helping USO Tampa Bay.

### HomeBanc announces promotion

BELLEAIR BLUFFS - Tampa-based HomeBancorp Inc. recently promoted Maureen Cancelino to vice president, regional branch manager at HomeBanc's Belleair Bluffs office. Cancelino was formerly vice president, retail branch manager. She has been with HomeBanc since 2009 and has almost 30 years of retail banking experience. Her community and professional affiliations include All Children's Hospital Guild, SPCA of Tampa Bay and Clearwater Chamber of Commerce.



Maureen Cancelino



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**REAL COMMUNITY NEWS**

# May unemployment up slightly in Pinellas

By SUZETTE PORTER

TALLAHASSEE – Pinellas County's unemployment rate rose slightly in May, up to 6.7 percent compared to 6.6 percent in April, according to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity report released June 21.

The rate is still well below last year's when Pinellas County reported 8.4 percent unemployment in May.

The county's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remains below the state of Florida's at 7 percent and the national rate at 7.3 percent.

The local Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties, also experienced a bump in the unemployment rate, going from 6.7 percent in April to 6.9 percent in May. The MSA reported an unemployment rate of 8.7 percent in May 2012.

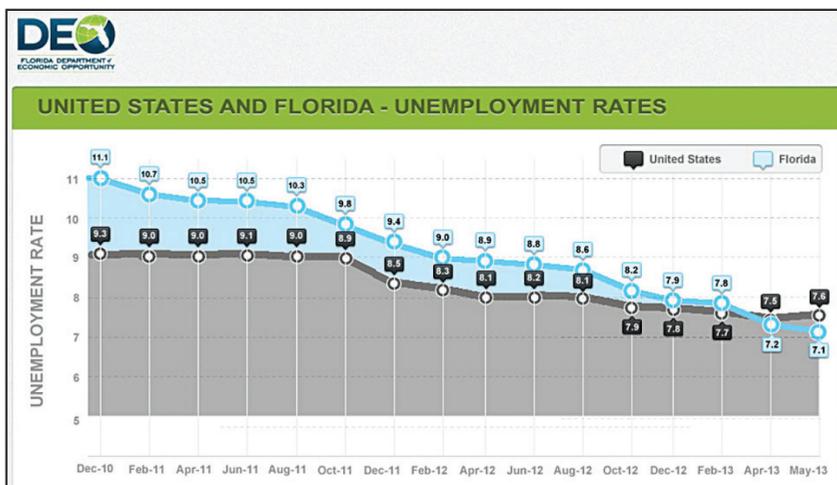
However, those figures are not "seasonally adjusted."

The seasonally adjusted rate for Florida in May was 7.1 percent compared to the not seasonally adjusted rate of 7 percent. The seasonally adjusted rate shows a drop in unemployment from 7.1 in April, while the not seasonally adjusted rate shows an increase from 6.8 percent to 7 percent.

It is customary to "adjust" the rates to reflect trends in labor markets. Employment is affected by seasonal hiring, which may include agriculture production, holiday shopping, tourism or the school year.

The state report does not provide seasonally adjusted rates for unemployment in individual counties or local MSAs.

Since December 2010, Florida's statewide seasonally adjusted



A comparison of the unemployment rate for the United States and Florida shows a decline from December 2010 with Florida's numbers falling below the national average for April and May 2013.

unemployment rate has dropped four percentage points, from a rate of 11.1 percent to May's rate of 7.1 percent. In the same timeframe, the national unemployment rate has dropped 1.7 percentage points. Gov. Rick Scott says those numbers prove that "Florida's improving economic climate continues to outpace the national recovery." Florida's unemployment rate has now declined year-over-year for 31 consecutive months.

Pinellas County's labor force increased by almost 5,000 between April and May, going from 446,673 to 451,534, while the reported number of people unemployed rose by 1,000. In May 2012, the county's labor force was 441,860 and 6,558 more were unemployed compared to

the current year.

The local MSA, which continues to lead the state in over-the-year job growth, reported an increase in the labor force of 15,178 with 3,622 more individuals reportedly unemployed as compared to April. The labor force in May 2012 was down 25,594 and 22,991 more were unemployed as compared to the current year.

Pinellas County's unemployment rate, ranked near the middle of the state's 67 counties at No. 34, is tied with Sarasota and Escambia counties. The only county in the local MSA with a higher rank was Hillsborough County with 6.6 percent unemployment.

Hernando County had an unemployment rate of 8.6 percent and ranked No. 8. Pasco had an

unemployment rate of 7.6 percent and ranked No. 17. Hendry County continues to have the highest unemployment in the state at 11.1 percent and ranks No. 1. Monroe County has the lowest unemployment at 4 percent and ranks No. 67.

May 2013 was the 34th consecutive month with annual job growth. According to the DEO, the industry gaining the most jobs was trade, transportation and utilities with 39,300 new jobs followed by leisure and hospitality with 31,300 jobs. The industries reporting job losses include total government and manufacturing.

Florida is expected to create more than 900,000 new jobs by 2018, according to the Florida Economic Estimating Conference.

## What's Selling

### in Pinellas County

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SOLD

Charming home on a community lake. Master bedroom overlooks the pool and has a private bathroom & walk-in closet. Screen enclosed patio leads to custom pool. Plenty of room for tropical garden & step lead down to the lake.

Sandy Hartmann  
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

---

**Largo** **\$208,000**

3BR/2.5BA/2CG

SOLD

Sold after 23 days on the market! West Bay Village Townhome built in '04, brick street with picket fence front yard. Wood floors, ceramic tile, new carpet and paint. California style closets, inside laundry room. Rear entry w/oversized garage w/extra storage.

Tricia Priest  
Coldwell Banker - Belleair

---

**Largo** **\$159,500**

3BR/3BA/2CG

SOLD

Wonderful block home w/desirable split plan. Large living/dining room combo + bonus family room. Nice sized bedrooms. Master BR features built in makeup area by master bath. Located near golf and parks.

Mary "K" Kottich  
Century 21 - Top Sales

---

**Dunedin** **\$182,000**

3BR/2BA/2CG

SOLD

Home has been lovely cared for by the same owners for over 28 years. It offers a bright living/dining area, kitchen & family room combo. Master BR w/private bath & walk-in closet. An incredible 50 Ft. screened porch plus a fenced back yard.

Susan Daddono  
Premier Sotheby's International Realty

The Largo Leader publishes news and photographs about people and groups. Send items 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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New and resale "Fusion Store" on West Bay celebrates first year anniversary!

Couture'd, an upscale new and resale store for fashions and home furnishings, is one of the favorite new West Bay destinations in Largo. During its first year, the store kept expanding its women's product lines for clothing and accessories with lots of displays, constantly changing the look to keep it fresh! The "shoe vault" has always been a favorite with customers, aptly named as shoes are displayed in a vault installed to hold real silver by a previous building owner. The addition of a man cave and a specially decorated room just for evening wear has become a real hit. The evening wear room was the best addition, providing women with upscale options for those special occasions without breaking the bank," shares owner, Debbie Welsh.

To ensure you have every opportunity to find a treasure in the store, Couture'd started providing smaller home furnishings this year and are always looking for those unique and trendy items that no longer fit into your decor!

The new tagline they are using, "The Fusion Store," aptly describes the Couture'd stores, blending many different types of products in one place for a diverse clientele.

To celebrate the first year anniversary of the flagship store in Largo, a big sale has been scheduled for Saturday, June 29th from 10am - 4pm. Special sales on select home furnishings from 10-12; clothing from 12-2; and, jewelry and accessories from 2-4. Part of the proceeds will benefit the Largo Cultural Arts Center.

"This past year has been a blast and we have some exciting new plans to bring even more trendy and upscale clothing, accessories and home furnishing options to the store, in addition to fashion events. We also want to merge fashion and Largo culture by using the stage in our store to showcase local talent," says Debbie Welsh, owner, Couture'd New and Resale Boutique, 910 West Bay Drive, Largo, FL, 727.437.2113

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# Pinellas judge to work fulltime on foreclosures

CLEARWATER – One judge's caseload will be distributed to other Civil Division judges so that he can work fulltime on clearing the more than 16,000 foreclosure cases that are backlogged in Pinellas County.

Effective Sept. 1, Circuit Judge Thomas M. Minkoff's court dockets and calendars will be filled with foreclosure cases that were filed in Pinellas prior to Jan. 1 of this year.

Since the beginning of the year, Circuit Judge William Burgess has had a similar assignment in Pasco County, where the backlog is an additional 13,000 cases. Most of the backlog is residential foreclosures, but Minkoff also will be dealing with commercial foreclosures that were filed prior to Jan. 1.

Chief Judge J. Thomas McGrady said caseloads are being reassigned to tackle the backlog built up by the rash of foreclosures that began with the economic downturn.

"The courts have been stressed to deal with the avalanche of foreclosures, and despite determined efforts by judges and staff, we still have this tremendous backlog in our circuit and statewide," he explained.

At a June 14 meeting with more than 100 attorneys who represent lenders and borrowers in foreclosure matters, McGrady discussed how the new section will function and outlined other procedures being implemented to cut the time that cases are allowed to linger in court.

"The Legislature placed a priority on decreasing the backlog and provided statewide funding for that purpose," McGrady said.

The \$9.5 million the state allocated to the Florida's courts for the fiscal year that begins July 1 does not allow for any additional judges. But the Sixth Circuit's \$775,000 will be used for senior judge days, additional case managers and magistrates who will be hired into temporary positions. Senior judges are fully qualified judges who assist the courts when active judges are ill, have lengthy trials, or if other unexpected situations arise, such as the heavy caseloads created by the foreclosure cases.

The funds are from money that Florida received from the National Mortgage Settlement, provided by large lenders partially responsible for the large number of foreclosures in Florida and other states.

In addition to funding the courts' plans to clear the backlog, the Legislature provided a two-year allocation of \$9.7 million to the clerks' offices around the state, which also have been over-run with the filings. Another \$5.3 million (including \$70,000 for the Sixth Circuit) was designated for new technology that will help the courts better track the cases that linger.

During the meeting with attorneys, McGrady explained the foreclosure section and announced other changes in foreclosure procedures. A new law passed by the 2013 Legislature mandates some changes; others better utilize resources available to the Circuit.

Mediation continues to be a recommended way for homeowners to work toward resolving foreclosure actions. But newly filed cases will no longer be automatically referred to mediation. Once an action is filed, the lender or borrower must file a motion for mediation.

McGrady said, "Mediation has changed from an opt out program to an opt in program. Employees of our mediation managers were spending too much time tracking down foreclosure defendants who were not interested in mediating the issues."

McGrady recommended that mediation be sought by anyone who has a foreclosure filed against them. Mediation Managers Inc. continues to be the Circuit's foreclosure program manager, and the lenders remain responsible for the initial fees charged for mediation.

Any defendant/borrower may initiate the mediation by filing a motion with the Court. Other details of the mediation program are available at [www.jud6.org/LegalCommunity/MortgageForeclosures.html](http://www.jud6.org/LegalCommunity/MortgageForeclosures.html).

McGrady strongly recommended that anyone served with a foreclosure action – or any court action – contact an attorney. But for defendants who represent themselves he said the website can be of major assistance.

"All the procedures are spelled out, and all the necessary forms are there," he said.

