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Largo fire marshal reports possible code violations to the county ... Page 4A.

LARGO LEADER

Seminole's Music in the Park series to start next weekend

Local ensemble SPAN, Yesterdayze and The Rocket Man Show to perform ... Page 1B.

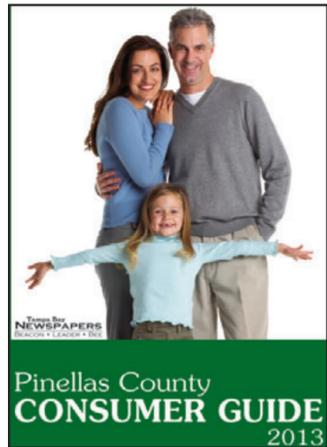


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A Trinity woman was arrested Aug. 19 after she concealed suboxone strips behind stamps on envelopes and mailed them to two inmates at the Pinellas County Jail. ... Page 6A.

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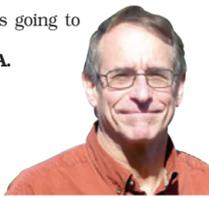
Mom 2 Mom

Kadi Hendricks Tubbs advocates the benefits of kids learning music: "They pick up so much faster at a young age. I know that for a fact because I am trying to learn guitar with my daughter. At her lesson and while she is strumming away, I just can't seem to get the chords." ... Page 14A.

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Pinellas protects gender rights

County commission approves contended amendment with 6-1 vote

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Despite a wall of opposition, the Pinellas County Commission added protection from discrimination for gender identity Aug. 20 via an amendment to its Human Rights code.

Commissioners listened to those for and against the amendment for nearly three hours before discussing the matter amongst themselves. In the end, the vote was 6-1 to approve. Commissioner Norm Roche voted no.

Chapter 70 of Pinellas County's codes relating to human relations gives protection against discrimination for race, color, religion, national origin, marital status,

familial status, pregnancy, gender, sexual orientation, sexual harassment, age, disability and now gender identity as well.

The county's Office of Human Rights is responsible to protect all citizens from discrimination in the areas of fair housing, employment, public accommodations and government programs and assistance. The amendment prohibiting discrimination due to gender identity and gender expression applies in three of those areas: fair housing, employment and public accommodations.

Paul Valenti, director of the Human Rights Office, said 17 states have already passed laws prohibiting discrimination based on a person's gender identity. Florida

is not one of those states; however, several of its counties and municipalities have such protections, including Gulfport and Dunedin in Pinellas County. Legislation is pending in the U.S. Senate.

Roche made it clear that he was not voting against the amendment because he did not believe discrimination should be prohibited. He is unhappy with changes to the ordinance that redefine gender. He prefers providing the protections using different words.

Supporters of the amendment were given first chance at the podium to tell commissioners why they should

See GENDER, page 4A

Fire fraternity ... and kickball

Largo firefighters rally to support their own in fight against cancer

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – Robert DiMarco, Curtis McClendon and their team of fellow firefighters, the Ballbarians, weren't the best kickball players in the tournament at Whitesell Softball Complex Aug. 24.

"We got crushed the first game," DiMarco said in an exaggerated lament. "They didn't even have any sympathy for the two guys with cancer. It was like 10 to nothing."

Their second and final game, this time in the losers' bracket, also ended in a shutout. But McClendon, 42, and DiMarco, 36, who serve the city of Largo on the same shift together, will still walk away with almost \$10,000 split between them. Both have battled cancer this year, and the Largo firefighter union, Local 2427, organized the tournament to help them pay for medical bills.

Firefighter Macho Liberti, secretary and treasurer for the union, said he and other organizers were still collecting funds and paying out bills associated with the fundraiser. But he knew the tournament brought in about \$9,330, and the group already had about \$500 in donated funds.

"I think when it's all said and done, we're going to be close to \$10,000," he said.

The successful fundraiser was one that the union plans on repeating next year, he said. Unfortunately, McClendon's and DiMarco's separate cancer diagnoses were less than coincidental.

"We as firefighters have an increased risk over normal workers," Liberti said. "We'll keep this as an annual event to benefit other possible firefighters that may come down with cancer, not just in Largo."

In fact, Liberti said the union was discussing starting a nonprofit organization and an ongoing benevolent fund to that end. Liberti is passionate about addressing the issue. He teaches a class on the risk of cancer based off one put together by the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, a national organization.

"I hope by educating more and more firefighters about the increased risk we have of developing cancer, we will turn the tide on some of these statistics," Liberti explained.

According to a report published this month by the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, cancer is

See KICKBALL, page 3A



Above, Largo firefighter Lt. Bobby Shay prepares to throw out Hillsborough firefighter David Raasch before he makes it back to third base during the charity kickball tournament at the Whitesell Softball Complex in Largo Aug. 24. Below, Largo firefighters and cancer survivors Robert DiMarco, left, and Curtis McClendon were the beneficiaries of the fundraiser, organized to help them with medical expenses.



5,500 old books

Unable to resist the discovery, retired bookseller takes one last business venture: The Scribe's Perch in Largo

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – By all rights and sense of reason, Jimmy Weyant should never have bought the dozens of boxes of hardback books currently stacked in the back of his new store space in Largo.

This he admits freely. Weyant is retired. He suffers from multiple sclerosis and walks with a cane. He had no space for the books in the mobile home where he lives. The Vietnam veteran lost his last used book business in a divorce and was content to let it end there.

But the collection a fellow seller at the Mustang Flea Market offered was enticing: about 5,500 books, many of them hardback, and all of them in reported good condition. Still, Weyant said he checked out the collection out of a courtesy.

"Frankly, I didn't go in thinking it would be anything," he said. "On the way to her house, I mused I'd be seeing broken sets of encyclopedias, Readers Digest condenseds, etc."

He was wrong. The woman, who Weyant would not name, once was a very active collector who has "very, very good taste," he said. The books were mostly nonfiction titles on interesting topics

and in good shape. He checked out the books on three different occasions, just to make sure he wasn't about to make a mistake.

"Every time, I was more impressed," he said.

He decided he couldn't resist. It took a couple of months to negotiate the deal when he finally made up his mind. He began renting out a business space in mid-July and moved all the boxes of books to a back room.

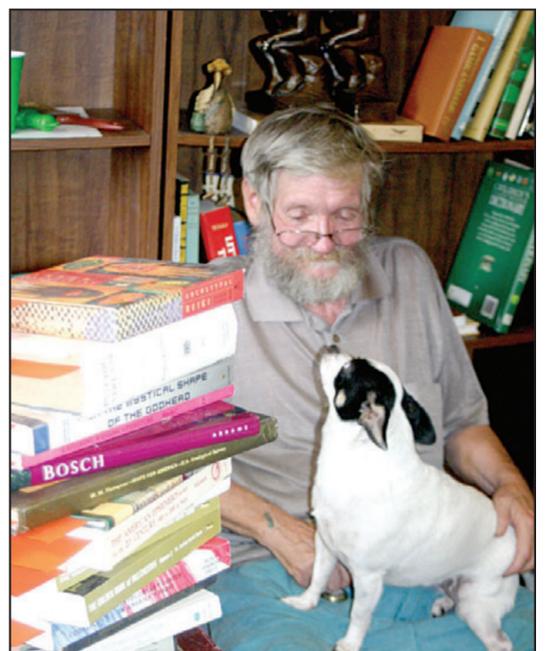
"It's like Christmas, every time I open a new box," he said.

He opened too many boxes, faster than he can process and sort them, he said. It's a weakness. Weeks

into the project, the 65-year-old bearded book guru sat on a rolling chair, his legs crossed in a yoga pose, surrounded by stacks upon stacks of books. Many of the books have slips of paper stuck between their pages. Those are ones he's ready to list online, just as soon as he figures out some technical issues with the website he's working with, he said. They'll go on his shelves too, and sell in-person for half the listed price.

The vast majority of the books are still in their boxes. Weyant's eyes, peering bright blue over

See BOOKSELLER, page 4A



Jimmy Weyant sits with his dog, Princess, behind a stack of books ready to be posted for sale online in his store, The Scribe's Perch in Largo. The once-retired bookseller is now going through a collection of about 5,500 books, mostly hardbacks.

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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.

Center hosts Friday night films

LARGO – The Largo Community Center presents a Friday Night Film on Sept. 20, 7 to 9 p.m.

Enjoy an evening out watching some of your favorite Academy Award-winning films. All shows begin at 7 p.m. The movies are free; concessions are available.

Sign up for Daddy Daughter Date Night

LARGO – Tickets are on sale for the 36th Annual Daddy Daughter Date Night, themed "Bright Lights, Big City" Sept. 21, 5 to 8 p.m., at the Largo Community Center.

Visit the streets of New York City for an evening of daddy and daughter dancing, games, activities and more. The cost is \$50 per couple, \$15 for each additional daughter. Dinner and dessert will be provided. Call 587-6740, ext. 5014 or visit LargoEvents.com.

Organizations looking for volunteers

LARGO – More than 20 different organizations, mostly health and wellness organizations showcasing their products, are looking for a volunteer for the Total Wellness Fair on Sept. 26, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Largo Community Center.

The city is looking for seniors, volunteers or a director of volunteers to partner with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and Volunteer Corps Advisory Board.

Highland Recreation Complex

Highland Recreation Complex is at 400 Highland Ave. Visit HighlandRecreation.com or call 518-3016.

Mother Son Messy Madness

LARGO – Highland Recreation Complex will host Mother Son Messy Madness, a special night just for moms and sons, ages 5-13, on Saturday, Sept. 21, 6 to 8 p.m.

Come prepared to get messy and have fun as Moms and sons both partake in high-energy interactive messy games. Messy Madness will run in conjunction with the 36th Annual Daddy Daughter Date Night.

The cost is \$20 per couple and \$8 for each additional son. Dinner, dessert, messy games and a special gift are all included. Spaces are limited. Register inside the Highland complex; the deadline is Sept. 14.

City hosts scrapbooking weekend

LARGO – Join the Highland Recreation Center for the Crop Till You Drop weekend of scrapbooking, starting Friday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m., until Sunday, Sept. 15, 6 p.m.

The cost is \$100. The center will stay open for the event until 2 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, reopening at 8 a.m. Registration includes meals, snacks and drinks throughout the weekend.

Weekly events

- **Bridge games:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. All players are welcome to American Contract Bridge League-sanctioned games. The cost is \$4 with membership or \$5. Call Joan Walf at 895-9073.
- **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.

Largo City Hall

The Largo City Hall is at 201 Highland Ave. Largo City Commission meetings are held on first and third Tuesdays, 6 p.m., in the commission chambers. Work sessions are held second Tuesdays, 6 p.m., in the community room. For more information, contact the city clerk's office at 587-6710, email dbruner@largo.com or visit www.Largo.com.

Schedule for budget approval set

LARGO – The city of Largo has selected two dates to act as public hearings in the budget process for the 2013-14 fiscal year on Tuesday, Sept. 3 and Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6 p.m., at Largo City Hall.

During the hearings, the commission will discuss and give approval of the city's budget and tax rate. For more information, call the city's office of management and budget at 587-6727.

Citizens' Academy accepting applications

LARGO – Applications are being accepted for the 2013 edition of the Citizens' Academy of Largo, a 12-week program on Mondays, 6 to 8:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 16.

The academy is designed to educate residents about the inner workings of their city government. Applications are available on the city's website, www.Largo.com and must be submitted by Sept. 6.

Participants will tour key facilities, learn about the challenges facing future development, talk with city leaders about current issues and events affecting Largo and interact with city staff at all levels.

For more information, contact Largo City Clerk Diane Bruner at 587-6710 or dbruner@largo.com.

Police to train volunteers in academy

LARGO – The Largo Police Department will be hosting another Volunteers In Policing Academy, beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 17.

Currently, 50 volunteers have dedicated their time to help the community. The volunteers perform a myriad of duties, including helping out with administrative paperwork, writing parking enforcement citations and directing traffic at crash scenes.

For more information, visit www.Largo.com or contact Volunteer Coordinator Dick Hageman at 587-6739.

Around town

Largo Woman's Club invites new members

LARGO – The Largo Woman's Club will host the first meeting of its 2013-2014 season on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 11:30 a.m., at the Royal Palms, 200 Lake Ave.

The club meets first Tuesdays through April. Its mission is to promote charitable and civic progress of the city of Largo. Its members invite new residents and any fun and caring people to attend the meetings and business lunches, which include entertainment.

The club was founded to build sidewalks along Bay Drive. Its next project was building the Largo Public Library. The library and the Woman's Club will be 100 years old in 2015.

The club will host an Autumn Fling on Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12. The event will include a straw-hat contest, card party and luncheon. Call 585-5648.

For more information about the club, call Ellen at 584-8314 or Pat at 584-0297.

LHS Class of 1963 plans 50th reunion

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

Also invited are 1963 Seminole High School graduates, classmates who transferred from Largo High and Largo High graduates from the class of 1964 and 1965.

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

Club hosts train show

LARGO – The Suncoast Model Railroad Club will host a train show Sept. 7 and 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Minnreg Hall, 6340 126th Ave. N.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$1 for children; those 11 and younger are free. Food and snacks will be available. The show will feature more than 90 tables of train items in all scales.

During the show, the club will host free open house at 12355 62nd St. N. View a HO-scale railway, currently under construction.

For more information about the show and joining the club, visit www.suncoastmrrc.com.

The Largo art scene



Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

Local artist Juan Carlos Santana takes a break from his painting to chat with passersby on West Bay Drive, who stopped to watch him work the afternoon of Aug. 24. Santana works on his art outside of the Wandering Star Gallery, at 220 W. Bay Drive, on a regular basis. The gallery owner, Tanya Pistillo, has made it her mission to promote local artists and the Largo art scene. Santana is especially talented and "deserves to be famous," she said. Pistillo also heads the Downtown Largo Merchants Association, which hosts sidewalk sales on West Bay Drive on second Saturdays. The next sale, which extends from the Foundry at 198 W. Bay Drive, to Smokin' Rib Shack BBQ, at 600 W. Bay Drive, is Sept. 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call Pistillo at 465-8558.

Widowed people to meet

LARGO – The New Horizons Club for Widowed People will meet on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2 p.m., at the west clubhouse of the Imperial Palms Rental Apartments, 101 Imperial Palms Drive.

R. Wayne Ayers, reporter and feature writer for Tampa Bay Newspapers, will speak along with photographer Nancy Ayers. Wayne Ayers also serves on the board of directors for the Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum. He will present a slide show of the beaches entitled "Now and Then," featuring former buildings and ones that replaced them from Pass-A-Grille, St. Pete Beach, Indian Rocks Beach, Sand Key and Clearwater Beach.

Widowed people are always welcome at the club's meetings. For more information and membership, call Betty Baker at 392-5028.

Elks to host Patriot Day celebration

LARGO – The Largo Elks, Lodge No. 2159, invite Pinellas County residents to a Patriot Day celebration Wednesday, Sept. 11, at the lodge, 810 16th Ave. SE.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. with coffee and cake, with a ceremony at 11 a.m.

For more information, contact Debbie Farris, exalted ruler, at 480-5902 or dfarris4@tampabay.rr.com.

Foundation hosts 18th annual Golf Classic

LARGO – The Community Service Foundation will host the 18th annual Golf Classic Friday, Sept. 20, at Bardmoor Golf & Tennis Club, 8001 Cumberland Road.

The event will start at 11:30 a.m. with check-in and a boxed lunch. Proceeds from the tournament, a four-player team scramble, will be used to support the foundation's mission to provide a healthy living environment, support services and training to help lower-income Pinellas County residents get on the path to self-sufficiency and financial stability. The organization currently serves about 1,000 families and individuals annually.

The event will feature a hole-in-one contest, sponsored by Dimmitt Chevrolet, and a putting contest, sponsored by Mugs Grill & Bar.

Current diamond sponsors are Public Charities and Transamerica. Additional sponsors include Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini, P.L., Pro-Vise Management Group, LLC, Regions Bank, Sir Speedy's in Largo, Wallace Welch & Willingham and Westminster Suncoast.

Individuals and businesses can help by entering the tournament, by sponsoring the tournament or both. For more information, call the foundation at 461-0618, ext. 5 or email at admin@csfhome.org.

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KICKBALL, from page 1A

the most dangerous and unrecognized threat to the health of firefighters. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has been working on a multi-year study to determine the risks of cancer, using data from more than 30,000 firefighters from San Francisco, Philadelphia and Chicago. The results of the study are expected to be completed this year.

Smaller scale studies already have reported that firefighters are 2.2 times more likely to develop testicular cancer and 1.5 times more likely to develop Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, according to the support network's report "Taking Action Against Cancer in the Fire Service."

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma was DiMarco's diagnosis on Feb. 6. The paramedic said he had been experiencing chest pains at night and had higher blood pressure for months. He knew, from hooking himself up to a heart monitor at the station, that he didn't have a heart problem. Initially, his doctor put him on antibiotics, saying his condition was the result of bronchitis.

"Nothing went away; it just kept getting worse and worse,"



Largo firefighter Curtis McClendon pitches for his team, the Ballbarians during the kickball tournament Aug. 24, organized as a fundraiser to help him and teammate Robert DiMarco, pictured fielding second base at right, with medical bills from their respective battles against cancer.

Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

DiMarco said. When a lump formed in his neck, DiMarco had a biopsy that proved he had cancer. Two days later, he began the first of six rounds of chemotherapy. Through the process, he gained 40 pounds, mostly due to the high dose of steroids he was on. Initially, his doctors told him radiation would follow. But his CAT scan came back so clean that it was canceled. "So I got very lucky," he said. "There was (only) a very short time frame that I looked sick."

Only a month before DiMarco's diagnosis, McClendon discovered that he had renal cell carcinoma, a common kidney cancer. What turned out to be a tumor showed up in a yearly examination all Largo firefighters undergo during the previous summer. McClendon initially thought nothing of it, but followed up with his doctor.