In addition to the designated section and tweaks on the mediation process, McGrady implemented policies that:

- Assign all foreclosure cases filed after Jan. 1 of this year to the sections that have absorbed other civil cases previously assigned to Minkoff.
- Utilize the authority of magistrates hired into temporary positions to help manage foreclosure cases by conducting evidentiary hearings and case management conferences, setting trial dates and recommending case dispositions.
- Institute procedures with which the Court will more closely monitor the progression of cases from filing to the sale of foreclosed-on property, including lenders' repeated cancellations of scheduled sales.

Two significant changes that are now in effect under the law signed by Gov. Rick Scott June 4 are:

- 1) Lienholders – including homeowner and condominium associations – are now empowered to foreclose on properties, meaning they have the same standing as lenders in moving toward a trial date that could result in a foreclosure sale.
- 2) With status equal to the lenders, lienholders will be able to expedite the process without the lenders doing anything. For cases filed under the new rules and not responded to within the 20 days, either the lienholder or the lender can initiate an order for the defendant to show cause why the Court should not enter a final judgment.

"All of these procedures are designed to lower the number of backlogged cases," McGrady said. "Lack of action, the responsibility of the lender/attorneys, clogs the courts and makes it more difficult to serve businesses and others who are litigants in the civil law sections of our Circuit."

McGrady strongly advocates that defendants in foreclosure cases take advantage of mediation.

"It's the best way to seek a settlement, especially for those homeowners who feel frustrated by the lenders' unwillingness to speak with them," he said.

# Senator Latvala recognized by Florida Retail Federation

ORLANDO – Sen. Jack Latvala, R-Clearwater, received the 2013 Senator of the Year Award from the Florida Retail Federation at

its event in Orlando on June 19. He was recognized for his strong support of the retail industry in Florida as he advanced their programs during the 2013 Legislative Session.

"Florida's retailers know that they can count on Senator Latvala to advance policies that help our businesses grow and create jobs," said Rick McAllister, president and CEO of the Florida Retail Federation. "We are proud to honor Senator Latvala as our Senator of the Year, and we look forward to his continued leadership in the Legislature."

"As a small business owner myself, I understand the importance of keeping retail businesses flourishing in Florida," said Latvala. "Florida depends on these businesses to keep our economy healthy."

Latvala was the sponsor of legislation that would have limited liability to protect businesses from unnecessary litigation. He also was recognized for his role as Chairman of the Senate Ethics and Elections Committee and the landmark reforms that were passed under his leadership this session.

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# Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum set to open June 29

By BRIAN GOFF

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – Nearly two years ago construction began on the enlargement of the Indian Rocks Historical Museum. Now it is set to open and members of the Historical Society are confident people are going to like what they see.

Invited guests had a sneak preview of the museum on Friday, June 21. The official opening of the Indian Rocks Historical Museum will be on Saturday, June 29.

"I'm going to be very excited and happy when it opens," said Wayne Ayers, president of the society. "I'm sure people are going to like it and even help us get the word out. We want to make history exciting and we want this to be a destination for Indian Rocks Beach. It is going to be wonderful and I'm thrilled."

All that excitement didn't come without hard work, however. Project coordinator Donna Valery and treasurer Nancy Ayers have been working steadily since the renovation was finished last summer.

"Nancy and I have been working 40 plus hours every week for the past 3 months," said Valery. "Others have been working hard too and that's a lot of hours for volunteers."

Work on the expansion began in 2011 and took a year to complete. One of the hold-ups was that the entire structure had to be elevated and leveled. The city of Indian Rocks Beach owns the building and paid for the expansion, while the Historical Society paid for the plans and ongoing costs for the operation.

The society took back control of the premises in the summer of 2012 and that's when the work began.

"We realized the place was full of stuff that we didn't need," said Valery. "We probably got rid of about one third of stuff that never belonged there in the first place. We had stuff from Michigan and Ohio and Indiana and some of it wasn't even historical. What was it doing there?"

Valery answered her own question when she explained that anytime someone brought in an old article a volunteer would accept it, then not knowing what to do with it, the society just stored it away.

"There was even stuff there that was made in China," she said. "We had a garage sale and got rid of it all and that left us with not as many artifacts. Then we had to research everything we had and made sure it was authentic. It took a lot of work."

To help with that work, according to Ayers, the society hired consultant Patti Smith of Frina Design in Tampa. Among her clients were Heritage Village and MOSI.

"We hired her to guide us through the process," he said. "She has worked with many museums and she was able to help us focus on how we wanted to present our artifacts in an interesting and organized way."



Photo by BRIAN GOFF

IRB residents Diane Flagg, left, and Jo Nocera look over one of the exhibits at the newly renovated Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum.

Nancy Ayers said setting up the new museum was a daunting task. "That is one of the reasons why we hired Smith," she said. "She helped us decide what to use. She helped us organize tourist related things in one area, fishing in another and how to organize and lay out the room."

Ayers' main contribution to the new setup was finding pictures to go with the stories they wanted to tell. Then writing those stories in a concise enough fashion so patrons will want to stop and take the time to read them.

"I spent a lot of time, it seems like forever, going through pictures and matching them with the stories," she said. "I would look for pictures online, go to E-Bay and research old newspaper photos."

The process was made more difficult because of the history of Indian Rocks, said Ayers.

"Our history goes back farther than other beach communities," she said. "We were one of only three communities along the beach at one time. There was Indian Rocks, Pass-A-Grille, and Clearwater Beach."

Just talking to Nancy Ayers is a history lesson in itself. For example Indian Rocks used to encompass part of the mainland, roughly where Belleair and parts of Largo are now. That is why the name of the museum is the Indian Rocks Historical Museum and not the Indian Rocks Beach Museum.

## St. Pete-Clearwater Airport receives excellent annual safety review

CLEARWATER – St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport passed its Annual Federal Aviation Administration certification inspection, marking its ninth consecutive year without a single discrepancy.

Also notable is PIE's six consecutive years without a vehicle/pedestrian runway incursion or infraction.

The FAA issues Airport Operating Certificates to ensure safety in air transportation. An airport must agree to certain operational and safety standards and conducts inspections annually for compliance.

The annual inspection reviews airport emergency planning, wildlife management, fueling operations, aircraft rescue and firefighting, employee training, runway and taxiway signage and pavement markings.

The FAA reviewed the inspection with airport officials on June 19

and the airport will receive a full written report in a few weeks.

"The airport team has done an outstanding job ensuring that safety is our top priority and certainly has been recognized by the FAA over the last nine years with findings of no discrepancies," said Airport Director Noah Lagos.

PIE's three runways, which are 9,730 feet, 5,900 feet, and 4,000 feet, and the taxiways are operated and maintained by the airport. The airport is a department of Pinellas County Government and the Airport Rescue Firefighting Station is operated as a division of the airport.

St. Pete-Clearwater International served more than 865,000 passengers in 2012, a 4 percent increase over the prior year. May 2013 marked a 28 percent increase in monthly passengers over the prior May.

### COURT, from page 7A

have completed the local program, and approximately 60 more are still involved in the treatment and accompanying supervision. Successful completion prevents a prison sentence and may result in the withholding of adjudication and/or a reduced length of probation.

The program is only open to defendants who score no more than 60 points in sentencing guidelines. Additionally, entry is based on the sentencing court's assessment of the offender's criminal history – no current or previous convictions of a forcible felony as defined in Florida Statute 776.08 – substance abuse screening out-

come, amenability to treatment services, the recommendation of the State Attorney's Office and the victim (if any) and the offender's agreement to enter the program.

For defendants entering on a violation of probation, the violation must have been for a failed or suspect substance abuse test, and the points for the violation will be counted in determining eligibility of overall sentence score.

After adjudication, defendants are sentenced to 24 months of probation and transferred to Division "Z," part of Adult Drug Court presided over by Circuit Judge Dee Anna Farnell. Defendants then are required to complete a designated level of drug treat-

ment, appear frequently for judicial review hearings (at least monthly), abstain from alcohol use, have 180-days of clean drug screens, satisfy court costs, complete any required aftercare and obtain a GED if needed. Successful defendants can apply for early termination of probation after half of the term is completed.

Three different outpatient treatment options and two residential program types are used, and transitional housing with reentry services is available when appropriate.

For more information regarding admittance to the Division "Z" Drug Court, call Pinellas Drug Court Director Nicholas Bridenback at 453-7401.

"Most people don't know that back in 1914 there used to be a train that came out here to the Beach," she said. "There was a spur line off the main line that went to Anona, then crossed the Narrows and came to Indian Rocks Beach. The train always had to back over the bridge because there was no room to turn around. It brought tourists over from Tampa and still today many Tampa people own condos in Indian Rocks Beach."

The railroad was the Tampa and Gulf Coast Railroad, the T&G, which Ayers said was often referred to as the "Tug and Grunt" railroad. Eventually the service was abandoned and the tracks torn up by storms in the 1920s.

Even the museum building itself has an interesting history.

"It began as a beach cottage owned by the family of Mayor R.B. Johnson," said Wayne Ayers. "Carl Moseley owned it and lived in it during the Second World War because he wanted to get out of Tampa, afraid that the Germans were going to bomb the city. He was Johnson's maternal grandfather and he built the fishing pier in Indian Rocks Beach in 1959. It was wiped out by Hurricane Helena in 1985."

Moseley eventually had an offer for the beach property and wanted to sell it. He offered the cottage to the city on the condition that they would turn it into a museum. The city accepted the building and moved it to a location near City Hall. In 2002 it was moved to its present location in Chic-A-Si Park.

Ayers said the long wait is finally over.

"We're relieved to get it finished," he said. "I have wanted to make this a destination. I want us to be the best small museum around and there has been a total transformation with all the latest museum techniques."

Valery says the work has been worth it.

"We've been working non-stop. We've set up 16 different exhibits. We'll soon be heading toward divorce court because our husbands never see us," she said, laughing. "It is a labor of love because we want to do something worthwhile. There is still plenty to do; it will always be a work in progress. In the end it will be something this community here and this area of Florida will be real proud of."

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# Dust mites wreak household havoc

Dust mites are eating me out of house and home.

They were even embedded in my pillows, until I took decisive action.

So I threw the pillows away – only because I didn't have time to take them to a hazardous materials collection point.

I had those pillows for so long; I don't remember how I acquired them. I seem to have a penchant for accumulating my mother's hand-me-downs – or her dog's.

Washed my drapes. Bought a new mattress cover and AC filter that's guaranteed for life. Cleaned my entertainment center, tabletops, baseboards, windowsills and chessboard. Threw all kinds of garments in the washer and other stuff. Too bad my bedroom painting won't fit in the machine.

Consulted with Dr. Google, which is usually a mistake. All this was precipitated by three months of sinus problems, colds, allergies and relatives.

A few weeks ago, my ENT doctor did some exploring in my nose with an apparatus slightly smaller than a minesweeper and found a small benign polyp wedged in the bridge of my left nostril.

Not sure where it came from. Perhaps dust mites put it there. I certainly didn't. My dad always said never to put anything smaller than a football in your ear. And I darn sure wouldn't put anything smaller than that in my nose, such as a fishhook, or whatever else is fashionable these days.

But the good doctor said there was hope. He prescribed some steroid spray that is supposed to shrink the polyp to smithereens in time and clear the crud out of my nose.

Sorry, TMI.

I'm feeling better, but I'm still wary of dust mites wreaking havoc in my household. For some reason, I have a history of being tormented by wildlife too small for the human eye to detect.

I'm a scabies survivor. About 20 years ago, six months after staying in a bargain-priced motel, a rash afflicted me between my fingers that eventually spread throughout my body. The doctor said I had a bad case of bed bugs requiring a prescription drug that came with a thousand disclaimers. I think it was called "Shock and Awe." It worked, but I ended up throwing away bedding and washing clothes a hundred times – especially my most sacred Florida Gators T-shirt.

Fleas and roaches are a nuisance, but even PETA wouldn't vouch for bed bugs. I don't wish bed bugs on anyone, except the IRS.

So if I can't see dust mites how do I know I have them? Because the American Lung Association says that roughly four out of five homes in the United States have detectable levels of dust mite allergen in at least one bed.

And since being hopeless at house cleaning put me at great risk of a dust mite infestation, I must assume the obvious.

Death to dust mites. I'm determined.

Time again to visit the Internet bloggers. You are always entitled to their opinions:

"If I am not mistaken, I believe putting things in the dryer on hot and running a few minutes will also kill dust mites. I do this with my children's stuffed animals."

PETA would frown on stuffed animal abuse.

"My allergist suggested washing in Pine Sol. I add about 1/8 cup to each load. And I use the citrus scent, so I don't smell like a tree."

I certainly don't want my sacred Florida Gators T-shirt to smell like a tree.

Fear not, the war on dust mites continues. When somebody comes up with a sure-fire inexpensive way to rid the household of dust mites, I'll be the first to know about it.

I have a nose for news.

Tom Germond is executive editor of Tampa Bay Newspapers. Email him at tgermond@TBNweekly.com.



Tom Germond

# If I were king: Here's some ideas

Fantazizing (also known as daydreaming) is one of the simplest, cheapest and most rewarding pursuits known. Although it's possible to become addicted to fantasy, most people don't. Reality keeps intruding. It's hard to fantasize your way out of an overdue property tax bill, or the voice of a police officer saying, "Would you please step out of your car and tell me why you've been running through traffic lights for the past six miles?"

Many fantasies revolve around money, ego, sex, revenge, high attainment, fattening foods or fame. Also power. What would it be like to have absolute power? Wow, what a trip that could be. Recently I got to thinking about that, and several ideas popped up.

If I were king, here are some changes I'd make.

1. When Congress votes on whether or not to send our troops off to war, ballots will be cast only by senators or representatives who have actually experienced combat, or whose children or grandchildren are in uniform or subject to the draft. I'm tired of watching lifetime civilians send our uniformed men and women off to fight and die, or to come home maimed and often insane to a Congress that won't adequately pay for their care.

2. In bars, restaurants and nightclubs, all alcoholic drinks will have a 10 percent tax added to the bill. This money will go into a DD (designated driver) fund. This will be used to pay sober designated drivers to drive a drinking car-owner home and then return via taxi to his or her place of employment. Driving while intoxicated will be punished by 16 weeks confinement in hard labor camps in the forests of Georgia and Maine.

3. Smoking will be permitted in public buildings, but only in small (20x20), unventilated, nonair-conditioned smoking rooms. You like to smoke? Hey, baby, we'll give you smoke.

4. Public cell phone conversations will be permitted, but only in the designated smoking rooms (see No. 3, above).



Driver's Seat  
Bob Driver

Many fantasies revolve around money, ego, sex, revenge, high attainment, fattening foods or fame. Also power. What would it be like to have absolute power? Wow, what a trip that could be.

5. TV and radio advertisements will last no more than 20 seconds.

6. Laugh tracks will be prohibited on all TV sitcoms.

7. Motorists who drive in the left-hand lane without good cause will be required to listen to three hours of uninterrupted rap music or lectures on Etruscan art.

8. After fulfilling strict professional requirements, schoolteachers, police officers and firefighters will receive compensation at least 50 percent higher than that of the average elected official in the state.

9. Restaurant patrons who insult or otherwise abuse servers will be subject to immediate ejection from the premises. The same goes for servers who address customers as "you guys" or who call old people "honey" or "hon."

10. Non-English-speaking immigrants to the U.S. will have their new citizenship withheld for one year, during which time they will be required to acquire a working familiarity with American English. Computer-based lan-

guage programs will be provided. The programs will have 12 monthly levels, each more complex than the previous one. Successful completion of each level will entitle the student to a meaningful reward, such as a thesaurus or a recording of Renee Fleming's music.

11. Persons convicted of abusing children or animals will be placed on rafts in the waters of abandoned stone quarries and left there for up to five days at a time. Their only food will be month-old sushi.

12. Unnecessary excessive noise – from whatever source – will be prohibited. Violators will be branded with a temporary "N" tattooed on their foreheads for six weeks, during which all bystanders are urged to sneer at the offender.

13. Substantial financial rewards will be given to playwrights, novelists, comedians and other creative artists who produce high-quality work that does not contain the F-word or bathroom and barnyard jokes.

14. Anyone convicted of falsely claiming disability payments from the government or employers will be sentenced to a month of walking backwards across the mountains of West Virginia.

15. Severance and bonus pay for high-ranking financial company executives will be limited to one-tenth of their current or departure salaries. No executive will be paid a salary more than 50 times higher than that of his personal assistant or the chief janitor in his office building. All compensation above that level will be diverted to a trust fund intended to support investors or other persons who have been screwed by banks, brokerages and hedge funds.

I doubt if many of the changes I've listed above could, would or should be adopted. But that's one of the joys of fantasizing – you snap your fingers and it all disappears.

Bob Driver is a former columnist and editorial page editor for the Clearwater Sun. His email address is tralee71@comcast.net.

## LETTERS

### Central parade theme should remain

Editor:

The Seminole City Council apparently has joined the trend toward "political correctness" by renaming the Christmas parade to a holiday parade.

Let's keep the date of the parade close to Christmas and hold it during the day, like the Pow Wow parade. This would mitigate the lighting issues and help with the weather factor.

Other religious groups should be invited to take part ... those that observe Hanukkah, Kwanzaa etc. But the central theme of the parade has been the Christmas observance as governments and employers recognize that.

This should remain.

Roney Sorensen,  
Seminole

### Emotions of the moment cloud judgment

Editor:

As always seems to be the case, the media and the American people, when faced with seemingly scandalous or politically motivated revelations that suggest some wrongdoing, allow the emotions of the moment to cloud their judgment in response to the information.

The fact that we invariably modify our position, as more concrete information becomes available never seems to deter us from first taking a shot from the hip position. In reality, what we hear initially is only what we want to hear: facts be damned. I implore all Americans at least question the veracity of the content of the message before you establish an opinion on an issue.

A good case in point is the issue of government data mining, and the suggestion this violates the Fourth Amendment and our right to privacy. The "oh my God" response echoing throughout the land was exactly the reaction one could expect based on our track record. It results from, and therefore reflects, a superficial analysis of the rather sketchy information presented. One is moved to wonder had we taken a more analytic approach when exploring this issue how different our reaction might have been.

There was a time before the dawn of the age of mass media and electronic communication when Americans approached situations like this by asking questions and seeking answers, not merely forming opinions that defy logic. In this case how many of us asked who initiated this program and who authorized it? It should be noted two different administrations, one Republican and one Democratic, approved it.

What data is being collected and who has access to it? Who has oversight and are they exercising their authority? How often is the program reviewed? Is the data that is digitally farmed used solely to identify problem areas or people, or are those collecting it using it to peer into the life and habits of John and Jane Doe? Is there a program to prevent intrusion into, and in due time permanently dispose of the data that does not reflect on the issues that it was instituted to defect? This is, what all of us, Congress included, should have been busy asking instead of trying to figure who we could blame, even before identifying the true nature of the anomaly confronting us.

There is one final question we should be asking. If government had been engaged in programs like these at the beginning of the 21st century, is it possible 9/11 would have no more significance on the American psyche today than 9/10 or 9/12?

Robert Shaw  
Madeira Beach



# Obama is no fool on Syrian mess

Recently, Bill Clinton warned that President Barack Obama risked looking like a "wuss" and "a total fool" for not acting sooner on Syria. Shortly thereafter – but two months after Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel charged that strongman Bashar Assad had crossed a "red line" in using chemical weapons against his own people – the White House announced that in response to Assad's use of sarin, the administration would send small arms to help Syrian rebels.

Allow me to stand up for the president. Obama didn't look like a fool for not rushing into the Syrian mess at the behest of Beltway foreign policy do-gooders. To the contrary, Obama has shown himself to be the rare Washington leader who learned something from Egypt and Libya. No need to touch that stove too often.

In 2011, during the heady days of mass protests in Cairo's Tahrir Square, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton came forward to urge Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak – a U.S. ally – "to begin immediately serious negotiations on a peaceful and orderly transition." Now Her Stateness looks totally foolish. Because she had Arab Spring fever, an ally is in chains, and Egypt has new leadership, the Muslim Brotherhood.

At least America had a national interest in ousting Libyan despot Moammar Gadhafi, who ordered the 1988 Pan Am Flight 103 bombing,



Debra Saunders

which left 270 dead. But with the U.S. military spread thin from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the political ideology of Libyan rebels in question, Obama preferred to leave NATO in charge of the air war over Libya. A White House aide famously dubbed this strategy "leading from behind."

When Libyans killed Gadhafi, Madam Secretary paraphrased Julius Caesar, quipping, "We came; we saw; he died." She has shown less bluster since a terrorist attack in Benghazi left Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty dead. The Libyan non-war doesn't feel like victory anymore.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., has faulted Obama for pledging arms after 100-plus Syrians were killed by chemical weapons but not earlier in a civil war that has claimed 93,000 lives. Give this to McCain: He has the moral high ground. I felt the same way about the atrocities committed by Iraq's Saddam Hussein. Ten years after the Iraq War began, the

country is more stable but at a cost so terrible that Americans don't want to walk that path again.

The Obama administration wisely stipulates that there will be no American boots on Syrian ground. Deputy national security adviser Ben Rhodes asserted that Washington expects U.S. arms will not fall "into the hands of extremists."

The president also has resisted calls to order a "no-fly zone." He would rather spend tax dollars on nation building at home than on civil war management abroad.

There's this view among the foreign policy elite that Obama has to be tough on Syria in order to telegraph to world leaders that American outrage builds at a penalty. In Egypt, the penalty was that a terrorist organization won power, and in Libya, the penalty put more firepower into the hands of hostile militias.

By all means, Mr. President, send arms to the Syrian rebels. Do what you have to do to keep Assad – and Hezbollah and Iran and Russia – from winning. But don't feel you have to give in to the risky demands of the foreign policy scolds. Remember: "We came; we saw; he died."

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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# Military accomplishments

## Renee Nassif

LARGO – Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Renee Nassif and other Sailors assigned to the Nimitz class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) recently got underway for a final sustainment exercise (SUSTAINEX) before the ship's upcoming deployment.

Nassif is the daughter of Carolyn and James Nassif of Largo. She is a 2010 graduate of Largo High School of Clearwater. She joined the Navy in August 2010.

The Truman departed Naval Station Norfolk along with embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3 and 1st Combined Destroyer Squadron staff, joined with guided-missile cruisers USS San Jacinto (CG 56), USS Gettysburg (CG 64) and guided missile destroyers USS Bulkeley (DDG 84) and USS Mason (DDG 87) for the exercise.