By January, a new test showed that the mass had quadrupled in size, and he had surgery to remove the cancerous tumor. Doctors are still keeping an eye on

business on hold.

But both have had each other's support. The two have worked in shift C at Station 41 for more than three years.

"We've become very, very close over the past year, sharing a lot of the same emotions and mental lapses and stresses," McClendon said. "It's really been good to have him as a companion to talk to."

Liberti said that the union was committed to helping firefighters, specifically in their cancer battles, because the state doesn't have presumptive disability laws for firefighters diagnosed with cancer. Currently, Florida statutes outline that tuberculosis, heart disease, or hypertension resulting in disability for law enforcement or firefighters is presumed to be a result of their line of duty. Select states extend that presumption to specific types of cancer, but Florida has no such protection.

Chemicals released during fires, especially when synthetic materials are burning, can be absorbed or inhaled by firefighters and then cause cancer, Liberti said. The problem is "gradual ex-

posures over the life of the career that leads to us being more likely to develop cancer," he explained.

"Typically, we try to police ourselves," he said. "Any time there is visible smoke, we have to have respirators on ... Now we don't take our masks off until we use our air monitors to see that at least the CO levels are down."

Given the two most recent instances, Liberti said he would work harder to bring the cancer awareness classes to his fellow firefighters.

The kickball tournament included not only from Largo firefighters, but representatives from several other Tampa Bay fire and police agencies. DiMarco said he couldn't believe how many players, at \$250 per team, showed up to support him.

"It's overwhelming at times - all the love and the support that they get. It's nice," said his wife, Stephanie.

The community can continue to donate to a joint fund for McClendon and DiMarco at any BB&T Bank. For more about the Largo Professional Firefighters, visit www.iaff2427.org.

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Largo Library
Friday, September 6, 2013 at 2 pm
120 Central Park Drive, Largo (Just across from The Largo Cultural Arts Center)

Seminole Library
Monday, September 9, 2013 at 2 pm
9200 113th Street North, Seminole (St. Petersburg College Seminole Campus))

Bruton Memorial Library
Friday, September 13, 2013 at 2 pm
302 W. McLendon Street, Plant City, FL 33563 (813-757-9215)

South Shore Regional Library
Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 2 pm
15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin, FL (Off 19th Ave. N.E. • 813-273-3652)

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Commissioners deny conditional use permit for waste facility

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – In November 2012, Pinellas County Commissioners rescinded a conditional use permit for an outdoor vegetative solid waste management facility at 16604 U.S. 19 N. in unincorporated Clearwater.

On Aug. 20, the commission unanimously voted to deny a new application for the same conditional use on the property.

The property is owned by Berati #2 LLC, headquartered in Belleair Beach, co-owned by Fatbardh and Soloi Shehu. The company first requested a permit for its business in 2010 and approval was granted with nine conditions, plus a 10th that said if any of the nine conditions were not met, the County Commission could rescind the permit.

Berati #2 also runs a landscape business from the location. The conditional use permit only deals with the transferring and storage of vegetative debris.

At a meeting on Nov. 27, 2010, staff told commissioners that six of the nine conditions were unmet despite the business being in operation for two years since the permit was issued. The commission voted unanimously to rescind the permit.

County staff recommended approval of the new permit Aug. 20 with 15 conditions set by the Local Planning Agency. John Cueva, Planning Department zoning manager, said the new concept plan differed from the previous one. The conditions, as recommended by the LPA, address a number of past and present concerns, including those from neighboring properties. The final condition allows the commission to rescind the permit anytime Berati #2 fails to meet any of the other 14 conditions.

Todd Myers, Code Enforcement supervisor, told commissioners that progress had been made to

clean up the property since 2010, with much happening in the last six weeks. He said a number of issues were "on the road to being corrected."

In 2010, Myers showed photos of fuel tanks in an inappropriate location. He brought up fuel tanks when he talked about the property again in 2013. He said the plan called for one fuel tank, but six are located on the property along with an unpermitted light pole.

In addition, when code enforcement visited the property in August, a hissing sound led officers to find employees in the process of spray-painting a semi-tractor truck in unsafe conditions. Largo Fire Rescue was called to address those concerns. The property is located in the Largo Fire District.

Timothy Wedin, Largo fire marshal, said he was "met with some resistance" when he visited the property. He said he waited for about 10 minutes while employees had a private meeting and then asked him to wait until the owner could arrive. He said he tried to talk to the owner, who had been told previously that no spray painting was allowed unless a paint booth was installed and other requirements were met.

"I told him why we were there," Wedin said. "He got agitated, cussing me and arm waving. He refused access. When I tried to exit, he followed me, continuing the verbal abuse and beat on my car."

Wedin said he was "very concerned" about the spray painting, the location of what appeared to be single-wall fuel tanks and the unpermitted electrical use on the site.

"It looks like a lot of violations," he said.

County Attorney Jim Bennett suggested that Commissioners consider approving the conditional use subject to the property owner first coming into compliance with existing conditions and regulations.



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER
Largo Fire Marshal Timothy Wedin tells Pinellas County Commissioners Aug. 20 about an inspection visit that went awry.

Wedin said he wanted to inspect the property without having to pursue a warrant to do so in the company of Sheriff's deputies.

"I've never had to go this far," he said. "I've never been denied."

Commissioner Karen Seel made her opinion known even before the applicant's representative, Todd Pressman, had a chance to speak.

"I can't even consider this," she said, citing the outstanding code violations and potential fire dangers.

Pressman told the commission that "a lot of progress" had been made and much had been done since code enforcement's visit. He blamed the problem on a language barrier.

"People on site don't speak good English," he said. He had requested that he be notified in advance of

inspections so he could be present to translate, which was not done before Largo Fire Rescue visited the property. He said an email had been sent to Largo Fire Rescue to apologize for the owner's behavior.

Pressman said there would be no conditional use on the property until all the code violations were satisfied and a new site plan approved.

"We've made every effort to rise above and work with the neighbors," he said, admitting that the owner had created a lot of the friction.

"Code enforcement has been hard on him," which caused frustration, he said.

One neighbor from an adjacent mobile home park spoke in support of the permit and three wrote letters in support to the LPA. Three neighbors wrote letters to the LPA in opposition and three spoke at the meeting against the permit. They referred to problems with rats and snakes, noise, problems with the employees and others.

"It's not a transfer station," said Sally Robinson from Embassy Mobile Home Park. "It's a dump, pure and simple."

Cueva said the reason staff recommended approval was that the permit "meets the general standard of our code." County Administrator Bob LaSala recommended continuing the matter until Largo Fire Rescue could make a report on any safety issues.

"I think the board is ready to vote," said Commission Chair Ken Welch.

Pressman said if the commission approved the permit, a meeting would be set up with Largo and he would make sure what is needed is done.

"We have to come into compliance," he said. "The system worked. We got the message and cleaned it up."

A motion to deny was made and seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Briefs

Prestigious honor awarded to Pinellas housing official

The Florida Community Development Association presented the Friend of Community Development award to Anthony Jones, executive director of the Housing Finance Authority and director of Pinellas County Community Development at its state conference in Clearwater Aug. 16.

The FCDA is a training and advocacy organization for Florida Community Development Professionals. The award was presented in recognition of the consistently high level of service, excellence and outstanding leadership in the field of community development.

Upon learning about the prestigious award Jones said, "It was a tremendous surprise. To receive this kind of recognition by one's peers is quite humbling. I'm inspired each day by the amazing dedication of our team to improve the communities we serve."

Michael Holmes, FCDA second vice president and housing manager with Clearwater recommended Jones for the award.

"Anthony was a natural choice," he said. "He has been instrumental in assisting Clearwater with our community development initiatives such as the Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 Funds, Habitat for Humanity's Stevens Creek and Country Club Townhomes just to name a few recent programs."

Heritage Village concludes 2013 writing workshops

LARGO – Award-winning author Angela T. Pisaturo concludes this year's historical writing workshop at Heritage Village. The final workshop is on Friday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This workshop will conclude the novel writing class. Participants will discuss how to submit their works to publishers and look at the differences between traditional publishing and self-publishing.

The workshop is \$15 a person; \$13 for Pinellas County Historical Society members. Call 582-2233 to register or for more information. Heritage Village is located at 11909 125th St. N. in Largo.

Mosquito Control focuses on prevention

At Pinellas County Mosquito Control, the quest to eradicate as many of the pesky bugs as possible is an ongoing responsibility.

Scientists at the county believe that the focus on stopping the mosquitoes before they even grow into flying biting machines is the most effective means of control. To do so, they monitor and larvicide on a daily basis throughout the county, and fog in locations where it is specifically needed.

According to entomologist Jason Stuck, the county monitors mosquito populations daily through traps in 40 locations throughout the county. Technicians also monitor standing water for live mosquito larva Monday through Friday.

There are 56 caged chickens kept in eight target locations on which routine blood tests are performed, testing for virus antibodies. When a positive result is confirmed, the information is conveyed to the public and efforts are intensified in that area,

with fogging to kill the adult mosquitoes.

Fogging also may be done when a trap shows an unusually high increase for several days, or if Mosquito Control receives numerous service calls in a specific area. A technician may then request that fogging be done, usually during nighttime hours.

The public is a vital part of the fight against mosquitoes and they can help by being vigilant in the prevention of and protection from mosquitoes by following the three Ds:

- Drain: even small amounts of standing water can breed mosquitoes
- Dress: light colors, loose fitting, long sleeves and pants
- Defend: effective repellents include Deet, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus.

A mosquito control request form, links to videos and general information can be found at www.pinellascounty.org/mosquito. Questions can also be directed to 464-7704. Videos about mosquito control can be viewed at www.youtube.com/pccvt1.

GENDER, from page 1A

approve it. Susan McGrath, president of the Stonewall Democrats of Pinellas County, and other members of that organization, pointed to a missed opportunity in 2008 when the commission voted against adding protection for gender identity to the human rights code.

"We support the T's (transgendered) in our community and applaud your efforts today," she said.

She said approving the amendment would create "greater equality and inclusiveness."

Katee Tully, Equality Florida board member and member of the St. Petersburg Chamber, said both organizations supported the amendment, which she called an "appropriate right for everyone."

Andrew Santino, a transgendered man, and his wife Sasha, who are business owners in St. Petersburg, also asked for the commissions' support to stop discrimination "because people don't fit."

"Not all can accept people who look different," he said.

He said people who identify with a gender other than the one they were born become homeless and unemployed simply because of who they are.

His wife told commissioners that before she met her husband she didn't even know what transgendered was. She talked about "rights for human beings."

"It's disturbing that people are discriminated against for what they are and that they don't fit," she said.

Several women talked about being bullied and being pushed out of restrooms because they don't like to wear dresses and high heels. The underlying theme was a desire to be protected from discrimination.

Those opposing the amendment outnumbered supporters about two to one, and they were by far more vocal. One woman traveled from Tampa to speak against the change.

They objected to exemptions in the law for religious organizations and the school district. They objected because the amendment would give protections not available under state or federal law. They objected to the code's definition of gender, saying it was different from the one found in the dictionary or medical books.

Some cited Biblical scripture. Local pastors tried to persuade commissioners to vote no. People said it was wrong to change the gender a person is born with, as that was strictly an act of God. They said a person's gender should be decided by fact not feelings. A few said gender identity was a mental disorder.

Others warned that the amendment would open the door to lawsuits with more than one person saying it would open Pandora's Box. They said businesses would leave the county due to fear of lawsuits. Some said creating protection for a small sub-class of people created more victims.

Regina Brown, speaking for herself and four others, talked about reverse discrimination and the hate she has been shown due to her op-

position. Brown said she has been called names because she opposes same-sex marriage. She pointed out that just because she opposes the amendment doesn't mean she approves of discrimination.

Brown is against more government regulation. She said government should not step in to protect people who are unhappy with their assigned sex.

"I used to be so skinny and people made fun of me," she said. "Are you going to put in your ordinance that people can't call me skinny and point at me and make me cry?"

However, the most pressing concern of most of the objectors was about the restroom.

"I don't want a man who because of his gender identity has become a female to use the same restroom that I do," said Dorothy Bonds of Palm Harbor.

Several objectors talked about voyeurism and sexual abuse. Nancy Davis of Seminole said she didn't want to go to the shower in the gym and find it occupied by men and women.

"I'm very concerned," she said. "I have certain values."

She said she had a right to her privacy.

Others talked about the danger to young children who might encounter a pedophile posing as a transgendered person. They were afraid providing protections for people expressing themselves as a different gender would be confusing to children and cause problems.

Several people said the amendment would not be needed at all if people would just be kind to one another. They pointed out that the commission could not require people to be kind to each other.

"You can't legislate against discrimination," said Rex Brown of Largo. "I was taught to love everyone and I think you should."

Commissioner Charlie Justice made the motion for approval as soon as the public was done speaking. He said while he "understood and empathized" with the speakers, it was possible to legislate against discrimination, although it was not possible "to legislate what is in people's hearts and minds."

"But we can set a policy to not discriminate against a group of people whether it is 2 percent, 20 percent or 40 percent."

He referred to statements by the public to the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. He said many had talked about faith, which is what he uses as his moral compass. He said his faith was the "rock I am standing upon to vote in favor of this tonight."

In an interview after the meeting, Valenti clarified which public restrooms would be covered under the definition of public accommodation, including public lodging, motels and hotels; restaurants, eateries, places where food is sold and ate on premises; businesses where drinks – alcoholic and nonalcoholic – are sold and consumed on premises. In addition, the law applies to establishments that sell goods and services; clinics and hospitals; bathhouses and swimming pools; entertainment and sports venues; all public places on land or water – essentially most places of public business.

BOOKSELLER, from page 1A

reading glasses, were enlivened rather than overwhelmed by the scope of his task. His tastes are very specific.

"If it ain't a book or a bookend, I'm not interested," he admitted.

His new business, named The Scribe's Perch, is an updated version of a successful used bookstore and rare book auction operation he ran in Rhode Island for more than 10 years. He's been in the business for a long time. But Weyant said he didn't read a book of his own volition until he was drafted into the Army. While he was stationed in Vietnam, his passion for books sparked after he realized that "you couldn't go down and get drunk every night." Instead, the company clerk, who was a reader, and got him interested in the books supplied by the Red Cross.

"It was wonderful when a box of books came because we got first pickings," Weyant said.

After he was discharged, he lived in Australia, working as a traveling salesman for three years. He returned to get an education through the G.I. Bill, enrolling in Roger Williams University in Rhode Island.

"My granddad passed away and left me a barrel of money," he explained. "At that stage, I thought, 'Well gee, I'd rather not do anything but this.' So I opened my store."

He opened The Scribe's Perch's predecessor in 1984, in Newport, R.I. The business started out as a simple used bookstore. But Weyant had a brilliant idea: why not advertise the business and an associated 800 number as a used book search service in major newspapers in other parts of the country?

The idea was too quickly a success.

"My phone wouldn't stop ringing," Weyant said. "We couldn't keep up."

He later used the skills he had learned as a traveling salesman to become a used book dealer, visiting bookstores within a 1,500-mile circuit and collecting rare books the owners "were sick of looking at." He then sold the books on their behalf in an auction. His niche operation began to grow a solid reputation and was very successful, he said.

But all that fell apart in the divorce, he said. Weyant has been a casual seller since moving to Florida. Sometimes he helps nonprofit thrift stores sort through their book collection. It takes a long time, but he has the expertise to help them earn money off books, he said.

For his own business, he doesn't keep bestsellers or mass-market paperbacks on his shelves, nothing that hasn't been around for a while.

"If you're still talking about it 50 years later. OK, I want it on my shelf," he said.

He can provide or find books on "anything people have a passion for: growing a perfect rose or building a boat from scratch," he said. As shopkeeper, his job is to keep interesting titles on the shelves and keep his customers' spouses occupied with conversation while the bibliophile gets lost searching for the perfect book.

Weyant expects that about 40 percent of the books he has will be listed online and sold in his store. The books have to be valued at least \$12 to be worth his time. All others he will sell for cheap in the parking lot in front of his store on the weekends. Any not sold in those yard sales will be donated to charities.

By sorting out the chaff in this way, Weyant will slowly go through all the boxes of books. Every week, the sale in front of his store will be a new collection, he said.



Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES
Jimmy Weyant's used bookstore in Largo, The Scribe's Perch, is new version of a successful business he once owned in Newport, R.I.

The books on his shelves will be constantly changing.

It will take at least a year to go through his new collection, but Weyant doesn't expect his business to be a long-term venture.

"I'm too old to expand," he said. "I'm too old to do this."

But the business is a passion he hasn't been able to quit.

"I love selling books. I love talking books. I love people

who read books," he said.

For now, The Scribe's Perch is a hidden niche, quite off the beaten path and without a typical storefront, located in suite 200 of the American Business Center, at 8340 Ulmerton Road in Largo. But Weyant thinks that will change.

"Once bibliophiles find me, they're going to be delighted," he said.

Email him at kingweyant1@yahoo.com.

In divided vote, commission votes to 'spread business around'

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – A routine piece of business on the Aug. 20 consent agenda turned into an unusual move by the Pinellas County Commission.

Commissioners voted 4-3 to accept the second ranked firm, instead of staff's first-ranked recommendation, to begin negotiations for a contract for design-build services for the Pinellas County health facility. Commission Chair Ken Welch voted no, as did Commissioners Charlie Justice and Norm Roche.

Twelve firms submitted proposals for the \$12.5 million contract. After a two-part process, five evaluators ranked the firms by score. Peter R. Brown Construction received the most points, 872.20, a slight lead over Creative Contractors with 869.40 points. The third ranked firm, Charles Perry Partners, received 846 points.

Commissioner Susan Latvala began discussion on the matter. She was concerned because the top-ranked firm had recently received a \$9 million contract for the parking garage at the Justice Center in Clearwater.

"These contracts provide jobs in our community," she said. "I think we should spread the work around."

She pointed to the close score between the two top ranked firms. She asked if staff considers if firms recently have been awarded contracts in their evaluation. Latvala said she had talked to the county administrator about staff's recommendation.