The ships and embarked units training together is focusing on maritime security operations, air defense, counter-piracy and anti-submarine warfare.

This exercise is similar to the composite unit training exercise (COMPTUEX) the strike group completed earlier this year. Exercises such as SUSTAINEX and COMPTUEX ensure strike groups are trained and certified for an overseas deployment.

## Jacob A. Clink

LARGO – Army Pvt. Jacob A. Clink recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Clink is the son of David Clink of Largo. He is a 2012 graduate of Pinellas Park High School.

## Kyle Sullivan

CLEARWATER – Civilian Kyle Sullivan recently enlisted in the United States Navy under the Delayed Entry Program at Navy Re-

cruiting District, Jacksonville.

Sullivan is a 2010 graduate of Allendale Academy High School, Clearwater.

The program allows recruits to enter the Navy and take up to one year to complete prior commitments such as high school. Using recruiters as mentors, this program helps recruits ease into the transition from civilian to military life.

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

## Robert Shepard

CLEARWATER – Air Force Airman Robert Shepard recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Shepard is the son of Robert Shepard of Ocklawaha.

He is a 2008 graduate of Allendale Academy, Clearwater.



Robert Shepard

## Sabrina Morris

ST. PETERSBURG – Air Force Reserve Airman Sabrina Morris recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Morris is the daughter of Amy Perdue, and granddaughter of Cheryl Pollard, both of St. Petersburg.

She is a 2011 graduate of Boca Ciega High School.



Sabrina Morris

## Tyler W. Rutherford

SEMINOLE – Marine Corps Pvt. Tyler W. Rutherford recently earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Rutherford is the son of Barbara E. and Tracey L. Rutherford of Seminole. He is a 2011 graduate of Seminole High School.

## Shawn R. Reynolds

MADEIRA BEACH – Army Pvt. Shawn R. Reynolds recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Reynolds is the son of Bonnie Olsen of Madeira Beach. He is also the son of Clark Reynolds and stepson of Marti Reynolds, both of Brook Park, Minn. He is a 2012 graduate of Mora High School, Minn.

## Kyle P. Goodnow

CLEARWATER – Army Pfc. Kyle P. Goodnow recently gradu-

ated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Goodnow is the son of Virginia Wistner of Clearwater. He is a 2012 graduate of Dunedin High School.

## Cory S. Shafer

ST. PETERSBURG – Air Force Airman Cory S. Shafer recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Shafer is the son of Rick Shafer of St. Petersburg. He is a 2011 graduate of Riverview High School.



Cory S. Shafer

## Brian K. Howard

PINELLAS PARK – Army Pvt. Brian K. Howard recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Howard is the son of Wesley and Kathleen Howard of Pinellas Park. He is a 2008 graduate of Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School, Ill.

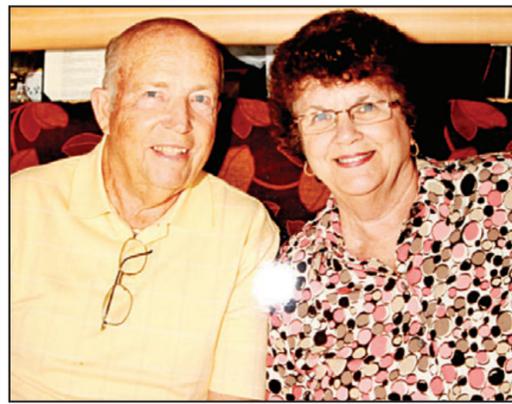
## Justin K. Adams

CLEARWATER – Army Pvt. Justin K. Adams recently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

## Pearces celebrate 50th anniversary

John and Anita Pearce of Seminole celebrated their 50th anniversary on June 15, 2013.

John and Anita were married at First Baptist St. Pete, which was located downtown at that time. They went on to have three children and now have eight grandchildren. To celebrate, the couple took their entire family on a four-night cruise to Cozumel, Mexico.



John and Anita Pearce

Adams is the son of Janet Mercer of Clearwater. He is a 2012 graduate of Mavericks High School, Clearwater.

## Raydon L. Brown

ST. PETERSBURG – Army Reserve Pfc. Raydon L. Brown re-

cently graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Brown is the son of Regina Brown of St. Petersburg. He is a 2011 graduate of Lighthouse Preparatory Christian School, Bradenton.

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# Clean Marina has produced good results

By BOB McCLURE

If you've noticed the waters in and around the state's marinas have appeared a little cleaner the last few years, there's a reason for it.

Thanks to a program initiated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, a conscious effort is underway by marinas, boatyards and boat retailers to prevent inland waters from getting polluted.

The Florida Clean Marina program, which was instituted in 2000, is a voluntary, non-regulatory program that acknowledges facilities that are environmentally aware.

Marinas that meet a set of criteria receive the Clean Marina designation, which means they successfully met a list of environmental requirements by DEP.

As of early May, 270 marinas statewide are participating in the program, as well as 40 boatyards and 17 retailers.

Locally, 26 marinas in Pinellas County are participating in the program. They include:

- Bay Pines Marina, St. Petersburg
- Belle Harbour Marina, Tarpon Springs
- Caladesi Island State Park, Dunedin
- City of Clearwater Municipal Marina
- City of Treasure Island Municipal Marina
- Clearwater Harbor Marina
- Dunedin Municipal Marina

- Gulfport Municipal Marina
- The Harborage Marina, St. Petersburg
- Homeport Marina, Palm Harbor
- Island Harbor, Palm Harbor
- Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club, St. Petersburg
- Largo Intracoastal Marina
- Loggerhead Club and Marina, St. Petersburg
- Madeira Beach Municipal Marina
- Mar Marina, Tarpon Springs
- Marino's Marina, Tarpon Springs
- Maximo Marina, St. Petersburg
- Pasadena Yacht and Country Club Marina Condominium Association, Gulfport
- Renaissance Vinoy Marina, St. Petersburg
- Safety Harbor Municipal Marina
- Snell Isle Marina, St. Petersburg
- St. Petersburg Municipal Marina
- St. Petersburg Yacht Club
- Tarpon Springs Municipal Marina
- Turtle Cove Marina, Tarpon Springs.

In 1992, the Florida legislators passed the Clean Vessel Act, which was designed to reduce sewage discharge from boats into state waters through the installation of sewage pumpout stations at marinas, paid in part by a federal grant program.

"A few years later it was determined a little more was needed," said Judy Ashton, an envi-

ronmental specialist with DEP. "So the Boating Advisory Council within the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, suggested a more holistic approach to educate people in ways to protect the waters of the state."

Ashton said a marina is judged on whether or not it is using a list of environmental management practices and services.

Among the stipulations, Ashton said marinas must meet all DEP regulatory requirements, such as avoiding use of a boat washing area that drains down to the water and the ability to act quickly in the event of fuel spill in the water.

Ashton said the program has been very successful.

"We've had people in other countries interested in what we're doing," said Ashton. "A lot of the islands in the Caribbean have expressed interest."

The next step, she said, would be the addition of a "resilient facility" designation for marinas, which will likely be rolled out some time next year.

"It would be a way to help marinas deal with issues like sea level rise," Ashton said. "It would be a more preventative approach."

For more information on the Clean Marina program, visit [www.dep.state.fl.us/cleanmarina](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/cleanmarina).

## Pets of the week



**Joplin**

Joplin is a 5-month-old terrier mix with a story to tell. He has been at the SPCA Tampa Bay since March getting treated for a skin condition, but she has made a full recovery and has lots of love to give. She is looking for a family with older children where she can be the only dog in the home. Joplin's adoption fee is \$200, which includes her spay surgery, vaccinations, microchip, Pinellas County license and 30 days of free pet insurance. Adopt her by Sunday, June 30 and also get a free SPCA collar and leash. Visit her at 9099 130th Ave. N., Largo. Visit [www.spcatampabay.org](http://www.spcatampabay.org).



**Wilson**

Wilson is about 2 years old and is a sweet kitty who purrs as soon as you touch him. He loves to cuddle on laps and hang out but is also young enough to still be spunky and playful. He is good with children, calm dogs and other cats. He has been neutered, microchipped and is up to date on his shots. He is at the Suncoast Animal League, 1030 Pennsylvania Ave., Palm Harbor. Call 786-1330.



**Bella**

Bella is a 13-week-old black lab mix who is being treated for mange. Her treatment seems to be working and is looking better every day. She is adorable, a lot of fun to play with, gets along with children and dogs, likes to snuggle and go to sleep with people. She is crate trained and is doing well with housetraining. She is easy to walk on a leash and seems to enjoy it. She is a wonderfully curious puppy and would make a great pet for whoever adopts her. Her new owners must continue her treatment through July, but she is adoptable now. Medicine has been provided. She is currently living with a foster family, so to make an appointment to meet her, call the Suncoast Animal League at 786-1330.

# Volunteers needed to help remove crab traps

TIERRA VERDE - Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteer boaters to participate in removing crab traps July 13 from six locations: Belle Bluffs, Upper Tampa Bay, Alafia River, Cockroach Bay, Boca Ciega Bay and Demen's Landing in Tampa Bay.

The traps must be removed due to the regional closure of blue crab fishing. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has mandated a temporary closure for the harvest of blue crabs from traps in all waters of Broward through Pasco counties including the waters of Tampa Bay. Volunteer boaters interested in participating in the event should register on [tampabaywatch.org](http://tampabaywatch.org) or call 727-867-8166, ext. 233.

FWC is requiring regional closed seasons for the blue crab fishery to help facilitate efforts to identify and retrieve lost and abandoned blue crab traps in state waters of Florida. The local closure is from July 10-19. The closure area extends out to 3 miles offshore and applies to both commercial and recreational free standing traps. Blue crab traps attached to private property, such as docks, are excluded from the closure.

All commercial and recreational traps left in state waters during the 10-day closure will be considered derelict and can be removed. It is important to note that even though the fishery will be closed, not just anybody can remove a trap. Anyone interested in being involved must

be a part of an organized effort that has been authorized by FWC. Three regional, 10-day blue crab trap closures take place in designated areas in Florida in odd-numbered years, and three other closures occur in even-numbered years.

Derelict and abandoned crab traps in the waters are a problem for several reasons. They continue to ghost fish, fishing that continues despite the inactivity of the trap, killing not only the crabs but several other recreationally and commercially important species. They pose a navigational hazard to boaters, and they can cause damage to valuable and sensitive habitats such as seagrass or natural hardbottom environments.

Manatees, dolphins and sea turtles also can become entangled in the trap line causing injury or death.

"This event is great because it gets community volunteers involved in helping to preserve and protect the bay by removing debris and keeping marine life from needlessly getting caught and killed in abandoned traps," said Serra Herndon, Habitat Restoration director for Tampa Bay Watch.

Officials estimate that thousands of derelict crab traps have been accumulating for decades in Tampa Bay. Each year, Tampa Bay Watch performs surveys to identify derelict traps and conducts cleanups to remove them. Having conducted 22 crab trap removals since May 2004, Tampa Bay Watch has successfully removed 1,187 traps from the waters of Tampa Bay.

For more information on FWC's trap-retrieval program, blue crab trap closure dates, or regulations, visit [MyFWC.com/Rules](http://MyFWC.com/Rules) and click on "Fishing - Saltwater", or call FWC's trap-retrieval coordinator, Kyle Miller, at 850-487-0554.