"That didn't go anywhere," she said.

Latvala also said the No. 1 ranked firm was no longer a local company. Peter R. Brown has its headquarters in Clearwater, but recently became a division of Moss & Associates, LLC, based in Fort Lauderdale. The No. 2 ranked firm, Creative Contractors, has its corporate office in Clearwater.



Susan Latvala

"I think we should be involved in setting some parameters as we move forward," Latvala said. "This should go to the No. 2 firm so we spread the work around."

Then she asked the county attorney if it was legal for the commission to reject the No. 1 ranked firm.

"These things come to us for a reason," she said. "It appears to me we have the authority. There is less than 1 percent scoring points between the two companies."

County Administrator Bob LaSala explained that staff follows state law when evaluating firms during the bid process. He suggested that a work session be scheduled to discuss the law and the commission's authority. He gave two options: approve the ranking and begin negotiations or start the bid process anew, potentially delaying the project.

However, the money for the project is a federal grant. The project must be completed by 2015.

Joe Lauro, purchasing director, reminded commissioners that they had approved the bid process, which follows state statute, two years ago. He said

the trained evaluators followed the law to the best of their ability.

He said the results of the process had resulted in "two firms extremely qualified."

"Either could do the job," he said.

Commissioner Karen Seel, a longtime proponent of local business, along with Commissioners Janet Long and John Morroni, supported Latvala's argument.

"We sent a clear message to staff that to spread work around was a priority," Seel said.

"Don't we have an obligation to as much as we can to employ people in Pinellas County and hire companies that are local," Long said.

Justice, Roche and Welch were concerned about changing precedent before having a work session. Roche said he would consider changing the criteria for awarding bids after learning more about the process and legalities involved.

"I'm not doing anything today on the fly that smacks of favoritism," Justice said.

"I think it is possible to agree with everything I've heard today," Welch said.

He said he had heard a desire from several commissioners to give a preference to local firms, minority hires and to set objective criteria. He, too, said he might support local hiring after a workshop, "but not a change today."

Roche pointed out that the contracts would be paid for from two different pots of money. The parking garage will be paid for with Penny for Pinellas funds. The health center will be built with federal grant dollars.

"I support going forward and changing the criteria down the road," Morroni said. "These are both good companies that do good work."

Latvala repeated that she didn't want to change the bid process, which she said was done exactly according to procedure.

"It is my desire, and ours if we vote yes that way, to spread the work around," Latvala said.

About the facility

Seel commented that she did not want to vote to award the final contract on the health center until she knows the costs to the county to run the facility. Staff will likely schedule a work session on the matter for an update on the project.

The Department of Health and Human Services was awarded a \$5 million Health Resources and Service Administration capital grant in May 2012 to construct a facility to increase access to health care for those most in need in Pinellas. The facility will be an extension of the county's mobile medical unit that currently serves the homeless population at 12 locations.

According to staff, the goal is to provide a new health care facility to serve as a patient-centered medical home that uniquely serves the needs of homeless individuals through in-house medical care and social support services.

The facility, to be constructed at 14790 49th St. in Clearwater, will house a 24-hour (day) respite facility to provide convalescent care for those recently released from the hospital.

BUDGET, from page 1A

approval, but cannot be increased.

The commission has scheduled two public hearings on the millage rates and budgets. The dates are Thursday, Sept. 5, and Tuesday, Sept. 17. The hearings begin at 6 p.m. in the fifth floor Assembly Room of the Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court St. in Clearwater.

For more information, visit www.pinellascounty.org/budget.

Social action funding

Commissioners used \$561,550 in funds from the Service Level Stabilization Account to provide money for social action and homeless initiative agencies in FY 2014. Staff was asked to include that money in next year's budget.

Commissioners have been debating the timing of changes to how money is awarded to non-profit organizations providing services to needy residents next year. The final decision was to wait until next year to give the organizations time to prepare.

Priority funding was given to Neighborly Care Network, which provides meals for homebound seniors, to help the agency deal with federal sequestration and budget cuts. Priority also was given to agencies providing emergency shelter for the homeless and shelter beds for families with children, agencies providing food access services, such as food pantries and food distribution centers, and agencies that use county fund to meet requirements for a matching grant.

Agencies receiving social action funding for FY 2014:

- Community law program
- Neighborly Care Network
- Operation Hope of Pinellas
- St. Petersburg Free Clinic
- Suncoast Epilepsy Association
- Tarpon Springs Shepherd Center
- Daystar Life Center

Agencies receiving funding for homeless initiatives:

- Community Action Stops Abuse
- Westcare Gulfcoast - Florida
- Young Women's Christian Association of Tampa Bay
- Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board
- 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares

Agencies receiving social action and homeless initiatives funding:

- Religious Community Services
- The Salvation Army of St. Petersburg
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The commission asked staff to work with the agencies to find a way to lower administrative costs so more of the money could go directly for services.

"Seventy percent (of the money) is not getting to people who need help," said Commissioner Norm Roche. "Seventy percent ought to go to help people and the rest to salary and administrative costs."

Health and Human Services Director Gwendolyn Warren said she planned to begin working with the agencies in the spring closer to the time they begin work on their budgets.

Surface water fees

Commissioners also approved the non-ad valorem assessment agreement with the county tax collector to add a surface water management utility fee to the tax bills of property owners in unincorporated parts of the county.

They talked about a plan to assist with hardship cases to help make sure people don't lose their homes because they couldn't pay the new fee. The utility tax will be part of the property tax bill and must be paid in full within two years or risk the property being sold at auction.

Kelli Levy, section manager for Natural Resources section of the Department of Environment and Infrastructure, said no cities within the county offered exemptions or reduced rates for low-income property owners. However, she said, staff did find a policy in Bay County for qualifying senior citizens, low income seniors and disabled veterans and others who qualify for additional ad valorem homestead exemptions.

Levy said another county funding source was needed to fund the exemptions. She said any exemptions to the assessment fee must be paid back and that surface water assessment funds cannot be used. She said one funding source could be the Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) contingency fund.

"Some people cannot pay another \$10 a month," Commission Chair Ken Welch said. "I thought a waiver would be there to protect these folks."

Commissioner Karen Seel suggested looking at starting a "Good Neighbor Fund," which is used by Duke Energy and the city of Clearwater. The programs allow private citizens to donate to the fund to help those in need pay their bills.

Levy said Duke Energy's program was funded by a federal grant. She did not know how Clearwater operates its program. The commission directed staff to work on establishing a Good Neighbor program.

In other business:

- The commission approved fee increases for FY 2014
- LaSala announced that Health and Human Service had received a \$600,000 federally funded Navigator Grant to help guide the process of the Affordable Healthcare Act.

The commission approved an applicant for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund program. LaSala said the application was for 143 jobs with pay exceeding 115 percent of the annual wage requirement.

The commission heard an appeal from an attorney representing Bright House about a lawsuit over cut cables during the construction of the Belleair Beach Causeway.

The commission approved an amendment to an agreement with the county's constitutional officers allowing them to terminate and withdraw from the Business Technology Services Board.

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Toastmasters invite new members

LARGO - Largo Star Toastmasters Club 5933 invites new members to its weekly meeting on Wednesdays, 12:05 to 1:05 p.m., at the Young Rainey Star Center, 7887 Bryan Dairy Road No. 120 in Largo.

The club is open to all residents and workers in the Largo, Pinellas Park and Seminole areas. It provides a positive environment where members develop their oral communication and leadership skills. For more information, call John Rousseau at 488-8010 or email john.rousseau@yahoo.com.

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Building damaged after hit by car

SEMINOLE – Seminole Fire Rescue responded to the site of a single-vehicle crash Aug. 22 on Seminole Boulevard.

The crash occurred when Kelli Kupfer of Largo was forced off the road by an unidentified vehicle moving northbound on Seminole Boulevard, according to Brad Dykens, public education officer for Seminole Fire Rescue. Kupfer refused medical care at the scene.

Kupfer's vehicle crashed into the Tran's Mini Mart, 5050 Seminole Blvd. No one inside of the structure was injured. Building officials from the city of Seminole responded to the scene to assess damage to the building. Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies were investigating.



Photo by BRAD DYKENS
Seminole Fire Rescue District Chief Chris Hengstenberg and Fire Lt. Frank Vento inspect damage to Tran's Mini Mart located at 5050 Seminole Blvd. on Aug. 22.

Coast Guard rescues two from capsized boat

CLEARWATER – A Coast Guard crew pulled two men out of the water Aug. 24 after their 19-foot boat capsized offshore near Sand Key in sight of the Bel-

leair Beach Causeway.

A Good Samaritan notified Coast Guard Station Sand Key about 9 a.m. of a boat taking on water and capsizing with two people aboard. A 24-foot special purpose craft-shallow water boat crew from the station arrived on scene, pulled the two men from the water with no medical concerns and transported them to the Belleair boat ramp.

"Both gentlemen were partially in the water when we arrived on scene, their lifejackets had already drifted away," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Craig Sappo, a crewmember at the station. "Everyone is very lucky we got there when we did. Our concern is that because they were not wearing their lifejackets initially, it could have been a much different outcome."

"We want to stress that the Coast Guard may not be able to get there in time. So wear your lifejackets at all times."

Crime beat

Jail drug smuggling operation busted

CLEARWATER – A Trinity woman was arrested Aug. 19 after she concealed suboxone strips behind stamps on envelopes and mailed them to two inmates at the Pinellas County Jail.

The inmates in turn distributed and sold the controlled substance to other Pinellas County Jail inmates. Since the investigation began on Aug. 1, 2013, deputies intercepted a total of 11 pieces of mail containing the opiate.

Kaitlyn Pergola, 29, was charged with two counts of introducing/possession of contraband into a county detention facility. Bond was set at \$10,000. She also is being held without bond on charges of violation of probation on doctor shopping charges.

Pergola's boyfriend, Michael David Gavin, 29, was arrested for introduction/possession of contraband in a county detention facility. He was transferred to Jefferson County Jail on Aug. 1 on burglary and grand theft charges.

Gavin's cellmate, Jermonite Russell Rushing, 30, of St. Petersburg also was arrested for introduction/possession of contraband into a county detention facility. He was last booked into the Pinellas County Jail on March 7 on a charge of carjacking without a weapon. Bond was set at \$50,000.

According to the sheriff's report, on Aug. 1, Gavin was being prepared for transport and transfer to the Jefferson County Jail. Investigators said detention deputies began to get suspi-



Kaitlyn Pergola



Michael Gavin



Jermonite Rushing

cious when Gavin began to ask every deputy and jail employee he saw or passed to help him get his mail.

Mailroom clerks were asked to examine Gavin's mail more closely. Four pieces of stamped mail were initially found addressed to Gavin and closer examination of the pieces revealed small square pieces of orange paper concealed behind each of the stamps.

The contents of the envelopes were provided to the inmate for his transport to Jefferson County; and detectives retained the envelope and began their investigation to identify the substance behind the stamps.

Through their subsequent investigation, detectives discovered additional pieces of mail addressed to Gavin; as well as other pieces of mail addressed to Rushing, which had the same type of orange paper concealed behind the stamps and appeared to have similar handwriting to the letters addressed to Gavin.

Research and testing of the

"orange paper" determined the substance to be suboxone or "heroin in a breath strip." Detectives further described the substance to be an opiate in the form of a sublingual film.

The investigation further revealed that Gavin recruited his cell mate Rushing to have the mail sent to him in exchange for payment; and that the two sold and distributed the contraband to other inmates at the Pinellas County Jail. Investigators say that each stamp was sold for \$20; and that each stamp was five dosage units if cut into five individual strips.

Through their investigation, detectives were able to identify Pergola as the source of supply of suboxone to Gavin and Rushing. Detectives said she used two fictitious return addresses that were later connected to her.

During her interview with detectives Aug. 19, Pergola allegedly admitted to the crime. She was transported to the Pinellas County Jail without further incident.

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Pinellas County CONSUMER GUIDE 2013

Bob Evans helps those with hearing loss 'recapture some of the sounds they're missing'

Stop. Listen.

Do you have to strain to hear things that once came easily to you? Do you have ringing in your ears?

Now think.

Do you have to ask people to repeat themselves? Do you get frustrated when speaking to family or friends because you have difficulty following the conversation? Have you begun to avoid social activities because it is difficult to hear?

These are a few of the more common signs and symptoms of hearing loss - cues that many people sadly ignore. Studies indicate that nearly 40 million people in the United States suffer from some degree of hearing loss ... yet, as few as a quarter of the people who could benefit from hearing aids actually use them - because many simply refuse to acknowledge the problem.

"The patient has to admit they want help," says Lynda



Angelika Stieren, M.S., CCC-A, Certified Audiologist

Evans of Bob Evans Hearing Center. Others may think their hearing loss cannot be aided by hearing devices. "Many times patients don't know what questions to ask or who to trust."

If you think you have hearing loss, schedule an appointment with the hearing professionals at Bob Evans Hearing Center. The staff will look at your hearing with one thing in mind - hearing health.

Like Visiting Family

Serving Pinellas County for more than 22 years, Bob Evans Hearing Center is a family practice with three locations. Bob is a Board Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist. Lynda, his business partner and wife, is Community Relations Director and Outreach Coordinator. Angelika Stieren, the center's Certified Audiologist, earned her degree at the University of South Florida. Bob Evans proudly sells American made products.

"We gain our patients' confidence by working with them until they achieve optimum satisfaction," Bob says.

Patients who choose Bob Evans Hearing Center will find quality service with a personal touch. As is the case in so many health care specialties, there's an appreciable difference between choosing a privately held practice over a nationwide chain.



Bob Evans, H.A.S., B.S., NBC-HIS
Lynda Evans, Community Relations and Outreach Director

"We are a family-owned, multi-line independent practice," Lynda says. "We take the time to care for you as we would for our family. As one patient stated, 'you have treated me so well, I feel like I just got a hug'."

"I know what it's like to experience hearing loss," Bob says. He developed hearing loss while serving in the U.S. Marines. Having hearing loss enables him to understand his patients' challenges and he knows how to help them. "Trustworthiness is the key.

The Hearing Evaluation: What to Expect
New patients are warmly greeted and made to feel welcome. After an ear inspection, the patient will undergo a thorough hearing exam in a booth certified by the American Na-

tional Standards Institute. Each center is outfitted with an audiometric testing room that has been tested for sound pressure levels and meets the specifications required by Florida law.

The results are evaluated and discussed in detail during the appointment. Bob Evans then makes a recommendation - a solution that fits your lifestyle and your preferences.

Bob and Lynda Evans stress the importance of having routine hearing evaluations. "The hearing test is vital: It's important to have a baseline for their medical records," Lynda explains.

"Because hearing loss is usually gradual, many people don't realize it's happening and wait too long to seek treatment," Bob said. Delaying treatment can impair the brain's ability to understand speech. "If not discovered in time, the condition can become permanent."

In other words, use it or lose it. If you are missing the sounds of your life, what better time than this to schedule a hearing screening? "A simple screening will determine if you have a hearing problem," Lynda said. "A full evaluation will assess the ori-

gin of the loss, degree of loss and its impact on speech perception and discrimination."

Don't let hearing loss distance you from friends and family and lead to isolation.

"It's about quality of life: To enhance their ability to stay connected to the world," Angelika says.

"The saddest thing we see is when a person suffering from hearing loss starts to withdraw because they feel embarrassed," Bob says. "We're here to help a person to recapture some of the sounds they're missing."

Bob Evans Hearing Center locations include:

- 9156 Seminole Blvd., Seminole
- 1099 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater
- 5760 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg

To schedule a free hearing evaluation and consultation, call 393-3775 for the Seminole and Clearwater offices; or 344-7777 for the South Pasadena office.



Left to Right: Tina, Patient Care, Steve Hollenbeck, G.M. Toni, Patient Care

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Interstate Batteries has all the Batteries you need!

LARGO – Largo-based Interstate Batteries has long been a household name for automotive batteries.

Now, starting their 2nd year, All Battery Center in Largo. Interstate Batteries' All Battery Center offers replacement batteries for just about anything including iPods, cell phones, watches, toys, alarms, medical equipment and much more. We are more than just Automobile Batteries.

With more than 16,000 battery solutions, Interstate Batteries' All Battery Center doesn't turn anyone away. Located on 66th Street between Bryan Dairy and Ulmerton roads, Interstate Batteries' local warehouse carries a large inventory of stock including a new release of cutting-edge solar products and chargers for all of the most commonly used devices like iPods, iPads and cell phones, as well as laptops, radios and automobiles. "If we don't have it, we will find it, and if we can't find it, we will build it!"

Snyder says the store will happily order products for customers if they do not have it in stock.

Dedicated to service, our team continually rises to the top. "The reality is, I don't think people know that we will do anything from a watch battery to critical power. As a matter of fact, power tool rebuilds have become one of our highest demands," Snyder said. "Our mission, when it comes to power supply, is to be the leading one stop battery shop in the area."

Light it up

While the All Battery Center is designed for the public need, Interstate Battery also launched a business-to-business division to sell and deliver products to companies like

hospitals, hotels, schools and fire/police departments just to name a few.

Most common households have over 26 uses for batter-



L/R: Michael Moore, James Snyder, Russ Lipp, April Pollet, Mgr., Cliff Dillinger

ies. "It is amazing how many things require batteries," Snyder said.

Most people don't know what batteries they need, so the All Battery Center makes it a point to be as informative as possible while visiting their locations. This location covers all businesses whose billing is handled within Pinellas County.

"We are about service," Snyder said. "If you have a need, we want to meet it with a smile on our face."

Source for Recycling

"We've always been 'green,'" said Snyder. For decades,

Interstate Batteries has collected and recycled lead-acid batteries. "Not only do we make it easy to find the right batteries, but we also make recycling easy for all of your company used batteries."

Ensuring compliance with all environmental and transportation laws, Interstate Batteries works with local and national facilities to recycle or discard batteries in the most environmentally friendly manner possible. From dead car batteries, lifeless power tools and cell phone batteries, they do it all as your one-stop battery recycling center. Their recycling services include: customized recycling programs, drop off and scheduled pick-ups, and disposal of all sealed lead-acid, NICD, NIMH, lithium-ion, and lithium polymer batteries.

"Green may be the color of our batteries, but it also signifies our commitment to the environment and our customers," Snyder said. "Partnering with Interstate makes battery recycling easy for your company and allows you to spend your time and resources growing your business."

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As this picture from 1946 shows, Dean Roofing Company has been in business at the same location in Pinellas County for over 60 years.

With many employees having been with the company for more than 20 years, customers know with confidence that Dean Roofing personnel are experienced and trustworthy. Fly-by-night roofing contractors come and go, but with over 60 years at the same location, Dean Roofing Company has proven that it is a solid member of the business community and is here to stay. Dean Roofing Company (License # CCC020246) is located at 506 N. MLK Jr. Ave. in Clearwater. Call 727-446-6077.

For more than 60 years, Dean Roofing Company in Clearwater has provided honest and reliable roofing replacement and repair services to customers throughout the Tampa Bay area.

There is no better proof of Dean Roofing's excellent reputation than the A+ rating the company recently received from the Better Business Bureau. Based on customer satisfaction, reliability reports and an overall solid track record, Dean Roofing has repeatedly proven that it is the roofing company on which homeowners and businesses can rely.

It simply doesn't get any better than the highest honor of an A+ BBB rating.

A certified Owens Corning Roof Installer, Dean Roofing is the only Platinum Preferred contractor in Pinellas County. We are the roofing expert chosen for repairs to St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport and Tampa International Airport. Historic landmarks including South Ward School, Belleview Biltmore Resort and St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Petersburg also turned to Dean Roofing for quality workmanship.

Whether you prefer tile, metal, shingle or gravel roofing, Dean Roofing Company will get the job done, with free estimates and fully-guaranteed work.

"We are very customer service oriented. We always make it right," said Dean Roofing Company President Bruce Williams. "We do detail work and you can always expect complete cleanup. We've worked hard at building and maintaining a good reputation in an industry that doesn't always have a great reputation. We stand behind our work and if there is a problem with our workmanship, even outside of warranty, we will fix it at no charge."

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Find your treasure at Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment

CLEARWATER – When you walk through the front doors of Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment, you'll be utterly astounded by the spectacle set before you.

Spread out across the store's sprawling, 12,000-square-foot showroom, appealingly staged, is an extensive selection of fine furniture and accessories from various time periods – but that's just the beginning. The store is a virtual treasure chest, full of fascinating finds at reasonable, realistic prices.

So, what precisely is Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment?

Though the owners have 20 years of experience in the retail furniture industry and carry a wide range of high quality new and used home furnishings, customers will find so much more as they browse the collections displayed in the gallery. Though shoppers may find select vintage pieces as they stroll through the showroom, the business is no stuffy old antique store, either. And though the surprisingly affordable prices might suggest otherwise, Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment most certainly isn't a cluttered thrift store.

The vast selection and professional, attractive style in which the inventory is exhibited truly makes Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment stand out from the competition.

"We have high-end furniture, lighting fixtures, costume jewelry, crystal, art glass and stemware," said Maddie Diaz, owner. "In our boutique, we have designer clothing, purses and footwear."

Shoppers also will find Oggetti glass, Jablonski glass, Franklin Mint plates, stunning oriental- and Asian-theme décor, collectibles, fine art prints, Polish hand-blown glass, artistic lighting, books, CDs, ceiling fans and much more.

"We have wonderful artwork ranging from as low as \$20," features a mix of new and used, store-owned and consignment items.

The low prices allow for a relatively rapid turnaround, which means new inventory arrives weekly. Shoppers will discover new treasures appear in the showroom regularly.

"The rapport I have with my customers is very important," Maddie said. "If a customer comes in looking for something specific and I don't have it, I try to find it." Maddie keeps a log of customer requests. She's always making connections between

buyers and consignors. "We take requests, and we do our best to fill them as quickly as possible."

That kind of commitment to customer service distinguishes Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment.

Interested in consigning?

Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment accepts a wide variety of furniture and accessories from all time periods,

They will come to pick up your furniture and price your pieces at a fair market value. The professional staff at Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment takes great care in artistically staging consignment items, presenting them in their upscale gallery and

making them irresistible to the right customer. They will pay you 50 percent of the selling price and automatically mail your proceeds to you on the 15th day of the month following the month in which it was sold.

Whether you are buying or selling, visit the spectacular showroom at Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment to see what kind of treasures await you. Stop by to check out all of the affordable designer and name brand furniture and the unique, quality accessories that this fashionable – yet reasonably priced – outlet has to offer.

Design Outlet & Consignment is at 1928 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Suite B, Clearwater. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 216-6432 or visit www.dfoutlet.com.



2013 Pinellas County CONSUMER GUIDE

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Marcy Daniels – Successfully Selling In Today’s Challenging Market

Today’s real estate market demands you choose an experienced team to help you buy and sell your home!

Choosing the best Realtor today is one of the most important decisions you will make. You want to be able to trust your Realtor to successfully sell your property and help you, your family, your business associates and your friends when buying real estate.

Marcy Daniels began her real estate career in 1976 and has been recognized as the Top Agent for Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate’s Clearwater and Clearwater Beach offices. She also earned that “Top Spot” for the past 12 years. With a tradition of success, Marcy has been consistently listed among the top Realtors in her company and was included in her company’s “Top 100 in Florida” for 2012.

Marcy has decades of experience in our community, many awards noting her successful achievements and a long list of satisfied customers. Marcy and her team have become a “resource” to their clients who move to our area and to those who move out of the Tampa Bay region. She is joined by her husband, Scott, and their licensed assistant, Debbie Golomb. Together, they complete “the team” that their customers depend on to sell their homes and to help them purchase their properties in Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties. Marcy and her team are proud that they are now assisting “second generations” of children and parents of their customers with their real estate needs. The Daniels Advantage Team goal is that every transaction is seamless and stress-free from “contract to closing.”



Marcy, Scott and Debbie are a dynamic team selling beachfront homes and condos to golf course and planned communities in neighborhoods throughout Tampa Bay. The signature of their success is their integrity and professional service. Many businesses depend on them to assist with the relocation of new managers and employees moving here to Tampa Bay for the first time.

Marcy and Scott support many local organizations. They believe that volunteerism is the best way to help improve our communities. They support St. Petersburg College’s “Women on the Way” program. Marcy has received their “Woman of Distinction” award. Scott is an alum and past president of Leadership Pinellas and a leader of Pinellas Trails, Inc., the citizens’ organization that supports The Pinellas Trail. Marcy and Scott have “adopted a mile” on the Pinellas Trail and encourage others to do the same. Scott is an active board member of Lighthouse of Pinellas, the Safety Harbor Public Library Foundation and Coldwell Banker CARES Foundation.

Marcy is a Realtor/Broker and a Certified Residential Specialist (CRS). Since 1976, she has been providing a “tradition of exceptional service.” Together, The Daniels Advantage Team and Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate are two names you will want to remember when you want full-time, professional service. Marcy and Scott have earned the trust and confidence of their customers throughout Tampa Bay. They have a national network of other experienced, successful Realtors for anyone looking to buy or sell real estate in Florida and across

the country. For truly remarkable service, contact The Daniels Advantage Team by calling Marcy, at 727-560-8080 or visit online at www.MarcyDaniels.com.

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Managing Financial Stress!

Is the high cost of living and insurmountable debt problems putting stress on your health?

It’s in the news everyday: the cost of living today is rising much faster than it has in the past. We are seeing higher fuel costs, higher insurance premiums, higher food costs, etc. Many of these costs are well out of our control, and can push us to live outside of our means just trying to maintain a reasonable lifestyle. One way that some people deal with these rising costs is to take out a short-term, high interest loan – that can lead to even more problems trying to keep that monthly budget intact – and resulting in stress overload.

These financial strains can have a significant negative effect on your health, so getting your finances under control should be a top priority. There are solutions to your problems, but it can take time. You will want to review your expenses, cutting any spending that is unnecessary. Try to manage short term finances closely. Put in a plan to repay the outstanding amounts without having to borrow more money. Next, you will want to start a savings plan, no matter

how small, and put a bit aside each month for emergencies and other unexpected expenses.

Sometimes your situation may be caused by circumstances out of your control. A loss of income due to job loss, illness, divorce, or even the passing of a loved one can cause spiraling debt problems. In many cases a simple budget adjustment just won’t help. You may need to seek advice as how to best deal with the debt in these situations. Many times a legal expert can assist you in determining what options are available to decrease or even eliminate your debt, resulting in less stress for you and your family.



Jill McDonald

If you find that your financial problems are accompanied by mental anguish, stress, depression, or other physical health problems, reach out to your physician and ask for help. If you don’t have a physician, you can contact your county’s mental health center (www.samhsa.gov) for support options. The most important thing to remember is not to allow financial stress to take a toll on your most valuable asset – your health!

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CG13

Van Selow Design Build, LLC.

“Quality Construction with A Woman’s Touch”

Susanne Van Selow, owner of Van Selow Design Build, LLC., has truly carved a niche in the local building trade by providing customers with the best in quality and service.

Admired by her clients as both persistent and meticulous, Van Selow discovered her proclivity for drafting in high school. She began her design career at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in California as a receptionist but that didn’t last long.

“Turns out I had a talent for Computer Aided Design when it was first being used,” Van Selow said, “I taught it to young engineers and learned I really enjoyed designing. Soon they were sending me to Hawaii, Boston, everywhere to teach and I really loved it.”

Eventually, Van Selow settled down in the Tampa Bay area and was dismayed when she heard tales of substandard work customers had received from some area builders and remodelers. Those grievances led her to earn a license and launch her own business in 2005.

In addition to being thorough and focused on each project, Van Selow remains personally involved in every job and also brings other advantages to the table as well.

The first advantage is Van Selow has integrated both the design and build phases. In years past, the design phase and the build phase were separated and when these two phases are separated it often leads to problems.

Van Selow said, “I recognized that many customers here in the Tampa Bay area were unhappy when their design conflicted with what could be built. In order to eliminate this issue I took my design and construction abilities, integrated them and specialized as a design build contractor. This design build system is able to bring both the design and build phase together where all aspects of the build is under one company bringing convenience as well as cutting costs, time and errors. Using one company improves communication as well as resolves disagreements between the designer and the construction crew.”

The second advantage working with Van Selow is one she embraces in her motto:



“Quality Construction with A Woman’s Touch”

She said, “I have found that most of my time is spent with the women who manage the household and they are much more comfortable communicating with a woman contractor. It has also been long known that one of the customer’s biggest complaints is that the design layout was not developed from the perspective of the woman who manages the household in most cases. I am able to bring both communication and organization of the designs from a woman’s perspective”.

Susanne Van Selow has been associated with the Tampa Bay Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry since 2005 and she now serves as the ethics chair. She is a past president of the chapter and a recipient of the Remodeler of the Year Award. The Remodeler of the Year Award is presented to

recognize outstanding contributions in the remodeling industry and community service as well as awards and certifications obtained. Van Selow has received a multitude of awards for projects in many categories over the years but is particularly proud of her Kitchen and Bath design build recognition.

Van Selow is a certified kitchen and bath remodeler and a Green Certified Remodeler. She said, “I am in my eighth year as a Certified Building Contractor and have over 20 years of experience as a designer, working with architects and engineers.”

Van Selow Design Build, LLC., handles a wide variety of projects specializing in room additions, kitchens, baths and master suites. “We also can handle much larger projects as well,” Van Selow said.

Professional services available through Van Selow Design Build include:

- Design/Create Plans
- Residential Remodeling
- Additions
- Bathroom & Kitchen Updates
- Commercial Build-outs
- New Construction

“I am a hands-on design build contractor from the design development through to the completion,” she said.

Painstaking detail in design and workmanship integrating the owner’s lifestyle needs within the building footprint makes my clients feel comfortable during the construction process and overjoyed with the end results.”

For Van Selow, the greatest reward is the finished product.

“I love what I do and when my homeowners love what they have.”

For more information on Van Selow Design Build, call 727-391-2959 or visit • www.vanselowdesign.com

CB13

Liza Campa-Flanagan: 'Know what you own'

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional discusses the possibility of rising interest rates and the associated risks

Today's market is presenting specific fixed income risks and opportunities for investors according to Elizabeth (Liza, pronounced Lizza) Campa-Flanagan, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ with Raymond James Financial Services Inc.

Liza is attuned to the financial climate. She recently sat down and explained how important it is that investors are aware that rising rates also pose some risks for portfolios.

"Interest rates have been at historic lows for a number of years and while no one is certain when or how fast rates will rise, the situation presents risks and opportunities to investors," Liza said. "Although rising interest rates may provide an opportunity for increasing income, the value of many fixed income investments may decline as rates begin to rise."

According to Liza, one concern is that many investors have sought higher yields in this low interest rate environment and some have taken on additional credit risk to obtain it. Given these and other risks, it's important for investors to understand the risks associated with widely held products – particularly packaged products – in the current, low-interest rate, yield-stretching environment.

"Credit quality of bond holdings within portfolios should be assessed to determine if they remain aligned with risk tolerance and investment objectives," Liza explained. "The ability to predict interest rates is, at best, speculative. To put it politely, no one is very good at it, but lately many industry experts and media pundits collectively seem to agree that there is a rise in interest rates on the horizon."

The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional says the market sentiment for rising interest rates stems from the current historic low interest rate environment paired with an implication that rates can either stay relatively the same or increase. Given this possibility, the questions that follow include:

- Will interest rates rise?
- If they rise, by how much?
- How could this affect an investment portfolio?

Liza urges investors who own fixed income securities to be aware of the relationship between interest rates and the price of those securities.

"As a general rule, the price of a bond moves inversely to changes in interest rates," Liza said. "A bond's price will increase as rates decline and will decrease as rates move up. This relationship impacts not only individual bonds, but also investments that contain or attempt to mimic bonds."

In view of these facts, now may be an opportune time for investors to review not only how much price volatility they are willing to accept, but also – and more importantly – to discuss whether changes in interest rates are likely to affect their cash flow and impact the portfolios' ability to

continue to satisfy their financial needs and goals.

Duration

It is helpful to understand a risk measurement known as duration.

"There are different types of duration, but typically when duration is quoted, it is referring to a bond's 'modified' duration, an attempt to estimate how much the price of a bond will fluctuate in response to changes in interest rates," Liza said. "Simply put, a duration of 3 means that a 1 percent (100 basis point) change in interest rates will result in an approximate 3 percent change in the market value of a bond. Remembering the inverse relationship between interest rates and prices, a 1 percent rise in interest rates means approximately a 3 percent decline in market value."

According to Liza, this happens because, as interest rates rise, the valuation of existing securities must be adjusted to stay competitive in the new rate environment. For example, since a fixed coupon doesn't change when interest rates rise, the market adjusts the value of the bond in the form of a lower price.

"With individual bonds, this price adjustment is an unrealized change in value," Liza explained. "The lower value of the bond resulting from an interest rate increase is not realized unless you actually sell the security prior to maturity. If you hold onto the bond, the cash flows generated will remain unchanged. Barring a call at the issuer's option or a default by the issuer, the individual bond will return interest via its coupon payments and return the face value of the security upon maturity. Regardless of changes in interest rates and market value, if you hold a bond to maturity, cash flows will continue as originally scheduled, subject to the previously outlined conditions. Any sale of a bond prior to maturity may result in the investor realizing a gain or loss."

Of course, duration is more complex when evaluating multiple securities or investments that hold bonds.

"With multiple securities, a duration of three years could be a blend of five securities with a duration of 3 or a portfolio holding five securities with durations of 7, 4, 2, 1 and 1 respectively," Liza said. "Each portfolio has a very different profile despite sharing a blended duration of 3. The second portfolio's duration risk could change quickly should any of the securities be sold prior to maturity."

Investors who own bonds in packaged investments rely on the manager's decisions to buy, sell or hold those securities. In these investments, such decisions are influenced by a manager's strategy and other factors.

Risk management

Liza advises investors to review their portfolio regularly and to know what they own.

"In any interest rate environment, it's a good idea to review your investments periodically to ensure that you are comfortable with the risks inherent in your portfolio," Liza said. "If you heed the advice of your financial adviser, you probably already review your account statements on a regular basis to monitor performance and change any investments whose time has passed."

The bottom line, according to Liza: *Investors should know what they own – and how it will react to rising rates – and understand today's risks.*

"Most advisers have the ability to run an analysis of individual bonds held to quantify the potential impact of rising rates on the value and total return of the bonds," she said.

Liza offers some strategies that investors can consider to manage risks with fixed income allocations:

- Shorten average duration – Shorten the average maturity of bond holdings to reduce sensitivity to interest rate movements.
- Purchase premium or higher coupon bonds – Higher coupons tend to be less volatile in a rising rate environment.
- Yield curve positioning/diversification – Yield curve positioning may help under various interest rate scenarios. Currently, the steepness of the yield curve offers opportunities to generate "roll returns" from a strategy known as "rolling down the curve. This may help protect principal and generate additional return in a rising interest rate environment and allow an investor to capture higher yields.
- Invest globally – Invest globally by seeking sovereign and corporate debt in both developed and emerging countries. Not every country will experience the same monetary policy as the United States.
- Bank Loan, Floating Rate Bonds, High Yield and other specific bond sectors – Some sectors of the bond market are less sensitive to interest rate risks and allow investors to accept different risks.
- Manage credit quality – Minimum "A" rating for municipal bonds. Investment grade or higher

for corporate bonds and preferred securities. Match risk and return with investor's needs, goals and overall risk tolerance.

• Diversify holdings among issuers – Maximum of 5 percent concentration per issuer state of sector. Limit risks of a single issuer downgrade or default creating large losses for the overall portfolio.

Navigating the financial maze

Liza helps her clients navigate the financial maze by first getting a grasp on their situation and then trying to help them find solutions that make sense for them.