Project sponsors for the event include Sea World Busch Gardens Conservation Fund, Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation, Hillsborough County Public Utilities, Republic Waste Services, Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County, Pinellas County and the city of Largo.

For more information on Tampa Bay Watch's local effort, email Serra Herndon at [sherndon@tampabaywatch.org](mailto:sherndon@tampabaywatch.org) or call 867-8166, ext. 227.

## McGough to host night hikes

LARGO - Night hikes will be presented Saturdays, July 20 and Aug. 17, 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.



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# Some dolphin bulls can turn bearish in maritime markets

Tourism in our area is up this year. That's great. The right number of tourists creates a necessary balance between local prosperity and conserving the natural wonders that draw people here in the first place.

The maritime markets are up too. That's great. It suggests that the dolphin community outside your doorstep is prospering as well.

This is particularly good news after the gripping downturn in dolphin numbers in 2011. A healthy dolphin population, of course, means a healthy ecologically balanced estuary (and all the good fishing that comes with that).

What does a good maritime market look like? Among other things, there are lots of bulls out there.

Males of many mammal species have a home range that is big enough to encompass the smaller home ranges of many females. It is the bull's job to tour his giant range regularly enough to provide stud services.

We have three kinds of such "touring" males. Resident males appear on a fairly regular basis. Seasonal males appear every year or so but primarily in the warm months. The third kind makes extra-annual tours. Rather than every year, these males have appeared only a dozen times or so in 10 years across a thousand surveys.

Several of these memorable males currently cruise our local waterways. One extra-annual burly boy was high tailing it out through John's Pass into the mighty Gulf of Mexico. He traveled at speed with no apparent need to breathe, which is normal bull behavior. He only gave himself away as he rounded the rocky point outside the Pass: Keyhole Plus. He wasn't running bearish. Bulls can often be seen leaving the Intracoastal Waterway directly for the Gulf as the sun ascends in the eastern sky.

It was the next encounter that turned some bulls bearish, apparently triggered by our biggest bull, Grin.

We were tracking several moms, older calves and one very persistent seasonal bull Nose. Nose was dogging female NF. NF in turn was theoretically babysitting the yearling calf Xanion while mom X was hunting in the distance. Luckily, NF's 4-year-old Nougat took over and engaged



**Dolphin Watch**  
Ann Weaver



Photo by ANN WEAVER

**Bulls on the move can ignore the most obvious things.**

Xanion as only calves can.

In the wake of the two calves busily rolling and poking each other, a big gnarly fin periodically poked up too. I had seen that dorsal fin before but couldn't draw its name from my memory banks. The gnarly fin trailed the calves at a distance for a time. Then it surfaced next to them. Both calves' mothers materialized as if from the ethers and retrieved their respective kids.

In another surprise materialization, the massive male Grin entered the scene. Grin's presence changed the entire social dynamic. The gnarly fin vanished. (We later determined it was Square Bite Face, a dolphin we have only seen 10 times in 10 years!) Nose seemed to bow to greater dominance, and meandered south toward a promising oyster bar (with studied casualness, if that applies to dolphins) while Grin and the girls surfed the rollers from a conveniently passing yacht.

Some miles north of the surfing and scuttling departures, the hub of

a small nursery group was Sharkey shepherding her first baby, a newborn maybe 2 weeks old. Local ladies Stick, LA Stick, Split and Courtney flanked them.

Whether understanding the newborn's need to swim slowly and steadily, matching the new mother's methodical pace protectively, or just companionably schooling with Sharkey and her tiny shiny newborn, the tender troupe swam without going anywhere. Flashes of a fin trailing behind them - too large to be another female rushing to catch up - said the mobile nursery was not alone.

There have been sporadic accusations of infanticide among free-ranging bottlenose dolphins. Gratefully, there are few inklings of this behavior in my experience.

The trailer was Twin Dip, the bull bonded to the bull whose presence sent the other bulls scuttling bearishly. His interest was probably in the females escorting the mom and newborn, a familiar masculine strategy employed by many species besides dolphins.

An episode with another infrequent male, Dune, made me wonder about reverse herding. Herding is when one or more male dolphins use their bulk to coerce a female, whom they can outweigh by 100-plus pounds, to travel in the direction they choose.

We found little lady Slightwin swimming with bull Dune, an occasional visitor we have seen maybe six times. They kept their distance from the boat until they suddenly surfaced against our port bow. Slightwin, who is very familiar with us, was on one side, the bow was on the other side, and Dune was in between. They veered so close that I wondered if Slightwin was attempting to approach us in greeting by cutting under the bow whilst Dune, attempting to herd her away, ended up virtually pushed against the boat!

Lone bulls are good at giving brief glimpses that make you wonder if you really saw a dolphin. The big lone fin darting in the distance around a small spoil created by dredging turned out to be Candle. Candle has only flickered by 10 times in the last 10 years.

They're out there. Tourists, I mean.

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

## Grouper season reopens; shark fishing also an option this week

July 1st marks the opening of gag grouper for the Gulf of Mexico. The season having been closed for the last eight months, it is easy to assume that the fishing should be pretty good. Man-made structures as well as natural limestone bottom will hold plenty of gags. Artificial reefs are normally picked over pretty good this time of year. However, due to the closure they are good bets for fast action. Live pinfish will attract the attention of the larger gags.

Despite the increase in water temperatures over the past week, redfish have been willing to feed on the strong part of the incoming tide. Spoil islands are great places to look for summer reds. Their closer to deep water attracts both bait and predatory fish alike. Live chumming the mullet schools with white bait, a.k.a pilchards, could produce big catches of redfish. Fan casting top-water plugs would be a great way to narrow the search before switching to live bait.

Trout, Spanish mackerel and a few other species can be targeted over deep patches of grass throughout the Intracoastal Waterway. Find clean moving



**Fish Tales**  
Capt. Tyson Wellerstein

water in anywhere from 3- to 6-feet of water depending on the tide and you should be in the right location. With the abundance of micro baits schooling in the same areas, active spots will often be given away by dipping turns. You can cast soft plastic jigs in silver or gold glitter all day as well as a top-water plug in the lower light conditions.

Shark fishing also can be a good option this time of year, especially when you're taking kids fishing. Small blacktip sharks can be found roaming the bottom in many deep cuts throughout the Intracoastal Waterway. Almost any cut bait will work when targeting these pup sharks, but oily baits like mullet, shad or ladyfish seem to work best. Be sure to take a couple of chum blocks to help attract the sharks.

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

## Warm fuzzies



Photo by JIM LAYFIELD

Limpkin chicks wait along the edge of the waterway at Kapok Park in Clearwater on June 23 while their mother searches for food. Limpkins - so named because they appear to have a slight limp while walking - are fresh water birds that in the U.S. are found almost exclusively in Florida. They also can be found in Mexico, Central and South America. They have loud, eerie cries that have been used as background sound effects in old Tarzan movies and as the cry of the hippogriff in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. Information about the limpkin was gathered from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society, Florida Ecotravel Guide, and the Corkscrew Sanctuary site.

## Garden club to host craft events

ST. PETERSBURG - The Creative Crafts of the Garden Club of St. Petersburg will present two craft activities in July at the Garden Center, 500 Sunset Drive S.

Activities include the following:

- Stamped T-shirts - Monday, July 8, 11 a.m.

Participants should bring their own T-shirt to be stamped.

- Cork coasters - Monday, July 15, 11 a.m.

The cost of materials for members is \$3.50; for nonmembers, cost is \$4. Attendees take home what they craft. The public is welcome.

For information, call 381-8920.

## Gardening briefs

### Garden tours set

LARGO - Free vegetable, herb and tropical fruit garden tours will be offered Thursday, July 18, 9 to 11 a.m., at Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Visitors will have an opportunity to explore the vegetable garden and compost demonstration areas at Pinellas County Extension/Florida Botanical Gardens to learn more about growing their own food. Attendees will see an eye-catching array of culinary, medicinal and aromatic herbs, trees and flowers in the garden

and wander the paths between the Egyptian, Mediterranean and Asian plantings to learn how the featured plants can be used in the home.

Guests also will discover the tropical fruits that do well in the Florida climate including many varieties of bananas, figs, papayas, mangoes, avocados, sugar cane and citrus. They will learn about little-known fruits that are not usually considered by the home gardener including jackfruit, carambola, Buddha's hand and pomegranate. The free tour

features a diversity of plantings including a wide variety of ground covers, bromeliads, palms and power-line friendly trees that can be used in landscapes.

Tours are limited to group of four to 16 people. Advance registration is required.

Visit [www.eventbrite.com/event/6241882639/eorg](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/6241882639/eorg) or call 582-2100.

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**Obituaries**

**Julia Anna BUHRLE**

Julia Anna Buhrlé (nee Moos) of Clearwater, Fla. died June 17, 2013 at Brookside Hospice Care Center, just days before age 96. She was born in Philadelphia, Pa. and lived in Pennsauken, N.J. for 30 years before moving to Palm Harbor, Fla. in 1982. Julia was married and widowed three times. She was predeceased by her daughter, Anna, and two grandchildren, Harry and Jacqueline. She worked in electronics manufacturing for Remington Rand/Univac. Julia was a remarkable seamstress who designed and sewed wardrobes for herself, her children and grandchildren. In her late 60s and 70s she was an award-winning competitive ballroom dancer. She is survived by her daughter, Julia Bohl and her son-in-law, Don, of Port Chester, N.Y. and her son, Harry Barth and his wife, Penny, of Dunedin; her grandchildren, Kristina Bohl Christian of N.Y., and Don G. Bohl of Maine; her great-grandchildren, Adam Bohl and Janet Christian, and step-great-granddaughter, Nicole Zganjer. Visitation will be at Sylvan Abbey Funeral Home, 2860 Sunset Point Rd., Clearwater, on June 30, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. A Christian Service of remembrance will be held at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, on June 30 at 4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to Hope Presbyterian Church at the above address. Sylvan Abbey Funeral Home, (727) 796-1992. [Sylvanabbey.com](http://Sylvanabbey.com)

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## USE IT OR LOSE IT Hearing Loss: The Hidden Dangers When the Brain Can't Hear.

The consequences of an untreated hearing loss are real. Since we collect sound with our ears and process the sound in our brain, over time and without hearing assistance, we can lose the ability to understand the spoken word. This documented process is called "auditory deprivation."

According to Teri James Bellis, Ph.D., in her landmark book on Auditory Processing Disorder, When the Brain Can't Hear, "As sound travels through an imperfect auditory pathway, words spoken to the afflicted listener may become jumbled, distorting original meaning and rendering the words unintelligible." When you think about a conversation with all the sounds, the inflections and tempo changes, it makes communication extremely complicated. When a hearing loss has been present and untreated, the ability to follow the conversation can become extremely difficult. Without receiving the appropriate stimuli, the brain stops processing sounds like background noise and can no longer filter speech clearly. You may answer a question incorrectly, withdraw, smile and pretend you understood the conversation. This can be particularly troublesome when you are visiting the doctor, and important information is being relayed. In some cases, people have been "misdiagnosed" with Alzheimer's disease because they were unable to follow the conversation.

According to world renowned otolaryngologist, Dr. John Shea Jr., of the famed Shea Ear Clinic, "If a person is hard of hearing and they don't get amplification, they are not hearing and they lose the ability to understand." Once familiar sounds, like the hum of a refrigerator, slowly fade and become unrecognizable noise competing with spoken words.