"Since no one has a crystal ball, it's a matter of the client keeping me abreast of their situation," she said. "That includes emotions and feelings, because if they are becoming frightened, then we need to make a change."

She believes investors should diversify income sources.

"One way is to reallocate a portion of fixed income holdings to other income-generating securities, such as dividend paying stocks," she said. "In addition, an investor can consider other low-correlation strategies besides bonds and dividend paying stocks to mitigate interest rate risk and equity risk."

Liza is focused on providing an integrated advice platform for all clients – offering investments and capital markets solutions, as well as a full range of trust, banking and credit services accessible through the Raymond James Bank FSB, and Raymond James Trust Company.

Through Raymond James she can offer an array of investment alternatives and services equivalent to almost anything Wall Street has to offer.

The office of Elizabeth (Liza) Campa-Flanagan, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ with Raymond James Financial Services Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC, is at 645 N. Indian Rocks Road, Bellear Bluffs. She can be reached at 727-585-1212; or visit Liza's website at www.raymondjames.com/LizaCampaFlanagan.

Investing involves risk and you may incur a profit or a loss. The value of fixed income securities fluctuates and investors may receive more or less than their original investments if sold prior to maturity. Bonds are subject to price change and availability. Any opinions are those of Liza Campa-Flanagan and not necessarily those of Raymond James Financial Services or Raymond James. Any information is not a complete summary or statement of all available data necessary for making an investment decision and does not constitute a recommendation. Investments mentioned may not be suitable for all investors. High-yield (below investment grade) bonds are not suitable for all investors. Investing in emerging markets can be riskier than investing in well-established foreign markets. Diversification does not ensure a profit or guarantee against a loss. Dividends are not guaranteed and must be authorized by the Company's board of directors.



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include recurring phrases such as "outstanding professionals with excellent service," "five star craftsmanship and "best we have ever worked with". One customer states that "quality, service and value would pretty much sum up Kitchens By Wheaton" and another said "I love my Kitchen and I love the Wheaton family." With more than 34 years of experience, Kitchens by Wheaton provides the highest quality at an exceptional value. Visit Kitchens by Wheaton for all your remodeling and new construction needs.



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Diagnostic Clinic: All your medical needs under one roof

Diagnostic Clinic simplifies healthcare with 'one-stop medical home'

For more than four decades, Diagnostic Clinic has sought to provide the residents of Pinellas County a unique medical experience, combining technology, good service, and board certified physicians to deliver care with compassion, skill, and integrity.

Their expansive 150,000-square-foot, six-floor facility, located at 1301 Second Ave. SW in the heart of Largo's medical arts district, is specifically organized to maximize efficiency. Its design, however, evokes a feeling of a small physician's office. They also have a 50,000 sq ft multi-specialty clinic in the Countryside area at 3131 North McMullen Booth Road. Altogether, Diagnostic Clinic boasts more than 100 highly trained professionals on staff – and that's just the beginning.

"We are a little bit different," said James F. Rivenbark III, M.D., Chief Medical and Operations Officer at Diagnostic Clinic. "Few people realize that more than 60 percent of physicians in America now work for a hospital. However, we think that care is best directed by physicians and can be delivered more cost effectively in a non-hospital environment." Simply put, Diagnostic Clinic seeks makes healthcare less complicated and more efficient by eliminating the need to travel to multiple locations for doctor visits, medical tests, surgeons and healthcare specialists, Diagnostic Clinic has established a kind of "one-stop medical home."

"Patients can get almost all of their medical care in one location," said Rivenbark. "Our patients appreciate the fact that they can get all their laboratory tests, imaging tests, see their doctor or specialist and have therapy treatments all under one roof."

It seems to be a successful approach given that we now have approximately 100,000 active patients.

Integrated Services

Diagnostic Clinic was founded in 1969 by four physicians and has now grown to more than 100 healthcare providers serving as a one-stop medical home providing comprehensive integrated ambulatory care. "Diagnostic Clinic has sought to leverage technology and new processes to integrate diverse medical specialties and services for the benefit of the patient," said Dr. Rivenbark. "This allows us to provide efficient, quality care with good outcomes and an enhanced patient experience."

Diagnostic Clinic healthcare providers include primary care physicians, medical specialists and surgical specialists. Primary care physicians include internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics and geriatrics. There are many medical specialists at Diagnostic Clinic working in fields such as cardiology, pulmonary medicine, gastroenterology, endocrinology, oncology, rheumatology, and dermatology. Surgical specialties include general surgery, urology, plastic surgery, gynecology, ophthalmology, and orthopedics.

In the both of Diagnostic Clinic's multispecialty facilities, patients will find an on-site laboratory and

digital imaging services, including X-ray, ultrasound, mammography, CT, and MRI. The Largo facility also has an advanced PET/CT scanner.

In keeping with its one stop medical home philosophy, Diagnostic Clinic also offers an ambulatory surgery center, as well as, ancillary services, such as physical therapy, an optical shop, podiatry, interventional spine care and audiology.

"If the primary care physician notes a problem needing urgent specialty care, they are able to walk the patient to the specialist's office," Dr. Rivenbark said. "I did this many times during my clinical career and integrating the personal touch with a wide variety of services and technology makes Diagnostic Clinic unlike any other provider in the local market. When it comes to great medical care with efficiency and service, we can't be beat."

A Model of Efficiency with a Human Touch

Diagnostic Clinic utilizes a sophisticated electronic medical record that is shared by all of its providers. That means no more paper charts, no more waiting for reports to be mailed from one physician to another and no duplication of tests.

"All of the physicians at

Diagnostic Clinic – primary care physicians, surgeons, specialists – can view a patient's chart simultaneously which confers a tremendous advantage in terms of staying on top of what is happening with their medical care," Dr. Rivenbark explains. "At Diagnostic Clinic, if you see one physician and go to see another, they can log in and view your entire medical history from the desktop."

Communication between physicians is nearly instantaneous, yet patients can rest assured that the clinic's electronic records meet all Federal guidelines for security and privacy. This state-of-the-art technology enables Diagnostic Clinic to provide a much higher level of integrated and comprehensive medical care for patients. Contrast this with what medical consumers face elsewhere with reports having to be faxed or mailed in a paper format.

Diagnostic Clinic also offers an online patient portal allowing patients the ability to contact their physicians via secure email. "The patient can request prescription refills, make appointments, or even ask questions without having to make a telephone call," Dr. Rivenbark said. "The system is secure and meets all HIPAA guidelines." Patients also

can use the portal to update their personal information and pay medical bills.

Care Coordination

"We've worked hard to build a care coordination component within Diagnostic Clinic as another way to better serve our patients," Dr. Rivenbark said. The program targets those patients with chronic conditions who may be in need of "a little extra TLC." In addition, we focus on patients who have been hospitalized. Care coordination nurses at Diagnostic Clinic meet with patients in the hospital, schedule a follow-up appointment with their primary care physician within 6 days of discharge, as well as, arrange transportation if needed. After a hospital stay, they follow patients very closely for the first 30 days. "We are proud of the fact that this program has cut the readmission rate by about half and we hope to improve that even further," Dr. Rivenbark said.

Accountable Care Organization

Patients may also be surprised to learn that there is a Walgreens Pharmacy on the second floor of Diagnostic Clinic's Largo location. In keeping with its goal of improving patient experience, increasing quality, while reducing the cost of care, Diagnostic Clinic formed an accountable care organization with Walgreens. An ACO applies a physician-led, team approach to patient care in an innovative model that features pharmacists as an integral part of patients' care teams. Walgreens pharmacists and clinicians will work closely with primary care physicians in a collaborative program aimed at improving patient health and access to quality care, while reducing overall health care costs.

Walgreens works together with Diagnostic Clinic's healthcare providers to support and extend the care currently provided to patients by their primary care physicians. The partnership delivers personalized pharmacy care, emphasizing the benefits of physician-pharmacist collaboration. "We are proud to continue Diagnostic Clinic's leadership as a premier provider of highly coordinated and integrated care, and are thrilled to form this collaborative relationship with Walgreens."

Patient Response

Patients overwhelmingly approve of Diagnostic Clinic's one-stop approach to healthcare. Testimonials posted on the clinic's website applaud "the

best healthcare in town," praise the staff's "outstanding care, treatment and concern" and liken the rehab therapy program to a "well-oiled machine." "I used to run all over town, to this doctor's office for appointments and that laboratory for tests," reports one patient. "Since discovering Diagnostic Clinic, I now have to make just one stop for all my healthcare needs. From my husband to my kids, we all take advantage of the excellent care, timely referrals and quick results we receive at Diagnostic Clinic."

"Every new patient is offered a physician service survey," said Dr. Rivenbark. He explained that the clinic believes surveying first-time patients is the best way to gauge their quality of service. "It's a pretty tough survey." Survey responses range from the lowest, 1, to the highest, 5 – "The Best." According to Dr. Rivenbark, 54 percent of the responses rate a 5 – "The Best." More than 90 percent are rated as "Above Average or The Best." Additionally, to ensure Diagnostic Clinic maintains that level of satisfaction with good quality of care, they have an active physician quality improvement committee.

Community Involvement

Diagnostic Clinic takes pride in its dedication to the community through programs such as free health seminars, the clinic's doctors reach out to local residents. This kind of out-reach allows Diagnostic Clinic's healthcare providers an opportunity to help Pinellas County residents stay on the road to healthy living. They also have been active in the Pinellas County Schools employee health fairs for the past 3 years. Diagnostic Clinic helps to improve the quality of life in the area by supporting many Pinellas County organizations. They are a trustee sponsor of the Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce, where Dr. Rivenbark has held a number of executive positions and will serve as its Chairman beginning in September 2013. They also sponsor the annual Diagnostic Clinic Golf Classic, with proceeds benefitting Diabetic Charitable Services.

Location and Contact

Diagnostic Clinic has three convenient locations to serve Pinellas County residents:

- The Largo facility is at 1301 Second Ave. SW, Largo. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The after hours clinic is open Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.; and on Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 584-7706.
- The Countryside clinic is at 3131 N. McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- The Palm Harbor facility is at 3820 Tampa Road, Suite 101, Palm Harbor. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 785-6422.

For more information, visit www.dc-fl.com.



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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Dual citizenship won't do it for tea party favorite

Like another erstwhile freshman senator, named Barack Obama, Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, blew into Washington and promptly began eyeing the Oval Office. Also like Obama, the Cuban-American Cruz has to suffer the charge that he's not really American and hence not presidential material.



Debra Saunders

Cruz was born in Calgary, Alberta, to an American mother and a Cuban father. According to most legal eagles, he is "natural born" in the eyes of the U.S. Constitution.

In 2011, President Obama felt compelled to release his birth certificate to counter louche louts such as Donald Trump, who questioned whether the president was born in the United States.

Now it's the GOP's turn. To inoculate against "birther" rumors and show that he has nothing to hide, Cruz released his Canadian certificate of birth to The Dallas Morning News. The paper concluded that Cruz is a dual American and Canadian citizen.

And dual citizenship won't do for the Texas tea party favorite. "Assuming that is true," quote Cruz in a statement released to the media, "then sure, I will renounce any Canadian citizenship. Nothing against Canada, but I'm an American by birth, and as a U.S. senator, I believe I should be only an American."

On the one hand, an elected official's allegiance to this country and its Constitution should be unassailable. Hence, Cruz did what he had to do.

On the other hand, Canada is a valued ally whose troops have fought and died beside Americans in Afghanistan.

And Canadians are so polite. I once saw a group of Canadian bikers in Montana, and they obeyed the speed limit.

Cruz told CNN this brouhaha shows the "silly season of politics." No lie. Think "Canadian Bacon," the 1995 comedy in which the U.S. president, played by Alan Alda, saber rattled against kindly Canada in a bid to boost his flagging poll ratings.

Cruz argues that he didn't think he was Canadian, because his mom was born in Delaware, his family left Calgary when he was 4 and he has lived the rest of his life in America. Seeing as he never took affirmative steps to claim Canadian citizenship, he explained, he assumed "that was the end of the matter."

That's very close to the argument made by "dreamers" - illegal immigrants whose parents brought them to America when they were minors. Cruz strongly opposes DREAM Act legislation that would allow those kids, who grew up seeing themselves as Americans, to become citizens.

"Through no fault of his own, Canada imposed citizenship on him," quipped Democratic communications consultant Roger Salazar. He's a reverse dreamer.

This was going to be a column about the circus-ification of politics and how the "birther" movement has made solid Americans suspect. Born in Hawaii to an American mother and an African father, Obama represents this country's constant reinvention. Born on a U.S. military base in the Panama Canal Zone, Sen. John McCain rightly is proud of his family's military history. The son of a Cuban immigrant, who came to America with nothing, and an American mother, Cruz should be proud of his family's attainment of the American dream.

But the insanity runs deeper than I first thought, because when I think about it, there is no way Cruz didn't know he is a dual citizen.

"My guess is he never looked into it," said Sal Russo, co-founder of Tea Party Express. Russo's group supported Cruz in his Senate bid. At the time, Russo told me, Cruz gave "the lawyer answer" about his natural U.S. citizenship.

Sorry, but I don't buy it. Don't tell me Cruz didn't know about his dual citizenship.

Cruz says his mother told him that when he was in high school, he could claim Canadian citizenship.

He was a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist. He's an expert on the Constitution. He understands the intricacies of Article 2's requirement that the president be a "natural born Citizen." He is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School who, in that heady environment, seemed to believe he was the smartest guy in the room.

If Cruz didn't know, he didn't do his homework. And Ted Cruz always does his homework.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfnchronicle.com.

LETTERS

God deserves better

Editor

I have spent a better part of my life speaking well of God. I am a follower of Christ, a broken man, who is being put back together again and again by the loving work of God's holy spirit. I am quite sure that I will never be made perfect in this life, but look forward to the day when I may kneel down before a holy and loving God in eternity who has found a way to save me from myself and all the evil that contaminates the world in which we live. So what I am about to say comes from a grateful heart with no religion to defend, ax to grind, or compelling need to be right. I only want to speak from my heart about someone I have come to love. Remaining quiet no longer is an option.

God deserves better than he is receiving from the voices that criticize and ostracize Him in our society. It seems in this day that the critics are on every front. The national discussion is truly void of respect for the God of the Old and New Testament. Jesus has been minimized to no more than a character of a book that is considered unreliable, outdated, and merely an opinion of men rather than a miraculous revelation given to mankind by a God who is seeking to restore his relationship with them.

Few people have spent a lifetime studying, researching, and examining the Bible as I have. Public opinion has its foundation today on hearsay rather than fact. Many people search for truth on the Internet, in the newspaper, or the classroom rather than in the Bible. If the celebrity or news media personalities express their opinion, then it must be true.

Truth is relative in the national soul of our country and we have missed God.

The truth is Jesus said, "God did not send the son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through him." It was the love of God for all of his creation that was at the core of everything that he did. It was God's love that crushed the man-made rules of religion that separated ordinary people from God. It was the love of God that healed the sick and raised the dead. It was the love of God that cast out demons and delivered people from the power of evil. It was the love of God that found a way to heal the soul, through total and complete forgiveness of sin - because Christ laid down his life on a cross for our sins that we might be able to one day stand in the presence of a holy God in all eternity. The truth is that "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, and whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

Jesus Christ deserves greater respect than the public opinions of today proclaim. I am saddened that as a nation, it has become politically correct and even in vogue to disrespect Jesus Christ. I really believe we know not what we are doing. My heart breaks for my grandchildren and the future generations if we do not find our way back to God.

Mike Rogers,
Pastor, First Baptist Church
Palm Harbor

What do you think?

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

Letters are printed on a first-come, first-served basis. They may be edited to correct grammar, spelling and factual errors. They also may be edited for clarity.

A salute to my older brother Dave

This week my brother Dave reaches his 84th birthday, and so I thought I'd scribble a few words about him, even though he'll probably chew me out for doing so. He usually avoids the spotlight, even when he deserves it.

For the first 17 years of our lives, Dave and I were not only brothers but also best buddies. With our parents and our younger sister, Dave and I trekked from one tiny Pennsylvania hamlet to another, about 20 of them. When Dave was 6, our parents enrolled him in first grade. I was 14 months younger than Dave, but our landlady happened to be the first-grade teacher. So she squeezed me into the roster without anyone noticing. This allowed Dave and me to share our ragged academic careers - including two one-room schools and others of doubtful merit - side by side.

Moving to a new town each year can be a daunting adventure. Legend paints small town people as friendly and open-handed. Dave and I learned that those hands sometimes contained a rock or a snowball, ready to be aimed at any new kids on the block. Whatever the reception, Dave and I stuck together. Dave's presence at my side made life a lot less lonesome.

Once we settled into each new location, Dave made friends more easily than I did. Although neither of us was especially athletic, we spent a thousand hours a year in the back yard, playing pitch and catch. Dave was the pitcher, and by our junior year he had developed a blazing fastball. During his two-year career he pitched a no-hitter and won almost all the games he started. I was proud of him. But when he was 17, a touch of rheumatic fever ended Dave's pitching.



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

Not long after we finished high school, J. Edgar Hoover's agents came calling. "The FBI needs you two boys in Washington to search fingerprints and smoke out Commies in government." With cardboard suitcases in hand, Dave and I boarded a bus for the big city. For the next six months we shared a room at 1923 N. St. NW, just west of Dupont Circle. We rode streetcars to our night shift duties in the shadow of the Capitol. We ogled the women, and were told what a great man Mr. Hoover was. It was an exciting life for two country boys.

Our lives separated in July 1948 when I joined the U.S. Navy. Dave stayed in Washington for a while and married a fabulous woman named Pat. During the next 40 years they lived and worked in Pennsylvania, the Virgin Islands, Las Vegas and finally in Pinellas County. Dave usually worked two jobs, and Pat pulled on her oars right beside him. Their married daughters, Linda and Sue, had settled up north.