Dr. Shea went on to say, "When presented with amplification, or hearing aids, speech understanding becomes clearer. However, it is a continual process of improvement. Stimulating the brain with sound may help to overcome the auditory deprivation process, and getting help early is critical to a long term success."

Now, the goal is to do everything we can to maintain the speech recognition you have. You need to wear the best hearing aids you can afford, full time in both ears to hear correctly. Hearing aids solve the problems people have with communication, and they help to preserve and protect the brains ability to recognize speech.

Hearing loss ranks number three behind hypertension and arthritis. Often called the invisible disability, hearing loss happens slowly over time and may go unnoticed for years. According to an article in Post Graduate Medicine, by Drs. Shohet and Bent, "Loss of hearing is a national health problem with significant physical and psychological repercussions. Although there is no cure for certain forms of hearing loss, many patients can be helped, especially when the problem is recognized early." Wearing amplification (hearing aids) has been proven to help preserve the remaining hearing and speech clarity.

If you think you may have hearing loss, the most important first step is to have your hearing tested. Your results will identify which frequencies or pitches you do or do not hear. and, if you do have a hearing loss, getting help has never been easier and with today's advanced technology – you will get clear, crisp, more natural sound.

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# Diversions

Things to do around Pinellas County



- Classifieds
- Events
- Movies

Leader  
Section B  
June 27, 2013

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

## Top five diversions

• **Blast Friday**, featuring Robin Zander Band, presented by Bright House Networks; Friday, June 28, 5:30 p.m., in the Cleveland Street District, Clearwater. This free street festival and concert will feature a variety of vendors, as well as food, beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. The street fair begins at 5:30 p.m. with entertainment outside until 10 p.m. Blast Friday is produced by Ruth Eckerd Hall On The Road. A limited number of VIP tickets are available in the Budweiser Platinum VIP section priced at \$30. The Budweiser Platinum VIP package includes a general admission ticket in the reserved seating section directly in front of the stage, two free Bud Platinum beers and a free slice of pepperoni or cheese pizza from Tony's Pizza. For VIP tickets, call 791-7400 or visit [www.attthecap.com](http://www.attthecap.com).

• **St. Pete Pride Promenade and Street Festival**, Saturday, June 29, in the Grand Central District, along Central Avenue between 21st Street and 29th Street, St. Petersburg. Starting at 10 a.m., The St. Pete Pride Promenade will run along Central Avenue between 21st Street and 29th Street. It will feature more than 100 organizations and businesses supporting and celebrating the Tampa Bay LGBT community. The Street Festival runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Now in its 11th year, it is Tampa Bay's annual LGBT street fair that combines vendors, entertainers and activities for a day of fun and celebration in the name of equality. The Street Festival and Promenade combined attracts thousands of out-of-state visitors and brings them together with local residents and families, corporate sponsors, community leaders and area business owners. For event information, visit [www.stpetepride.com](http://www.stpetepride.com).

• **"The Medium,"** presented by St. Petersburg Opera; Saturday, June 29, 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, June 30, 2 p.m., at The Palladium Theater, 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$20. Call 823-2040 or visit [www.stpeteopera.org](http://www.stpeteopera.org). St. Petersburg Opera will kick off its first summer opera festival with Giancarlo Menotti's chilling story of a psychic who pretends to communicate with the dead relatives of her gullible customers. During one of her séances, something happens that she cannot explain, which leads her to question whether it's all a fake or not. The production stars Melissa Misener as Baba, Stefanie Izzo as Monica, Rim Karnavicius, Michelle Rego, Mindy Mabry, and Christopher Romeo. Izzo recently sang the role of Monica in an Off Broadway production and was hailed as bringing "a gorgeously rich and full sound" to the part. The opera will be performed in English with the original orchestration and will be fully staged.

• **Juanes Loud & Unplugged Tour**, Sunday, June 30, 7:30 p.m., at David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, 1010 North W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets start at \$49.50. Call 813-229-7827 or visit [www.strazcenter.org](http://www.strazcenter.org).

Juanes will bring his critically-praised Loud & Unplugged Tour to Tampa. In November 2012, the Colombian rock superstar won the Album of the Year trophy for Juanes MTV Unplugged at the 13th Annual Latin Grammy Awards. This was the third time Juanes won Album of the Year at the Latin Grammys. Having sold more than 15 million albums worldwide, the 19-time Latin Grammy Award-winning Juanes has been heralded as "the single most important figure of the past decade in Latin music" by The Los Angeles Times and as "Latin America's hottest singer-songwriter ... a soulful poet with electric guitar" by The New York Times.

• **A Night at the POPera featuring Klassika**, Sunday, June 30, 7 p.m., at Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center, 324 Pine

See TOP FIVE, page 2B



Photo courtesy of THE STRAZ CENTER  
Juanes plays at the Straz center June 30.



Photo courtesy of TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION  
FBI Special Agent Sarah Ashburn (Sandra Bullock), left, and Boston Detective Shannon Mullins (Melissa McCarthy) sit in shock after an unexpected setback in a scene from "The Heat."

## Opening this weekend

'The Heat' pairs Bullock, McCarthy; Foxx, Tatum star in 'White House Down'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

### 'The Heat'

Genre: Action and comedy  
Cast: Sandra Bullock, Melissa McCarthy, Demián Bichir, Marlon Wayans and Michael Rapaport  
Director: Paul Feig  
Rated: R

FBI Special Agent Sarah Ashburn (Sandra Bullock) - the Fed - and Boston cop Shannon Mullins (Melissa McCarthy) - the Fuzz - couldn't be more incompatible.

But when they join forces to bring down a ruthless drug lord, they become the last thing anyone expected: buddies.

From DGA Award winner and Emmy nominee Paul Feig, "The Heat" takes a look at the odd couple pairing of two law enforcement officials who, to their everlasting shock, slowly find themselves on the same page. Starring Oscar-winner Sandra Bullock, whose films have grossed \$2.9 billion worldwide, and Academy Award nominee Melissa McCarthy, "The Heat" has bawdy laughs and real emotional stakes.

### 'White House Down'

Genre: Action and thriller  
Cast: Channing Tatum, Jamie Foxx, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Jason Clarke, Richard Jenkins and James Woods  
Director: Roland Emmerich  
Rated: PG-13

In Columbia Pictures' "White House Down," Capitol Policeman John Cale (Channing Tatum) has just been denied his dream job with the Secret Service of protecting President James Sawyer (Jamie Foxx).

Not wanting to let down his little girl with the news, he takes her on a tour of the White House, when the complex is overtaken by a heavily armed paramilitary group. Now, with the nation's government falling into chaos and time running out, it's up to Cale to save the president, his daughter, and the country.

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



Photo by REINER BAJO/COLUMBIA PICTURES INDUSTRIES INC.  
Jamie Foxx, left, and Channing Tatum star in Columbia Pictures' "White House Down."

### 'Byzantium'

Genre: Horror and thriller  
Cast: Gemma Arterton, Saoirse Ronan, Sam Riley, Jonny Lee Miller, Caleb Landry Jones and Danny Mays  
Director: Neil Jordan  
Rated: R

Two mysterious women seek refuge in a run-down coastal resort. Clara meets lonely Noel, who provides shelter in his deserted

See OPENING, page 4B

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# Looking Ahead in Largo

• **"The Swashbuckling Adventures of Alex Jones,"** with book, music and lyrics by Jason Tucker, July 12-21, presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, 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.

• **"So You Think You're a Movie Buff?"**, Friday, July 19, 8 p.m., at the Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road, Largo. Black Box Theatre and the Gypsy Stage Repertory will present "So You Think You're a Movie Buff?" The event will offer a "night of fun and unique entertainment where scenes, monologues and iconic one-liners from famous films are performed live with a trivia twist," according to a press release. Attendees may follow along and answer questions and/or name the movie, the actors, character names, movie theme song and more. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Prizes will be awarded. Call 518-3131 or visit LargoCommunityCenter.com.

• **Colin Hay**, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$34.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Best known as the lead singer for the platinum selling Australian band "Men At Work" and his 11 solo albums, Colin Hay is happy to announce his 2013 "Finding My Dance" World Tour coming to the Largo Cultural Center. The Largo performance is one of only three dates scheduled for Florida in 2013.

• **Benny Goodman's 75th Anniversary Tribute**, presented by the Capitol Center Jazz Orchestra; Wednesday, Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$29.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Jazz clarinetist and Benny Goodman alumnus Ken Peplowski is featured with the highly acclaimed Capitol Center Jazz Orchestra in celebrating the 75th anniversary of Benny Goodman's historical 1938 Carnegie Hall concert. This historic and revolutionary performance claimed a new place for jazz on the American cultural scene and has come to be seen as the

most important jazz concert in history. This incredible evening of music will feature numerous classics from Goodman's historic 1938 performance, including "Don't Be That Way," "Memories of You" and the iconic "Sing, Sing, Sing."

• **Gary Wright**, Friday, Oct. 4, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$34.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Wright's hit song "Dream Weaver" has been featured in many movies including the "Wayne's World" feature film, "The People vs. Larry Flynt" and "Toy Story 3." Wright has continued to have success on the Billboard charts with "Really Wanna Know You" in 1981 and in 1986, he contributed the song "Hold On to Your Vision" on the soundtrack of Sylvester Stallone's movie "Cobra." "Better By You, Better Than Me," a song written by Wright, was also covered by Judas Priest on their 1978 album "Stained Class." Wright has continued to produce and create records through the decades and you may have seen him recently in 2008 and 2010 touring with Ringo Starr and His All Starr Band.

• **Ambrosia**, Sunday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$29.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Ambrosia, five-time Grammy nominee in 1970s and early 1980s, had five Top 40 hit singles including "Biggest Part of Me," "How Much I Feel" and "You're the Only Woman." Opening the show will be Twinkle Schasle and her band. Twinkle is an international singer-songwriter who released her first debut album, "Haunted By Real Life," through Warner Brothers and was produced by songwriter Patrick Leonard. The album garnered much attention on the pop and jazz charts. Her music video, "Can't Get Love With Money" was featured on VH1 where she was a guest VJ on the Top 21 countdown.

• **"Freckleface Strawberry,"** presented by Stages Productions, Saturday, Nov. 9, 11 a.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$6.50 for children. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Based on the beloved New York Times

bestselling book by celebrated actress Julianne Moore, "Freckleface Strawberry" teaches kids to learn and love the skin they are in. In this beloved story, Freckleface Strawberry will do anything to get rid of her freckles - from scrubbing them with soap, to caking on makeup, and even wearing a ski mask to school. With the help of her loveable schoolmates, Freckleface learns that everyone is different - and that's what make everyone special.

• **Roger McGuinn**, Friday, Nov. 22, 8 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$29.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. McGuinn, one of the founding members of The Byrds, is known as an innovator for merging folk and rock music in the 1960s. Prior to forming The Byrds, Roger toured and performed folk music with the Limelites, Chad Mitchell Trio and Bobby Darin as a guitarist and banjo player. His music has been a staple on the music charts as well as many movie soundtracks. Some hits singles include "Turn! Turn! Turn!," "Eight Miles High" and "Mr. Tambourine Man."

• **Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats**, Sunday, Dec. 1, 2 and 7 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$24.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. The Golden Dragon Acrobats represent the best of a time honored tradition that began more than 25 centuries ago. This amazing group combines award-winning acrobatics, traditional dance, spectacular costumes, ancient and contemporary music and theatrical techniques to present a show of breathtaking skill and spellbinding beauty.

TOP FIVE, from page 1B

St., Tarpon Springs. Cost is \$16 for adults and \$14 for members and students. Call 942-5605 or visit www.tarponarts.org. Attendees will be mesmerized by the trio Klassika, which performs a combination of pop music and opera. These three classically trained voices form a harmonious blend that is known as POpera or Classical Crossover. They perform favorites such as: "Unchained Melody," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "My Heart Will Go On," and others. Klassika offers a stunning variety of styles while singing in English, Italian, Spanish and French. The trio is Jolanda Nel, Clint Shepherd, and Chris Romeo.

## Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16			
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64				65						66			

- Across**
- Handle the food for a party
  - Beta follower
  - PC "brain" (acronym)
  - Blush
  - Be of use
  - Ashes holder
  - Italian good-bye
  - P.I., e.g.
  - Glittery Christmas tree decoration
  - Hot sauce
  - "C\_\_\_la vie!"
  - Blotto
  - Fluid in veins of gods (Greek mythology)
  - Ancient colonnade
  - Lamb Chop's Lewis
  - Corner piece
  - Grafting shoot
  - Baby bird?
  - Forté (2 wds)
  - Any "Seinfeld," now
  - "Life of \_\_\_," radio and TV comedy
  - Centers of activity
  - Brightest star in Virgo
  - It holds a yard
  - Avoid
  - \_\_\_ Burman, contemporary Indian artist
  - Sticker
  - "So soon?"
  - Make secret
  - J. Edgar Hoover's org.
  - Accommodations lower in quality (2 wds)
  - "Dig in!"
  - Giggle
  - Buenos \_\_\_
  - Arid
  - Display
  - Rustic house built by prairie homesteader

- Down**
- Jalopies
  - Classical Greek verb tense expressing action
  - Ask, as for aid (2 wds)
  - Auspices
  - Retain with stone
  - "Crikey!"
  - "\_\_\_ Maria"
  - One who suffers for his beliefs
  - Flexible mineral
  - Accused's need
  - Stop before the end (2 wds)
  - Prepare beforehand, e.g. rice
  - Wine waiter duty
  - Dropped sounds in words, e.g. "chocolate"
  - Word formed from the initial letters of words
  - Unit of loudness
  - Spanish drink made of wine, fruit and sugar
  - With a leg on each side
  - Cut off
  - French vineyard
  - 20-20, e.g.
  - Freedom from risk
  - Basketball maneuver
  - Racecar safety device when overturned
  - Flipped
  - Hitchcock classic
  - On the train
  - Washed in soapy water
  - Abounding in long locks of hair
  - Bridge positions
  - Ancient Peruvians
  - Abstruse
  - History Muse
  - "\_\_\_ the fields we go"
  - After expenses

## Sudoku

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

## Sudoku answers from last week

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

## Crossword answers from last week

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104
105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117
118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156
157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169
170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182
183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195
196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208
209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221
222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234
235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247
248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260
261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273
274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286
287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299
300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312
313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325
326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338
339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351
352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364
365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377
378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390
391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403
404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416
417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429
430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442
443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455
456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468
469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481
482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494
495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507
508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520
521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533
534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546
547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559
560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572
573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585
586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598
599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611
612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624
625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637
638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650
651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663
664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676
677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689
690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702
703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715
716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728
729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741
742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754
755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767
768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780
781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793
794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806
807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819
820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829			

Music scene

# July concert headliners include Dave Matthews, Monkees

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Tampa Bay area venues, both large and small, will welcome a diverse selection of musical artists in the coming weeks.

Kicking off the month will be America's Most Wanted Festival starring Lil' Wayne, on Saturday, July 13, 7 p.m., at Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa.

Tickets start at \$32. Call 813-740-2446 or visit [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com). Presented by Mountain Dew, the lineup also will feature T.I., Future and Tyga.

The Vans Warped Tour 2013 will be bringing the "Best Day Ever" to fans across North America, including a stop in the Tampa Bay area on Friday, July 26, 11 a.m., at Vinoy Park, 501 Fifth Ave. NE, St. Petersburg.

Tickets start at \$38.50. Visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

This summer's diverse tour lineup will feature Hawthorne Heights, Sleeping With Sirens, We Came As Romans, Motion City Soundtrack, The Wonder Years, Bring Me The Horizon, Reel Big Fish, Crown The Empire, The Story So Far and many more. In addition, festival goers will experience an expanded Acoustic Basement, which features established and up-and-coming acoustic artists, such as William Beckett, Allison Weiss and The American Scene.

In keeping with this year's tour theme, "Best Day Ever," the tour will be a music lover's playground with artists from all genres: rock, punk, pop, hip-hop, folk-punk and reggae. New to the tour this summer is the Spotify Stage, which will showcase such EDM and hip-hop artists as Crizzly, Outasight, Wallpaper, and Stephan Jacobs.

For the full list of confirmed artists and dates they are playing, visit [www.vanswarpedtour.com/bands](http://www.vanswarpedtour.com/bands).

Closing July will be the Rockstar Energy Drink Mayhem Festi-

val on Wednesday, July 31, noon, at Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds.

Tickets start at \$32.50. Visit [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com).

Artists performing this year include main stage metal and horror legend, festival closer Rob Zombie. In addition, the festival will feature performances by the triple gold certified Five Finger Death Punch and other main stage bands such as Mastodon and Amon Amarth.

The festival area is led by stage closers Children of Bodom and Machine Head as well as Job for a Cowboy, Emmure, Born of Osiris and Huntress along with others.

For lineup updates, visit [rockstarmayhemfest.com](http://rockstarmayhemfest.com).

Following is a list of other music scene events in the coming weeks:

**Jannus Live**

• Mac Miller with Chance the Rapper, Vince Staples and the Internet; Friday, July 5, 9 p.m.

• We the Kings, Saturday, July 6, 6 p.m.

• Authority Zero, Friday, July 12, 7:30 p.m.

• Marilyn Manson, Saturday, July 20, 7 p.m.

• Passafire, Friday, July 26, 7 p.m.

Jannus Live is at 16 Second St. N., St. Petersburg. Call 565-0550 or visit [www.jannuslive.com](http://www.jannuslive.com).

**The Local 662**

• Pacific Dub, Saturday, July 20, 7 p.m.

• Davey Suicide, Friday, July 26, 7 p.m.

The Local 662 is at 662 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 258-4829.

**Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre**

• America's Most Wanted Festival starring Lil' Wayne, Saturday, July 13, 7 p.m.

• Dave Matthews Band,



Photo courtesy of PARADIGM TALENT AGENCY



Photo courtesy of ADRENALINE PR

Above, Hawthorne Heights is one of many bands performing at this year's Vans Warped Tour, coming to the Tampa Bay area July 26 at Vinoy Park in St. Petersburg. At left, Dave Matthews Band stops in the Tampa Bay area for a concert July 17 at Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre in Tampa.

Wednesday, July 17, 7 p.m.

• 311 and Sublime with Rome, Cypress Hill, Pennywise & G. Love; Tuesday, July 23, 4 p.m.

• Black Sabbath, Monday, July 29, 7:30 p.m.

• Mayhem Festival featuring Rob Zombie, Five Finger Death Punch, Mastodon, Amon Amarth and others; Wednesday, July 31, noon.

The Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds is at 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Call 813-740-2446 or visit [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com).

**The Palladium at St. Petersburg College**

• Coo Coo Ca Choo and Tin Pan Alley, Friday, July 19, 8 p.m.

The Palladium at St. Petersburg College is at 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Call 822-3590 or visit [www.mypalladium.org](http://www.mypalladium.org).

**Ruth Eckerd Hall**

• Alabama, Saturday, July 6, 8 p.m.

• The Monkees, Sunday, July 28, 7:30 p.m.

Ruth Eckerd Hall is at 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com).

**Skipper's Smokehouse**

• Beth McKee, Saturday, July 20, 8 p.m.

• Zach Deputy, Friday, July 26, 8 p.m.

Skipper's Smokehouse is at 910 Skipper Road, Tampa. Call 813-971-0666 or visit [www.skippersmokehouse.com](http://www.skippersmokehouse.com).

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\$12 Walk \$18 Ride  
Afternoon

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**State Theatre**

• Anberlin, Saturday, July 13, 7 p.m.

• Souls of Mischief, Thursday, July 25, 8 p.m.

• Toad the Wet Sprocket, Saturday, July 27, 8 p.m.

• The Psychedelic Furs, Sunday, July 28, 7 p.m.

State Theatre is at 687 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 895-3045 or visit [www.statetheatreconcerts.com](http://www.statetheatreconcerts.com).

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# Top Florida dancing award goes to St. Petersburg woman

ST. PETERSBURG – The Florida Dance Association presented the Nancy Smith Award to Suzanne B. Pomerantzeff of St. Petersburg during the Florida Dance Festival June 22.

The award was presented at intermission during the performance by CORE Performance Company at the University of South Florida School of Theatre and Dance.

The Nancy Smith Award is one of the most coveted honors within the Florida dance community. Named after the first recipient, Nancy Smith Fichter, former chair of Florida State University dance department and founding member of Florida Dance Association, the distinguished honor recognizes outstanding leadership and advancement of the art form of dance in the state of Florida. Former recipients of the Nancy Smith Award include some of the most revered and respected leaders in the development of Florida's dance community.

Pomerantzeff is the co-founder and artistic director for The Academy for Ballet Arts, a nonprofit, pre-professional dance academy with a mission to provide professional dance instruction to St. Petersburg's

underserved mid-town community, and will be the 28th recipient of the Nancy Smith Award.

In 1969, Pomerantzeff, along with Lester Jacobsen, founded ABA and have since led classes and summer intensives for the past 44 years. ABA is home to the St. Petersburg Ballet Company and the St. Petersburg Folk Ensemble (Russian folk dance). Pomerantzeff established a ballet program at St. Petersburg Junior College – now known as St. Petersburg College – and was responsible for the development of the dance department at the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School. She currently serves as the ballet department chairperson and was instrumental in bringing about the first annual Florida Dance Assessment, which was hosted for its inaugural year at PCCA.

Many of Pomerantzeff's students have been chosen to compete in the finals of Youth American Grand Prix, an international ballet competition that has been running for more than a decade. Pomerantzeff has been awarded YAGP's Best Teacher award in 2006 and 2007, and Best Choreographer award in 2006. In 2003, she received a grant from

the SURDNA Foundation to travel to Ireland and produce a ballet on Irish history. Dancers under her instruction have gone on to perform at prestigious ballet companies including: American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Alvin Ailey, American Dance Theatre, David Parsons, Moiseyev

Dance Company, Colorado Ballet, Cleveland Ballet, Houston Ballet, San Diego Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Kiel Opera Ballet, Frankfurt Opera Ballet, Repertory Dance Theatre; and touring shows including: Riverdance, Lion King, Cirque de Soleil and Mummenschanz.

Pomerantzeff's background and training includes the San Francisco School and the University of Utah, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ballet. She performed with the San Francisco Ballet, Ballet West, Tampa Ballet and Virginia Ballet.