Early in 1990 Pat felt pain. Within a few weeks she died of cancer. Dave was suddenly alone. He stayed put in his home on a peaceful side street in north Pinellas. He found enough employment to give his days some structure. He formed friendships with a few congenial ladies. He and I swapped occasional

visits.

In 1999 my own wife died and I moved to New England. During the next decade, on each of my six-times-a-year visits to Pinellas, I hooked up with Dave for lunch or supper and a couple of hours of jawboning. He is a lively conversationalist, opinionated but always interested in the ideas of others. Dave and I slowly grew old together.

Two years ago Dave stopped meeting me, or anyone. He quit his job. Depression had set in, big time. I urged him to seek help. So did his daughters. He declined. The darkness deepened.

Then two angels stepped in. They took the form of a neighbor couple, Chris and Sharyn. They hadn't seen Dave for many days, and were worried. They entered his home and found him with one foot in the grave and the other on a banana peel.

Soon came an EMS squad, a hospital room, a brief stay in a rehab center. Dave's daughters quickly arrived and took charge. With the help of those ladies and their husbands, Dave was returned to the real world. He moved back to Pennsylvania and settled into a first-class independent living complex.

Today Dave is as happy as I've ever seen him. His health is good, his mind is sharp, and he's delighted to be alive. He's grateful to Linda, Sue, their husbands, Chris and Sharyn and others who served as his rescue squad. And so am I.

Next time you see someone who seems to be beyond help, I hope you'll think of my brother Dave. Happy 84th, bro!

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



Pampered pets and monkey business

The casual conversation on trivia night at a local pub went astray, as usual.

"Do you know that there's a television show specifically for dogs?" Brad said, between questions.

He wasn't kidding. Now comes the "First Television Channel for Dogs" - DOGTV.

The pay channel's 24/7 programming "helps stimulate, entertain, relax and habituate dogs with shows that expose them to various movements, sounds, objects, experiences and behavior patterns, all from a dog's point of view," its website says.

Depending on the cable provider the cost is between \$4.99 and \$9.99 a month.

Yup, it's the latest contribution to the advancement of the joys of pampering pets.

"What's next?" Brad asked. "Pet pornography?"

Oh, why not.

If Richthofen the Doberman seems moody or out of sorts, what's wrong with perking up the Pinscher on a DVD such as "Penelope the Promiscuous Poodle."

"Don't you like the way that gal wags her tail, Richthofen? Beats hell out of watching Scoobie-Doo, doesn't it?"

More on pet pampering: Many communities are embracing regulations allowing people to bring their pets to restaurants. I have mixed feelings on this matter. I don't mind eating at restaurants where dogs are sitting at their owners feet - as long as the dogs don't smoke.

However, I also have seen people bring their dogs to restaurants and put them on



Tom Germond

blankets on the ground under the blazing summer sun. That borders on animal abuse, to me. I just hope I never have to give CPR to a dog, even if she's as cute as Penelope.

Speaking of animal abuse, I wonder if the time will come when mistreated, neglected or slandered dogs show up in court with an attorney?

One of the most clear-cut cases of cruelty to animals that has been ongoing for decades is practiced by one of our lower institutions of learning, the University of Georgia. There ought to be a law against any dog being forced to be a mascot bearing the name UGA after that loathsome school. Of course, being from Georgia, the poor bulldog is probably too dumb to figure that out.

Along those lines, what about pet protests? What if cats and dogs get tired of being paraded around in funny clothes, sunglasses and bonnets? Shouldn't they be allowed to march down Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., marking every tree and fire hydrant they pass by en route to the White House?

Could be interesting. The longhaired Russkiys against the K9 unit. Film at 11, on

DOGTV. Ever been to a pet cemetery? As a cub reporter, I wrote about one near Vero Beach several decades ago. One of the gravestone epitaphs read, "Sleep well, sweet nose." There also was a plot for a monkey.

I guess my light-hearted angle to the story angered some readers. I received a letter from a lady chastising me for not taking the death of a lifelong pet seriously. Her point was that pets are people, too. I let her have her say and didn't respond to her. Sometimes it is better to let sleeping dogs lie.

I wonder what DOGTV's ratings will be? This from the FAQ about the pay channel:

"My dog seems extra excited when watching DOGTV. Is this ok?"

"DOGTV was designed to offer your dog a variety of stimulations both exciting and relaxing. For the first few times, your dog might be extra excited just like when meeting a new friend."

Wait till the dog gets a load of Penelope.

I'm wondering if there will ever be a time when pets will enjoy the same constitutional rights and societal privileges as their owners. Will they wear tuxedos to weddings? Be the best man or flower girl?

What about death right for pets? Reason number 100 why I want to be cremated is that I don't want to be buried near any animal, such as a monkey.

Even worse, next to a Georgia Bulldog.

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

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Mom advocates the benefits of kids learning music

In the past few months, both of my girls started playing musical instruments.

My oldest daughter Randi, who is almost 9 years old, plays piano and my youngest daughter Graci, who is 7, plays guitar. We were fortunate to find two wonderful teachers. I am amazed at how fast they picked up on learning to play.



Mom 2 Mom
Kadi Hendricks
Tubbs

I have always heard that it is good to start kids young if you want them to learn a second language, and I guess that goes for musical instruments too. They pick up so much faster at a young age.

I know that for a fact because I am trying to learn guitar with my daughter. At her lesson and while she is strumming away, I just can't seem to get the chords.

Recently Randi had her first piano recital. She had to play two pieces of music. The first piece she had to memorize and the second piece was a duet with her teacher. Randi was a little nervous since this was her first time playing in front of a group. The recital was held inside a chapel, and it was full with excited parents, grandparents, siblings and friends. There were about 10 other students who played. Their musical abilities ranged from beginner to intermediate.

All of them did a fantastic job. While I was watching these young students play, I could only imagine how beneficial this performance was for them. It was such a great experience for my daughter and for the other students. It built their confidence and their self-esteem. After the recital my daughter asked her teacher when the next recital would be because she had enjoyed this one so much.

I know the parents enjoyed it too. I was watching their faces as their kids were performing, some taking photos and videos. I know I was

proud of my daughter, and I could tell that the other parents were proud of their children too.

I had a similar experience with Graci about a month before when she had her first concert after only playing guitar for a few weeks. Because she was so new at playing guitar her teacher just had her sing the song while he played.

Vocals are part of her lessons; I think that's why she loves guitar so much, because she loves to sing. We heard Taylor Swift's songs "White Horse" and "Never Grow Up" more times than we wanted to, but at least she was practicing.

Her concert was at a local restaurant and there were quite a few people there too. When her teacher called her up to sing, she got up and sang her little heart out. She had no fear whatsoever. I was shocked that she wasn't nervous at all. I guess all those modeling and etiquette classes she's been taking since she was 3 are paying off.

After she got done she said how much she loved singing in front of people. In a few weeks, she has another concert in which she will be playing the guitar and singing.

My kids take private lessons because their school doesn't offer guitar or piano, but I do know there are public elementary and middle schools that offer guitar, piano and band classes. I know most high schools offer band. If your child has the chance to play an instrument, encourage them to do so. It is such a wonderful gift, and it will benefit your child throughout their life. Remember, getting them involved when they are younger may make it easier for them to learn.

Kadi Hendricks Tubbs, mother of two girls ages 7 and 8, lives in Seminole. Visit her blog at Mom2MomFamilyFun.blogspot.com.

Lovelace-Robbins

Ashley Marie Lovelace and Jeffrey Michael Robbins were married on Saturday, May 25, 2013, at Church by the Sea, Madeira Beach. Pastor David Ruth and Pastor Charles Reeb officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Joe and Marie Lovelace of Seminole. She graduated from Seminole High School and attended the University of Florida and Florida State Law School. She is an attorney for Geico Insurance.

The groom is the son of Mike and Sally Robbins of Pinellas Park and Asheville, N.C. He graduated from Northside Christian High School and attended Florida Southern College. He is employed by FIS Global.

The wedding party included Angela Lovelace Wadsworth, matron of honor; Kevin Kingsley, best man; Susan Kirschbaum, Dawn Lovelace, Allison Mahwinney and Allison Smith, bridesmaids; Kenny Cothran, Allen Kee, Eric Kraus and Michael Lovelace, groomsmen; Ella Lovelace, Lily Lovelace and Addison Wadsworth, flower girls; and William Lovelace and Michael Wadsworth, ring bearers.

A reception followed the ceremony at Marriott, Sand Key. The couple took a honeymoon trip to Italy, France and Spain. They reside in Largo.



Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Michael Robbins

Faith briefs

Chabad of Clearwater

CLEARWATER – Chabad of Clearwater will present High Holiday services at Holiday Inn Express, 2580 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd.

Just a few weeks before Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year and one of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar, there are still many Jews who have no plans to attend synagogue services.

Some of these Jews are not affiliated with a synagogue; others will be traveling on business; and a sizable percentage simply don't feel comfortable in a synagogue setting. Another alarming issue, particularly in light of today's flailing economy, is that many cannot afford the cost of services, which can run \$1,000 or more for a family of five.

Whatever the case is, many of these would-be worshippers are feeling the pangs associated with being left out of the holiest days of the Jewish calendar. Chabad of Clearwater, the local branch of the largest Jewish outreach organization in the world, has presented its own High Holiday services option, providing free Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services in a warm and inclusive setting.

Chabad's services are "user-friendly," making it enjoyable and meaningful for both the beginner and the advanced. Song, commentary, and the use of English-Hebrew prayer books, enable those of all levels to become active participants in the services.

Chabad of Clearwater will be presenting Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services this year at the Holiday Inn Express in Clearwater. The ballroom space will enable congregants to have spacious seating.

Following is a schedule of High Holiday services:

- Rosh Hashanah – Wednesday, Sept. 4: evening services, 7:30 p.m.
- Rosh Hashanah – Thursday, Sept. 5: morning services, 9:30 a.m.; youth program, 10:30 a.m.; shofar sounding, 11:30 a.m.; mincha and tashlich service, 7 p.m.; evening services, 8:15 p.m.
- Rosh Hashanah – Friday, Sept. 6: morning services, 9:30 a.m.; youth program, 10 a.m.; shofar sounding, 11:30 a.m.
- Yom Kippur – Friday, Sept. 13: Kol Nidrei services, 7:30 p.m.
- Yom Kippur – Saturday, Sept. 14, morning services, 9:30 a.m.; Yizkor memorial service, noon; Mincha and Neila closing services, 6 p.m.; final shofar blowing, 8:10 p.m.; gala break-the-fast buffet, 8:15 p.m.

There is no cost but donations are appreciated.

To reserve a space, visit www.JewishClearwater.com, email JewishClearwater@gmail.com or call 265-2770.

North Bay Community Church

CLEARWATER – The seventh annual fall craft show will take place Saturday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at North Bay Community Church, 3170 McMullen Booth Road.

Admission and parking are free. The festival will feature arts and crafts vendors, a free kids craft area, raffle, silent auction, food court and live music.

For information, call 724-3181. Interested vendors may email jwalters12@tampabay.rr.com for details.

Cathedral Church of St. Peter Parish Hall

ST. PETERSBURG – Daystar Life Center Inc. will host its second annual Fall Fashion Fling on Saturday, Oct. 5, 11:30 a.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter Parish Hall, 140 Fourth St. N.

Longtime local radio and TV personality Jack Harris will emcee the program. The event will feature affordable apparel from Daystar Thrift Shoppe and will include a light lunch, fashion show, silent auction and opportunity drawings as well as additional clothing and accessories from the Thrift Shoppe available for purchase.

Advance tickets are available for \$25 from Kitty Rawson, community relations manager at Daystar. Call 498-8794 or email kitty.rawson@daystarlife.com. Tickets will be \$30 at the door.

Funds raised will benefit Daystar Life Center Inc. The center has been assisting neighbors in need for more than 30 years by providing basic needs services on an emergency basis.

Military accomplishments

Norina Elias

CLEARWATER – Navy Seaman Apprentice Norina Elias recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Elias is the daughter of Nora Elias of Clearwater. She is a 2010 graduate of Dunedin High School.

Group assigned to 147th Reconnaissance Wing, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Texas. He is the stepson of Clifford Pendleton and son of Muriel J. Pendleton of Tarpon Springs.

Rustmann is the husband of Karen L. Rustmann of San Angelo, Texas. He graduated in 1975 from John F. Kennedy High School, N.Y. and earned a medical doctorate in 1995 from Des Moines Medical, Iowa.

Dietta Hahn

ST. PETERSBURG – Army Cadet Dietta Hahn recently enrolled in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at the

University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Hahn is the daughter of Charles and Ursula Hahn of St. Petersburg, and granddaughter of Eric and Janet Hahn of Inverness. She graduated in 2013 from the Canterbury School in St. Petersburg.

Conway is the daughter of Mary Hoover of Lorton, Va., and Allen Hoover of Palm Harbor. She is a public affairs officer assigned to Army Public Affairs at The Pentagon, Va. The lieutenant colonel has served in the military for 21 years.

The 10-month curriculum of the Army's senior officer school is designed to prepare and train officers of all the U.S. military branches of service, foreign military officers, as well as senior civilian officials of federal agencies, to serve in top-level command and staff positions with the U.S. Armed Forces worldwide.

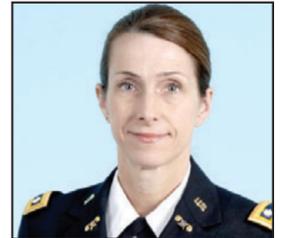
Zachary Adams

KENNETH CITY – Air Force Airman Zachary Adams recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Adams is the son of Deborah and Vincent Adams of Kenneth City. He is a 2010 graduate of Dixie Hollins High School.



Zachary Adams



Alayne Conway

Robert Utley

PALM HARBOR – Army Lt. Col. Alayne Conway recently graduated from the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, Pa., and earned a master's degree in Strategic Studies.

The college is the Army's senior educational institution.

CLEARWATER – Navy Seaman Robert Utley recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Utley is the son of Cynthia Sterba of Clearwater. He is a 2012 graduate of Clearwater High School.

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Pets of the week



Miko

Miko is an energetic, 3-year-old Parson Russell mix that would love a big, fenced-in yard to romp around in. This love bug is a well-trained dog who hopes he can be your one and only. Bring the whole family to meet him. Miko is already microchipped, vaccinated, neutered and comes with free 30 days of pet insurance. His adoption fee is \$75 and comes with a free SPCA Tampa Bay collar and leash if you mention this ad. Meet him at 9099 130th Ave. N., Largo. Visit www.spcatampabay.org.



Angel

Lap cat alert! Angel is not only beautiful, she's also the best lap cat. Her white fur coat is accented with tabby markings on her face and tail. Her vivid green eyes and pinkish nose are an added bonus. She is 4 months old and is spayed, current on her shots and microchipped. She currently lives in a foster home with other kitties. To meet Angel, call a Save Our Strays volunteer at 481-5262. Visit www.saveourstraysinc.com.

Community news

PSTA names driver of the year

ST. PETERSBURG – Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority announced that 23-year veteran Julio Palmer is the 2013 Driver of the Year.

Palmer has an outstanding record and will now vie for the title of Florida Driver of the Year, facing off against the best drivers from other transit agencies across the Sunshine State.

Before joining PSTA, Palmer spent 23 years in the U.S. Army, serving as a tank commander and drill sergeant. He said that training is invaluable when it comes to navigating a bus along the roads of the most densely populated county in Florida.

"There's a lot of responsibility when it comes to protecting the safety of our riders," he explained. "But, I wouldn't have spent my last 23 years driving a bus if I didn't enjoy it."

When asked what he likes best about his job, Palmer smiled and said he enjoys the fact that every day is a new experience, plus there's a special joy of getting to meet and know the people who regularly ride his routes.

Those who know Palmer and his calm, easy-going demeanor are usually surprised to find out that he was a drill sergeant for much of his military career. In fact, that experience has helped develop his ability to keep cool and not let outside influences rattle him that he credits with being the key to winning Driver of the Year honors.

"Letting things roll off of my back, like a car cutting me off, is essential," he said. "Ensuring the safety of a busload of passengers is too important to let little things get to you."

Palmer credits his mother for his healthy dose of empathy as well. "She always taught me that you never know what other people are going through or what they're dealing with, so try to put yourself in their shoes before you make any judgment," he said.

As a driver, Palmer has learned that something, even as simple as a smile and a pleasant greeting, can change a person's day ... and when you can do that, he said, it's a great feeling.

Palmer is currently driving PSTA's new North County Connector routes.

For more information, visit www.psta.net. To keep up with PSTA's plans for the future of transportation in Pinellas County and participate in a community conversation helping to shape those plans, visit www.greenlightpinellas.org.



Photo courtesy of PSTA
Julio Palmer is the 2013 PSTA Driver of the Year

Pinellas County through hands-on exploration. Paths wind through 21 acres and connect with the Florida Botanical Gardens and the Pinewood Cultural Park campus.

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

Radio airs bright energy saving tips

Being – and saving some – green is the focus of the Sept. 5 There's No Place Like Home radio show sponsored by the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County.

The featured guest is Joe Triolo, program manager with Duke Energy. He'll talk about easy energy saving tips, the use of solar power and how to arrange for a free energy audit.

The radio program, which features different monthly issues, airs the first Thursday of each month from 10:05 to 10:35 a.m. on WRXB 1590 AM. The show also can be viewed on PCC-TV (Bright House 622, Knology 18 and Verizon 44) or www.pinellascounty.org/community/hfa/Media.htm.

Questions or comments about the show may be emailed to HousingFinanceAuthority@pinellascounty.org. Past shows can be found at www.youtube.com/pccvt1.

Chili-dog contest to benefit Pet Pal

ST. PETERSBURG – A chili-dog cook-off contest will take place Saturday, Aug. 31, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Brentwood Senior Living Community, 6280 Central Ave.

The residents and staff of Brentwood Senior Living Community will be cooking homemade chili-dogs for the community to taste and pick a winner. Cost is \$5. The event also will feature a raffle, food, fun and other activities.

The event is a fundraiser benefitting Pet Pal Animal Shelter. The shelter will be giving free doggie kisses compliments of the adoptable dogs. For information, call 536-9900.

Pets for Vets fundraiser set

TREASURE ISLAND – A Pets for Vets fundraiser will be Sunday, Sept. 1, 3 p.m. to sunset, at St. Petersburg Lions Club Beach House, 9300 West Gulf Blvd.

The event will feature music of the '60s and '70s by Lee Jay Nelson Productions. There will be a flag ceremony presented by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 552.

Food and beverages will be available for a \$15 donation. Food includes hamburgers, brats and hot dogs with coleslaw, baked beans or potato salad. Beach access and limited free parking will be available.

Admission is free. Proceeds will benefit America's VetDogs – the Veteran's K-9 Corps.

For information, call George at 608-354-9395, email pelicanway11@gmail.com or visit e-Clubhouse.org/sites/stpetersburgfl.

Heritage Village accepting donated treasures

LARGO – It may be the end of August but at Heritage Village thoughts are already turning to October, when the 35th annual Country Jubilee brings a celebration of autumn to Pinellas County with artisans, musicians, demonstrations and much more.

A big draw to the event each year is the huge flea market and book sale, conducted by the Pinellas County Historical Society. Proceeds from this fund-raising activity go directly to the operations at Heritage Village and its success depends on the generosity of residents to donate their treasures for the sale.

Donations to the flea market and book sale are now being collected at Heritage Village during normal operating hours. The Historical Society is accepting books, tools, dishes, silverware, sports equipment, craft items, toys, jewelry, antique or small furniture, seasonal decorations and all types of antiques and housewares. Clothing, shoes, computers or televisions will not be accepted.

For more information on making a donation or to make an appointment to drop off more than a few boxes, call 582-2233. Smaller donations may be brought to the front desk.

The 35th annual Country Jubilee is scheduled on Saturday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will feature craft and artisan vendors, musical entertainment, tours of historical homes, a food court, traditional craft demonstrations and living history activities, as well as the flea market and book sale which occupies four buildings.

Vendors are still being accepted. Interested vendors can call 582-2233.

Heritage Village is located at 11909 125th St. N. in Largo. This living history museum brings more than 150 years of local history to life. Tour 28 authentic buildings and structures, and experience historic

In Loving Memory



Bryan Keith Wescott Sr.
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Big Vito LoGrasso opens wrestling academy

By TIFFANY RAZZANO

CLEARWATER – Wrestling star Big Vito LoGrasso is bringing a taste of the ring to Clearwater with his new wrestling academy.

LoGrasso will celebrate the grand opening of Big Vito's Wrestling Academy at Sports Club 24, 2147 Pine Forest Drive, Saturday, Aug. 31, starting at 1 p.m.

"It's another stepping stone in my legacy," he said.

With over 23 years of wrestling experience, LoGrasso has "done it all," he said, "from top to bottom." The superstar has wrestled for the likes of World Championship Wrestling (WCW), World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), World Wrestling Federation (WWF), and other professional and independent leagues around the world.

"I've made it and I've learned the business from the bottom up," he said. "The one thing you learn in wrestling is that you pass it on. Now it's my turn to pass it on."

LoGrasso emphasizes that his program is an academy, not a school, and stands apart from other local programs because of its focus on discipline and honing the craft of wrestling.

"Most of those schools don't have someone with my experience behind it," he said. "A lot of schools out there maybe don't have the credentials."

In addition to guiding his future students on the athleticism and fitness required in the ring, LoGrasso also will teach them about the business side of the sport.

"I will teach my students everything from how to be a well-grounded grappler to how to take care of and present themselves," he said.

LoGrasso, originally from Staten Island, N.Y., has called the Tampa Bay area home for about eight years. He began wrestling in 1990 on the independent circuit before being approached by NOW Wrestling Federation based in Japan. Since then, he's wrestled for a number of wrestling organizations, donning ring names such as Skull Von Krush, Von Kruss and Big Vito.

"I got to travel the world, live with different cultures, experience different people," he said. "It's been wonderful. It made me a well-rounded person."



Photo courtesy of VITO LOGRASSO

Wrestler Big Vito LoGrasso will celebrate the opening of his new wrestling academy at Sports Club 24, 2147 Pine Forest Drive, on Saturday, Aug. 31.

In addition to one-on-one personal training for wrestlers with professional aspirations, LoGrasso also will offer services for men and women simply looking for a unique way to get fit, and an after-school program designed to keep children active and teach them discipline.

He also is eager to align himself with the Clearwater community, and hopes to use his name and his wrestling academy for the good of local nonprofit groups and those in need.

"I think it's important to be a part of your local community," he said. For more information about Big Vito's Wrestling Academy, visit www.bigvito.com or call 813-409-0469.

PODS to expand, headquarters, add jobs

CLEARWATER – Gov. Rick Scott announced Aug. 20 that PODS Enterprises, a national leader in the moving and storage industry, is expanding its headquarters to the Feather Sound Corporate Center in Pinellas County.

The project will create 40 jobs and \$2.1 million in capital investment by 2016.

Scott said, "PODS' decision to expand in Pinellas County and create 40 jobs is great news for Florida families. PODS considered other locations like Georgia, but realized that Florida's business climate is one of the best in the nation. Since taking office, our focus has been on job creation and turning Florida's economy around. With the creation of more than 330,000 private-sector jobs created since December 2010 and our unemployment below the national average, at 7.1 percent, we know that our pro-growth policies are working. This is great news for Pinellas County and the state of Florida and we look forward to PODS continued growth in the Sunshine State."

PODS has experienced tremendous growth over the past year and a larger space to accommodate the number of new associates became necessary. PODS will occupy the entire third and fourth floors of a six-story, Class A office facility by the end of the year.

"Our growth and our desire to provide a great place to work for our associates has driven our need for expansion," said John B. Koch, president and CEO, PODS Enterprises Inc. "Moving our corporate headquarters into the larger location in Feather Sound also allows us to expand the size of our National Sales and Service Center at our current location. We are very excited about our relocation and are happy to be staying in Pinellas County."

PODS has hired 324 new associates this year. In addition to the expansion to Feather Sound, the existing facility at Rio Vista Drive for the National Sales and Service Center in Pinellas will be upgraded to include additional training facilities and room for additional growth.

"Industry leaders, like PODS, have found that Pinellas County is an ideal headquarters location," said Mike Meidel, director of Pinellas County Economic Development. "We look forward to assisting the team at PODS, as they expand their headquarters and create 40 new high-wage jobs in Pinellas."

The project was made possible through strong partnerships between Enterprise Florida, Pinellas County, Pinellas County Economic Development and the Department of Economic Opportunity.

"The expansion of PODS Enterprises headquarters is welcome news for Clearwater families and will significantly benefit Pinellas County and all its residents," said Florida Department of Economic Opportunity executive director Jesse Panuccio. "Creating jobs for Florida's families is the top priority for this administration and this announcement is another example that the pro-business policies aimed at getting Florida back to work are succeeding."

Briefs

Little Greek Restaurant to open

LARGO – Little Greek Restaurant will open its 11th Tampa Bay area location by the end of August in the former Mo' Ziki restaurant, at 10801 Starkey Road, across from Morton Plant Mease Bardmoor Emergency Center.

Little Greek Restaurant will offer many similar menu items, in

addition to traditional Greek items such as dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), spanakopita (spinach pie), falafel (fried chickpeas served in a pita or on the side) and Greek potatoes.

"We're very excited about our newest location," said Nick Vojnovic in a press release. Vojnovic is president of Little Greek Restaurants. "Bringing new jobs and fresh Greek food to a commu-

nity that is rebuilding itself will be a perfect fit for the Largo area, we are happy to be a part of that."

For information about the grand opening, visit MyLittleGreek.com.

Periwinkles, Julie's to host open house

LARGO – Periwinkles at the Cottage and Julie's Cottage at Provence will host the 13th annual fall open house Friday and Saturday, Sept. 13-14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 13128 Indian Rocks Road.

Shoppers may browse through Periwinkles at the Cottage for the latest Vera Bradley and Spartina styles, charming gifts, home accents and fall and Halloween items. At Julie's Cottage at Provence, shoppers will find fine silk florals, French country and coastal designs as well as new collegiate, Halloween and fall décor. Attendees also may enjoy scents for the season and sample treats from "The Gathering of Friends" cookbooks.

Free parking will be available across the street at Anona United Methodist Church.

Satellite Guy moves to Indian Rocks Beach

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – The Satellite Guy, a DirecTV dealer who has been in business more than nine years, is relocating from Uptate New York to Indian Rocks Beach.

According to a press release announcing the relocation, owner and veteran technician Dean Rock has completed more than 3,000 installations, upgrades and service calls.

"I believe in doing the job right the first time, and avoiding repeat visits," Rock said in the press release. "There is no substitute for experience and DirecTV has thoroughly trained me to be a content expert."

For information, call 347-3288.



Dean Rock, owner of The Satellite Guy, recently relocated to Indian Rocks Beach from New York.

NorthStar Bank opens Belleair Bluffs branch

BELLEAIR BLUFFS – NorthStar Bank recently received FDIC approval to establish a new office at 715 Indian Rocks Road.

NorthStar is targeting a September/October opening for the new Belleair Bluffs office. This location will be NorthStar's second office and its first in Pinellas County.

Flying Needles relocates

BELLEAIR BLUFFS – Flying Needles recently moved to 432 Indian Rocks Road.

Since 1961, Flying Needles has been serving the needs of knitting and needlepoint enthusiasts in the area. They stock a large selection of knitting yarn, hand painted canvases, fibers and needlework supplies. They also sell knitted garments and offer custom finishing services.

Flying Needles hosts weekly knitting classes and stitching groups, which are educational as well as social.

For information, call Dianne Colitz at 581-8691.

"The Belleair Bluffs market fits very nicely with NorthStar's target markets," said Monty Weigel in a press release. Weigel is president and CEO of NorthStar. "NorthStar is a blend of the best aspects of a large regional bank, namely product line-up and electronic banking capabilities, and a community bank with its personal service and customer contact."

In celebration of NorthStar's sixth year anniversary as well as the Belleair Bluffs grand opening, NorthStar is offering a Shine Bright Money Market Account with a 1.75 percent Annual Percentage Yield for 90 days. The promotion will run until Nov. 30.

Chamber to host Business Builder Series

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce will present the Business Builders Series, a 10-week educational program for entrepreneurs, on Mondays, beginning Sept. 9, 5:30 to 8 p.m., at the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce, 600 Cleveland St., Suite 200, in the Bank of America Building.

There will be a light dinner and networking from 5:30 to 6 p.m. From 6 to 8 p.m., the topics will be presented. The program series will

end with a graduation celebration luncheon on Monday, Nov. 25.

This business educational series will be taught by community business leaders. The curriculum will teach vital skills to entrepreneurs to start their business right and also existing small businesses seeking knowledge to take their business to the next level.

Some of the topics to be presented are goal setting, purpose, vision, sales, public relations, marketing, networking, SEO, social media, contract and general liability, HR costs and impact, business plans and bookkeeping. Participants in this series will have the opportunity to meet and learn from attorneys, business coaches, social media experts, public relations and marketing professionals, and local business leaders who have excelled in their field of expertise.

To learn more about the series and to register, visit www.businessbuildersseries.com.

Gulf Grill groundbreaking set

MADEIRA BEACH – The groundbreaking ceremony for Gulf Grill on Madeira Beach will take place Monday, Sept. 9, 10:30 a.m., at 14080 Gulf Blvd. After the ceremony, Parkshore Grill Catering will be serving a taste of menu items and cold nonalcoholic drinks.

The Gulf Grill on Madeira Beach will bring a fresh and unique seaside dining experience to the community. The owners are committed to supporting the local food economy and providing customers with only the freshest of foods and ingredients. The restaurant's menu will be updated on a weekly basis to reflect the latest local catches and seafood availability. The Gulf Grill on Madeira will offer a bright, airy, and attractive new place to eat situated directly on the Gulf of Mexico. The restaurant will seat 162 patrons and will feature a Tiki Bar and deck area in the rear adjacent to the beach where patrons can choose to sit at the bar or lounge on beach in cabanas.

What's Selling in Pinellas County

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2BR/2BA

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Second floor condo offers real hardwood flooring, split bedroom plan, utility with W/D and lanai overlooking pond & private preserve. Minutes from Honeymoon Island.

Caroleanne Vorac
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

Seminole **\$126,000**
3BR/2BA/2CG

SOLD

A true Seminole gem! This pool home is situated on a corner lot and cul-de-sac. Open and airy with a split plan. The kitchen opens up to the family room. Beaches, shopping and schools are just minutes away.

Tammy Taylor
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

Seminole **\$265,000**
3BR/2BA/Pool

SOLD

Perfectly situated on a large corner lot. Spacious split plan features LR, dining area, eating space in kitchen, FR & bonus room. This ideal location is close to schools, shopping and the beach.

Sandy Hartmann
Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

Largo **\$355,000**
3BR/2BA/2CG

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Manatee Alert App available

A Florida-based corporation, EarthNC, through their conservation venture Conserve.IO, has teamed up with Save the Manatee Club to help boaters reduce the chance of hitting and harming manatees in Florida waterways, with the free Manatee Alert App.

This smart phone-based map displays instructive visual alerts, notifying boaters when they are approaching manatee speed zones. It also helps facilitate the reporting of injured manatees and manatee harassment to the proper authorities to ensure urgent help where needed.

"The new Manatee Alert App is a good example of how smart-phone technology can help the public become better informed, help protect an endangered species, and contribute to preserving our environment," said Brad Winney, of Conserve.IO., in a press release. "With the majority of the public now having some form of smart-phone or tablet, applications like Manatee Alert can provide safety and conservation messages in real-time."

During the busy Labor Day weekend and throughout the year, manatees are especially vulnerable to the heavy boat traffic moving through the waterways in every direction. Florida's manatees have already suffered a catastrophic year due to a prolonged red tide event in southwest Florida and an unknown toxin in the Indian River Lagoon. There have been 717 manatee deaths from all causes so far since Aug. 9, 2013, which is higher than any previous year's total mortality, with exception of the cold stress mortality event in 2010. At the current rate, the mortality for 2013 will likely break all previous yearly mortality records since record keeping began.

In addition to these complex events, boat collisions continue to pose a serious long-term threat to the manatee population.

"Since many manatees inhabiting Florida waters bear the scars from past encounters with boats, use of the Manatee Alert App can go a long way toward preventing such injuries and deaths," said Katie Tripp, Save the Manatee Club's director of science and conservation.

Tripp is excited about the new app's ability to help boaters help manatees.

"People from all over the world vacation in Florida and many recreate on Florida waters," she said.

The Florida boating community is encouraged to get the free Manatee Alert App as well as Save the Manatee Club's free public awareness materials to help prevent manatee injuries, suffering, and death. Waterproof boating banners, dock signs for Florida shoreline property owners, boating decals, and waterway cards containing safe boating information, are available by contacting Save the Manatee Club at education@savethemanatee.org, by regular mail at 500 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland, FL 32751, by calling 800-432-5646 or visiting www.savethemanatee.org/boatertips.htm. To download the free Manatee Alert App, visit bit.ly/15EYen6.

Follow the leader



Photo by JIM LAYFIELD

Red-eared sliders line up on a fallen palm tree in a pond off of Ulmerton Road and 66th Street in Largo Aug. 25. These turtles, often sold as pets, are the most commonly exported reptile species, but are not native to Florida, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. However, they can breed with yellow-bellied sliders, native to north Florida.

Fishing good despite heat, humidity

We are undoubtedly right in the thick of the dog days of summer.

Blistering heat and high humidity can make it uncomfortable at times out on the water. Thankfully we've had a little breeze and some great tides with the passing full moon.

Despite warm water temperature fishing on a whole has been very good. For the past six weeks or so we've watched small fry bait mature into the size good for casting. Target these baits at sunrise right along the beach swash channel.

A quarter-inch mesh cast net is a must for this size bait.

Relocate the small white bait to near-shore artificial reefs, jetties and or deep grass patches just inside of the passes. Schools of Spanish mackerel have settled into our area and will respond well to handfuls of free baits at any of these locations. Those wanting to use artificials should do well with Mirro-dines, silver spoons and white buck tail jigs.

Grouper fishing has been really good in 40 to 60 foot of water. Plenty of keeper sized red grouper are



Fish Tales
Capt. Tyson Wellerstein

to 4-foot ledges, giving special attention to any bait shows you mark on your depth finder.

Redfishing was good around this last full moon; look for the fish to bunch up again on the approaching new moon.

Target spoil island edges that are attracting schools of mullet to be holding the redfish. Freeline, tail trimmed pinfish have been working great. Running a top-water lure around the mullet schools early in the morning will help to locate the school.

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

Health briefs

Park hosts air potato contest

LARGO - The city of Largo will be holding an Air Potato Picking Contest, aimed at removing the invasive vines from McGough Nature Park Sept. 21, 9 to 11:30 a.m., at 11901 146th St. N.

Help us protect our Largo nature parks from plants that choke out our native vegetation with this free contest. Prizes will be available for winners in various categories, including most potatoes, largest potato and ugliest potato.

Water and gloves will be provided but remember to wear closed-toed shoes.
Call 518-3047.

Highland hosts weight loss group

LARGO - Highland Recreation Complex will host a weight loss group starting Monday, Sept. 9, 6 p.m., at 400 Highland Ave.

Damiane Handa, certified health coach from The Balance Branch, leads this program, designed to help participants lose pounds and keep them off with-

out dieting through group and individual support.

The cost is \$30 a month for residents and \$37.50 nonresidents. All materials and giveaways are included in the cost of the program.
Call 518-3016.

Complex to host themed Zumba

LARGO - Join the Monster Mash Zumba Bash Saturday, Oct. 19, 6 to 8 p.m., at Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave.

The event includes raffle prizes, healthy snacks, home goods and beauty vendors.