Florida Dance Association is Florida's premier, statewide arts/dance service organization. Florida Dance Festival is the preeminent annual dance workshop event in the southeastern United States. For information, visit [www.floridadanceassociation.org](http://www.floridadanceassociation.org).

OPENING, from page 1B

guesthouse, Byzantium. Schoolgirl Eleanor befriends Frank and tells him their lethal secret. They were born 200 years ago and survive on human blood. As knowledge of their secret spreads, their past catches up on them with deathly consequence.

**'Copperhead'**

Genre: Drama  
Cast: Billy Campbell, Angus Macfadyen and Peter Ponda  
Director: Ron Maxwell  
Not rated

Upstate New York, 1862 – inspired by actual events: Dairy farmer Abner Beech despises slavery – but just as passionately opposes this war that President Lincoln is waging, all in the name of "union," hundreds of miles away. Abner is neither a Yankee nor a Rebel. He is what is known as a Copperhead.

A local anti-slavery zealot named Hagadorn stirs up the town against him, first with pamphlets, then with rumors that prompt shopkeepers to boycott Abner's dairy products, next by coaxing the community to shun his family. Worse, Abner's son falls in love with Hagadorn's daughter – marching off to war to please her, and goes missing in action. Hagadorn's wild-eyed rhetoric ignites a torch-bearing mob to descend upon Abner's farm, placing all that

both men love in mortal danger. Copperhead is a parable of the Civil War and perhaps for our own time.

**'I'm So Excited!'**

Genre: Comedy  
Cast: Carlos Areces, Raul Arevalo, Javier Cámara, Lola Dueñas, Carmen Machi, Laya Martí, Cecilia Roth, Hugo Silva, Miguel Ángel Silvestre and Blanca Suárez  
Director: Pedro Almodóvar  
Rated: R

A very varied group of people are in a precarious situation aboard a plane flying to Mexico City. A technical failure (a kind of justifiable negligence, even though it sounds contradictory, but that's what human actions are) has endangered the lives of the passengers on Peninsula Flight 2549. The pilots, hardened, experienced professionals are striving, along with their colleagues in the Control Center, to find a solution. The flight attendants and the chief steward are atypical, baroque characters who, in the face of danger, try to forget their own personal problems and devote themselves body and soul to the task of making the flight as enjoyable as possible for the passengers, while they wait for a solution. Life in the clouds is as complicated as it is at ground level, and for the same reasons, which could be summarized in two: sex and death.

The travelers in business class consist of a pair of newlyweds, partygoers, worn out by their wedding



Billy Campbell stars as Abner Beech in "Copperhead."

Photo courtesy of BRAINSTORM MEDIA

celebration; a financier and embezzler; unscrupulous in business but also a father afflicted by his daughter's estrangement; an inveterate Don Juan with an uneasy conscience who is trying to say goodbye to one of his women (girlfriends); a rural psychic; a queen of the gossip magazines and a Mexican with an important secret. Each of them has a project in Mexico City, either to work or to escape. They all have some kind of secret, not just the Mexican. Their defenselessness in the face of danger pro-

vokes a general catharsis among the passengers and the crew, and this ends up becoming the best way to escape from the idea of death. This catharsis, developed in the tone of a riotous, moral comedy, fills the time with sensational confessions that help them forget the anguish of the moment.

For more movie news, visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com). Click on the "Movie News & Reviews" link on the left-side menu.

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## 225. Duplex-Triplex Rental

**APARTMENT/DUPLEX**  
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Private Fenced Backyard. Lovely  
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## 245. Room For Rent

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## 265. Commercial Rentals

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# Museum celebrates Independence Day, schedules July programs

ST. PETERSBURG – The Conservatory and terrace of the Museum of Fine Arts, at 255 Beach Drive NE, will provide some of the best seats in town for the downtown fireworks display on the Fourth of July.

But that's not the only reason to head to the MFA this summer. With a variety of programs and event scheduled in the coming weeks, the MFA is a great destination and summer escape. Museum exhibitions and educational programs are supported in part by The Stuart Society. The Tampa Bay Times is the media sponsor.

Upcoming events include:

- Annual Fourth of July Celebration – Thursday, July 4, beginning at 6 p.m. Cost is \$36 for museum members and \$45 for nonmembers. Attendees will enjoy a gourmet barbecue buffet, music by O Som Do Jazz, special exhibitions, and the downtown fireworks. A beer/wine cash bar will be available. Reservations are required. Call 822-1032 or 896-2667, ext. 258.

- Coffee Talk with Nan Colton – Wednesday, July 10, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Sponsored in part by Westminster Communities of St. Petersburg, the event will feature Nan Colton. Colton, the MFA's performing artist-in-residence, is an audience favorite. She writes the scripts for her solo mini-plays and appears in costume. She will present "Summer Shorts – A Seasonal Tale," followed by a museum tour. Refreshments will be served.

- A Colorful Party – Thursday, July 11, 6 to 9 p.m. The event is free for members. Cost is \$10 for guests. Attendees will have an opportunity to see Color Acting and enjoy delectable bites by Ceviche Tapas Bar & Restaurant. A cash bar will be available. DC9V + Bradley Kokay will present an improvisational, mixed-media performance, exploring the relationship of color to sound. To RSVP, call 896-2667, ext. 210, or email reception@fine-arts.org.

- The Great Outdoors – Thursday, July 18, 5 to 8 p.m. Part of the UNCHartED: Random Acts of Culture series, attendees will have an opportunity to gather with movers, makers, and forward thinkers to get an offbeat art fix or to pick up a creative craft. A wine-beer cash bar and delectable bites add to this fun Thursday night out. Take advantage of the \$10 admission to the museum. College students with current ID pay only \$5 or buy one, get one free. This installment will feature saltwater fly-fishing demonstrations by Bill Jackson's Shop for Adventure, s'more cupcake demonstrations (6 to 7 p.m.),

campfire stories (7-8 p.m.), music, and more. Activities are designed to help attendees get in the spirit of Pleasure Grounds and Restoring Spaces: Photographs of our National Parks, on exhibit on the second floor.

- Watercolors – Thursday, July 25, 5 to 8 p.m. Part of the UNCHartED: Random Acts of Culture series, attendees will have an opportunity to gather with movers, makers, and forward thinkers to get an offbeat art fix or to pick up a creative craft. A wine-beer cash bar and delectable bites add to this fun Thursday night out. Take advantage of the \$10 admission to the museum. College students with current ID pay only \$5 or buy one, get one free. This installment will revolve around watercolors. Attendees will have a chance to have fun with a medium that could become addictive. An instructor will be on hand to guide participants and to answer questions.

### Exhibitions

Pleasure Grounds and Restoring Spaces: Photographs of our National Parks is currently on view at the MFA.

This exhibition, spanning a century, is full of the majesty of nature revealed by some of the most gifted photographers. Four of Ansel Adams' famous photographs are highlights.

Pleasure Grounds and Restoring Spaces primarily features images depicting national and state parks and landmarks. There are photographs of Yosemite, Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, the Grand Tetons, the greater Everglades, and more. The earliest date from the 1860s, including albumen prints by Carleton Watkins, Timothy H. O'Sullivan, and William H. Jackson and an ambrotype of Niagara Falls by Platt D. Babbitt.

Iconic vistas by Eliot Porter and more modernist images by Aaron Siskind and Brett Weston enhance the exhibition. Floridian Clyde Butcher's two large-scale photographs spotlight our state's wild beauty – always under pressure from developers – and Jerry Uelsmann's Flamingos Visit Yosemite (1985) is unforgettable. Among the other leading photographers represented are Edward S. Curtis, Margaret Bourke-White, Don Worth, William Cliff, Laura Gilpin, and Linda Connor.

Color Acting: Abstraction Since 1950 will open Saturday, July 6.

Drawn primarily from the MFA collection, Color Acting presents both formal and more expressionis-



Shown is Ansel Adams' "Clearing Winter Storm, Yosemite National Park, California," photographed about 1940 and printed about 1970. The photo is used with permission of The Trustees of The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust.

tic explorations of color. Nearly all of the artists are American. Katherine Pill, Assistant Curator of Art after 1950, has curated the exhibition – her first at the MFA. She will introduce her choices in a Gallery Talk on Sunday, July 14, at 3 p.m.

The exhibition is inspired by painter, teacher, and color theorist Josef Albers (1888-1976), who is represented by two striking works. Albers wrote that "color is the most relative medium in art," as there are endless factors that change the way we experience it. Color is never seen as it "really is."

Three of the artists with work in the exhibition – Albers, Gene Davis, and the Israeli Yaacov Agam – were represented in the famous Op Art exhibition The Responsive Eye (1965) at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. That pioneering show examined various modes of visual perception. Agam's two prints in Color Acting reveal his vibrant palette and playful sense of pattern.

The exhibition also introduces the area to the experimentation of cutting-edge photographers Jessica Eaton (born 1977) and Jessica Labatte (born 1981), who engage explicitly with the theories of Albers – and often subvert them.

Among the other significant artists represented are Richard Anuskiewicz, Ilya Bolotowsky, Leon Berkowitz, Norman Bluhm, Martin Canin, Robyn Denny, Helen Frankenthaler, Stanley William Hayter, Hans Hinterreiter, Fredric Karoly, Stanton MacDonald-Wright, Joan Mitchell, Ludwig Sander, and Frank Stella.

### Summer pricing

The MFA is opening its doors – wide – this summer.

Admission is now \$10 for everyone through Sept. 30, 2013. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday; and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

On Thursday nights, when the museum presents "UNCHartED: Random Acts of Culture," college students with current I.D. pay \$5 or can buy one admission, get one free.

The MFA Café is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For information, call 896-2667 or visit [www.fine-arts.org](http://www.fine-arts.org). For café reservations, call 822-1032.

**SHEPHERD'S**  
WATERFRONT RESTAURANT  
CLEARWATER BEACH

**JUNE FEATURES**

**Seafood & Prime Rib Buffet**  
\$26.95  
SERVED NIGHTLY  
Mon-Thurs: 5-9pm  
Fri-Sat: 4-10pm  
Sun: 3-9pm

Carved Prime Rib of Beef  
Honey Glazed Ham  
Snow crab legs  
Crispy Fried Shrimp  
Grilled pork ribs w/ mango BBQ  
Sweet and spicy grilled salmon w/ five spice marmalade  
Grilled chicken w/ nectarine and blackberry salsa  
Dill and thyme crusted mahi w/ tropical cucumber salad  
Chipotle grilled flank steak w/ house made steak sauce  
Whole Roasted black grouper  
Mussels with Italian chorizo, collard greens and tasso ham  
Linguini and clams in a white clam sauce  
Oysters on the half shell  
Peel n' Eat shrimp  
Assorted Sushi  
Complimenting sides, seasonal salads & homemade dessert!

**Sunday Champagne Brunch**  
\$24.95  
Sundays  
10am-3pm

Omelettes made to order  
Lobster Eggs Benedict  
Crème Brulee French Toast  
Homemade biscuits & gravy  
Carved Prime Rib of Beef  
Honey Glazed Ham  
Snow crab legs  
Oysters on the half shell  
Peel n' Eat shrimp  
Assorted Sushi  
Variety of entrees  
Complimenting sides, seasonal salads & homemade dessert  
Complimentary glass of champagne

Menu items subject to change.  
[www.shepherds.com](http://www.shepherds.com)  
727-441-6875  
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Clearwater Beach, FL

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