The cost is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. On-site childcare will be available for \$5 for potty-trained children, 3 to 10 years old.
Call 518-3016.

Highland hosts weight loss group

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The cost is \$30 a month for residents and \$37.50 nonresidents. All materials and giveaways are included in the cost of the program.
Call 518-3016.

Boot camps offered

LARGO - Tone muscles, build core strength, lose weight and increase overall fitness through weekly boot camps with certified instructors at Largo's Highland Recreation Complex and Largo Central Park

Beginners are welcome to try out the cardio-focused exercises and drills. Join instructor Kevin Scibbe for boot camp at the park on Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:15 a.m., 101 Central Park Drive. Boot Camp with Instructor Darrell Philip is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 6 a.m. and 9 a.m., at the Highland complex.

Visit www.TBNweekly.com

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Internal Medicine



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Comfort Keepers

Keeping Our Seniors Socially Connected

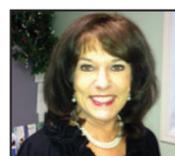
Socialization is critical for all people, regardless of age. But seniors can be more prone to a state of loneliness if there is little contact with others. Most seniors have spent a good portion of their lives, raising children and/or in the workforce. Once the children build lives of their own or possibly plans for retirement are near, socialization decreases, especially if the seniors are losing some of their independence such as driving.

An active social lifestyle is more important than ever in helping seniors maintain a sharp mind that will help them connected to the world around them and increase their feelings of happiness. Helping others is one of the best ways to feel better about you and at the same time continue to stay socially involved. Seniors who stay connected have less depression

Volunteering in the local community is also a great way for seniors to stay active, involved and will enhance the feeling of belonging. There truly is a need for volunteers in various organizations. The skills and talents of seniors in our society are valuable and needed. Volunteering in a local hospital is very rewarding. Escorting patients, assisting with clerical tasks, staffing the gift shop or greeting visitors is just a few examples of possibilities.

If you have a parent or loved one whom you care for, acting as an advocate can be an intimidating task. But there are ways to remain positive, and proactive with your aging parents. The key is to be attentive, understanding, and involved with your parents as they age. Your positive attitude and your efforts to understand their feelings is a wonderful way to say "thank you" for all they have done for you over the years. If your parent is spending a lot of time alone and finding difficulty in completing tasks, call Comfort Keepers to learn about the companionship we provide along with assistance with meals, errands, walks, grooming and other daily tasks.

Comfort Keepers approach to in-home care is centered around a concept called Interactive Caregiving.® Comfort Keepers plan activities appropriate to each client's health conditions and physical abilities, from walks in the neighborhood or grocery store, to playing games to sorting through pictures for albums. Transforming daily activities into interactive activities helps keep our seniors strong, improves outlook on life and reduces the risks for injury, depression and dementia.



Diane Genovese - Owner

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Gardening briefs

Extension to host garden tours

LARGO - Vegetable, herb and tropical fruit garden tours will be offered Thursday, Sept. 19, 9 to 11 a.m., at Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Guests will explore the vegetable garden and compost demonstration areas at Pinellas County Extension/Florida Botanical Gardens to learn more about growing food. The tour features an array of culinary, medicinal and aromatic herbs, trees and flowers in the garden. Attendees may wander the paths between the Egyptian, Mediterranean, Asian and Beverage 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 cit-

rus. The free tours are limited to groups of four to 16 people. Registration is required. Call 582-2501 or visit www.eventbrite.com/event/6241882639/eorg.

Botanical Bounty seeks volunteers

LARGO - Volunteers are being sought for Botanical Bounty, the gift shop at Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Duties include sales transactions, customer assistance, interacting with visitors as a goodwill ambassador for the gardens. No previous sales experience is required. Candidates must be reliable.

Botanical Bounty is a not-for-profit gift shop with all proceeds going back into the gardens. Shifts are 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; and 1:30 to 5 p.m.

For information, call Stacey Zidi at 582-2251.

Clinical study for Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Are Diarrhea and Abdominal Discomfort putting a cramp in your lifestyle?

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• The Outer Ear

When sound waves reach the ear, they are gathered by the funnel-shaped outer ear and channeled into the middle ear. Sometimes hearing loss can be easily and quickly corrected by clearing blockage that can occur from wax build up.

Years of using q-tips to clean your ears can embed layers of wax so tightly that it affects your ability to hear clearly. That's why the first part of your ear exam will be with an otoscope to determine if there is any blockage that can open up your ear canal and allow you to enjoy the beauty of unmuted sound again.

• The Middle Ear

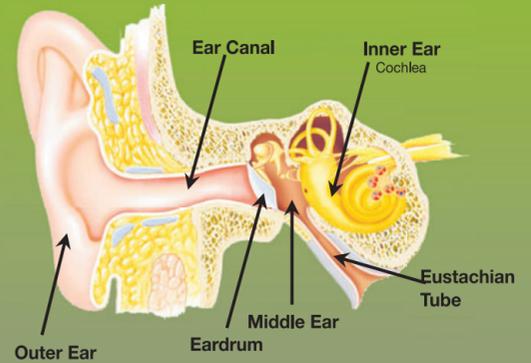
At the entrance to the middle ear, sound waves hit the eardrum. A damaged eardrum can not only be painful, but it can muffle natural sounds and make it extremely difficult to hear clearly. If you're experiencing hearing loss, it's important to find out if it is a correctable condition involving the middle ear.

• The Inner Ear

Sound vibrations travel through the middle ear and into the fluid filled inner ear where they are converted into signals that are sent to your brain. Damage to the inner ear can lead to deafness, so it's vital to make sure your inner ear is functioning properly.

Problems with the inner ear often require surgery or medication. If the damage is irreparable, you'll want to ask about the new cochlea implants that can help restore your ability to hear again.

There is also new scientific and medical research with stem cell transplants that can regrow damaged inner ear hair follicles (known as *cilia*) that send electronic signals to your brain allowing you to translate sounds into language. Researchers at Stanford University say that they are 5-10 years away from a breakthrough that could possibly correct human deafness.



Knowledge About How Your Ears Work Helps With The Healing Process!

It's important that you have a basic understanding of how your ears work. The healing starts when you first acknowledge that you have a hearing problem. The next step is to get your ears examined so you will know the cause and the degree (mild to profound) of your condition.



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Why Do People Delay Addressing Hearing Loss?

In America, the average person with hearing loss delays dealing with it for 5 to 7 years. The big question is, "Why do people wait so long before confronting the obvious problems that come with an inability to hear clearly?"

How Hearing Is Tested

To evaluate your hearing a specialist will perform a series of hearing tests. These tests are often performed by using a combination of electronic equipment and headphones.

What Hearing Tests Show

Hearing tests can determine whether a hearing impairment exists and what the cause may be. Your hearing examination will also let you know the degree of hearing loss you are experiencing, from mild to profound, and what technologies are available to help correct your hearing loss.

The results of your hearing exam will provide you with the road map to what you should do next to regain and restore your ability to hear clearly again.

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Diversions

Events • Movies • Classifieds

Largo Leader, Section B, August 29, 2013 • Visit www.TBNweekly.com



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Top five diversions

- **Celebrate Oldsmar**, Friday, Aug. 30, 5 to 9 p.m.; and Saturday, Aug. 31, noon to 9 p.m., at R.E. Olds Park, 107 Shore Drive West, Oldsmar. The festival will feature food, carnival rides, art vendors and games. On Friday, The Superstars will present live music. On Saturday, Jeff Vitolo and The Quarter Mile Rebels will perform. From 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, the festival will offer inflatables and pony rides. There will be fireworks at 9 p.m. Admission is free. Attendees may bring their own seating. No coolers or bags will be permitted. Visit www.myoldsmar.com.
- **Robby Krieger**, Saturday, Aug. 31, 8 p.m., at the Palladium at St. Petersburg College, 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$26.50. Call 822-3590 or visit www.mypalladium.org. There are few guitarists in rock history that have managed to scale the heights that Robby Krieger managed while a member of one of the all-time great groups, The Doors. As guitarist, Krieger was also one of The Doors' principle songwriters, penning the classics "Light My Fire," "Love Me Two Times," "Love Her Madly," and "Touch Me." Now with his band, Jam Kitchen, Krieger continues to offer up original music that strikes a chord in music listeners worldwide. Krieger's new all-star band, Jam Kitchen, features Arthur Barrow of Frank Zappa's band, Tommy Mars of Frank Zappa's band, Larry Klimas and Tom Brechtlein. Dean Johansen will open.
- **The 13th annual Geckfest**, Saturday, Aug. 31, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., on Beach Boulevard in Gulfport. The festival will feature live music on two stages as well as street performers, artisans, craftsmen, food vendors, a parade and a costume contest. The day will culminate with Gulfport's famous Street Dance, beginning at 8 p.m. and featuring The Urban Gypsies. For information, visit www.geckfest.com.
- **Sponge Docks Arts and Crafts Festival**, Saturday through Monday, Aug. 31 through Sept. 2, at the Tarpon Springs Sponge Docks, 50 Dodecanese Blvd., Tarpon Springs. The festival will run 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily and will feature 90 of the nation's top artists and crafters exhibiting and selling their homemade creations. Attendees will find jewelry, ceramics, plants, pottery, photography, paintings, homemade soap and more. Visit spongedocks.net.
- **Eddie Money**, Sunday, Sept. 1, 9 p.m., at Hard Rock Café, 5223 N. Orient Road, Tampa. General admission tickets are \$40. Call 800-745-3000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com. Attendees must be 21 or older. Doors will open one hour prior to show. In 1968, after serving as a New York City police officer for two years, Money put his law enforcement career on hold to pursue music. He moved to Berkeley, Calif., and began performing at local clubs. In 1976, after changing his surname from Mahoney to Money, Eddie's fate changed when he was introduced to legendary promoter Bill Graham while performing at one of Graham's events. The two quickly became close, with Graham serving as both his mentor and manager. Money burst onto the scene with his eponymous debut album in 1977. Fans immediately fell in love with his sound, and the album, which went double platinum, featured hits like "Baby Hold On" and "Two Tickets to Paradise." Money followed the success of his debut album with a stream of Top 40 hits, as well as some of the era's most creative videos for songs like "Think I'm in Love" and "Shakin'." In 1986, the singer released "Can't Hold Back," which featured the classic, Grammy-nominated duet with Ronnie Spector, "Take Me Home Tonight."

Treasure Island Art Guild to host show

TREASURE ISLAND - The Treasure Island Art Guild will kick off the new season with its September art show. Members may enter up to three pictures. Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded at the September reception, scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14, 1 p.m., at the City Hall Auditorium, 120 108th Ave. Members may submit paintings on Thursday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the City Hall Auditorium. Nonmembers wishing to hang paintings are invited to join at that time. For information, call Pat Van Leuvan at 328-2342.

Music in the Park

Seminole's annual concert series set to start Sept. 6 with SPAN

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

SEMINOLE - The city's 17th annual Music in the Park series will swing into action Friday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road.

Kicking off this year's lineup, Waste Management of Pinellas will sponsor the local musical ensemble SPAN playing the music of Sinatra and friends.

SPAN is a ministry of Connect2Christ Church, which hosts worship services Sundays at 9:45 a.m., in the Freedom Square auditorium in Seminole. SPAN is an acronym for Singing, Praising, Acting, Nurturing. According to the Connect2Christ website, the musical ministry team features 18 musicians and singers.

At Music in the Park, SPAN will be performing a selection of hits made famous by Ol' Blue Eyes himself, Frank Sinatra - along with tunes by some of Sinatra's closest musical friends.

The two-hour concert is the first of six on consecutive Friday nights at the park. Performances run 7 to 9 p.m. Following is a list of other scheduled performances:

- Sept. 13 - Yesterdayze
- Sept. 20 - Troy Duncan
- Sept. 27 - Tommy Roxx and the Big Deal
- Oct. 4 - The Sounds of Soul
- Oct. 11 - The Rocket Man Show.

Admission is free to all performances. Parking, also free, is available in the park and in a larger lot west of the park between Old Oakhurst Road and the Pinellas Trail. Attendees are invited to bring chairs and blankets. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Once again, the city has selected a diverse group of entertainers, each act fluent in a distinctive musical style. The event usually attracts the interest of dozens of local and regional musical performers, each vying for a headlining spot at the free concert series. This year's lineup represents a wide variety of musical genres.

The second band scheduled to perform, Yesterdayze, will take attendees on a magic carpet ride back to the 1960s. Yesterdayze will perform Sept. 13.

Yesterdayze plays a selection of Top 40 hits from 1960 through 1969 - everything from The Beatles and The Rolling Stones to Jimi Hendrix and Steppenwolf.

According to Alex Kinlaw, Yesterdayze was created in 2007 by a group of like-minded professional musicians who wanted to celebrate the incredible genius of the songwriters and performing artists of that tumultuous time period. Kinlaw, a founding member, had come up with the name Yesterdayze during the early 1990s while performing with his wife, MaryLu, who fronts the band. It resonated with this group, and Yesterdayze was born.

"The music from the decade that was the '60s impacted society like no other before or since," said Kinlaw in an email. "It remains in play today from radio to television advertising, and has never come and gone like so many other trends in modern music. It has certainly

See MUSIC, page 4B



Photos courtesy of the artists

Above, Yesterdayze is the second act in this year's Music in the Park concert series, taking the stage Sept. 13 at Seminole City Park. Below, closing out the series is the Rocket Man Show, an energetic Elton John tribute led by Rus Anderson of Clearwater.



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- Michael and Linda Magliaro

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082613

Opening this weekend

'Closed Circuit' pairs Bana, Hall; Hawke, Gomez star in 'Getaway'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Closed Circuit'

Genre: Drama and thriller
 Cast: Eric Bana, Rebecca Hall, Ciarán Hinds, Riz Ahmed, Anne-Marie Duff, Kenneth Cranham, Denis Moschitto, Julia Stiles and Jim Broadbent
 Director: John Crowley
 Rated: R

In the international suspense thriller Closed Circuit, a high-profile terrorism case unexpectedly binds together two ex-lovers on the defense team - testing the limits of their loyalties and placing their lives in jeopardy.

One morning, a busy London market is decimated by an explosion. In the manhunt that follows, only one member of the suspected terrorist cell survives: Farroukh Erdogan (Denis Moschitto), who is arrested and jailed. Preparations begin for what promises to be the trial of the century.

But there's a hitch: the government will use classified evidence to prosecute Erdogan, evidence so secret that neither he nor his lawyers can be allowed to see it. Hence the need for the Attorney General (Jim Broadbent) to appoint a Special Advocate, an additional government-approved defense lawyer, Claudia Simmons-Howe (Rebecca Hall), one who has clearance to see classified evidence and who can argue for its full disclosure when the trial moves to "closed" session.

The rules for the Special Advocate are clear: once the secret evidence



Photo by JAY MAIDMENT/FOCUS FEATURES

is shared with her, Claudia will not be allowed to communicate even with the defendant or with other members of the defense team.

But just as the case is on the eve of going to trial, Erdogan's lawyer dies suddenly, and a new defense attorney, Martin Rose (Eric Bana),



Photo courtesy of WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Above, Selena Gomez stars as The Kid and Ethan Hawke as Brent Magna in Warner Bros. Pictures and Dark Castle Entertainment's action thriller "Getaway," a Warner Bros. Pictures release. At left, Eric Bana, left, stars as Martin and Ciaran Hinds as Devlin in John Crowley's "Closed Circuit," a Focus Features release.

quickly steps in. Martin is tenacious, driven, brilliant - and an ex-lover of Claudia's. The two lawyers make an uncomfortable pact to keep their former affair hidden. But as Martin begins to piece the case together, the outlines of a sinister conspiracy emerge, one that will draw him and Claudia dangerously close again.

'Getaway'

Genre: Thriller
 Cast: Ethan Hawke, Selena Gomez, Jon Voight, Rebecca Budig and Bruce Payne
 Director: Courtney Solomon
 Rated: PG-13

"Getaway" is a gritty, heart-pounding action thriller starring Academy Award nominee Ethan Hawke, actress and international music sensation Selena Gomez and Academy Award winner Jon Voight.

Former racecar driver Brent Magna (Hawke) is pitted against the clock. Desperately trying to save the life of his kidnapped wife, Brent commandeers a custom Ford Shelby GT500 Super Snake, taking it and its unwitting owner (Gomez) on a high-speed race against time, at the command of the mysterious villain holding his wife hostage.

'One Direction: This Is Us'

Genre: Documentary and music
 Cast: Niall Horan, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne, Harry Styles and Louis Tomlinson
 Director: Morgan Spurlock
 Rated: PG

"One Direction: This Is Us" is a captivating and intimate all-access look at life on the road for the global music phenomenon.

Weaved with stunning live concert footage, this inspiring feature film tells the remarkable story of Niall, Zayn, Liam, Harry and Louis' meteoric rise to fame, from their humble hometown beginnings and competing on the X-Factor, to conquering the world and performing at London's famed O2 Arena. Hear it from the boys themselves and see through their own eyes what it's really like to be One Direction.

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

'I Declare War'

Genre: Action, comedy and drama
 Cast: Gage Munroe, Siam Yu and Mackenzie Munro
 Director: Jason Lapeyre and Robert Wilson
 Not rated

Armed with nothing more than twigs, their imaginations and a simple set of rules, a group of 12 year olds engaged in a lively game of capture the flag in the neighborhood woods start dangerously blurring the lines between make-believe and reality.

Rocks = Grenades. Trees = Control towers. Sticks = Submachine guns.

The youthful innocence of the game gradually takes on a different tone as the quest for victory pushes the boundaries of friendship. The would-be warriors get a searing glimpse of humanity's dark side as their combat scenario takes them beyond the rules of the game and into an adventure where fantasy combat clashes with the real world.

'Passion'

Genre: Thriller
 Cast: Rachel McAdams, Nomi Rapace, Karoline Herfurth and Paul Anderson
 Director: Brian De Palma
 Not rated

Brian De Palma returns to the sleek, sly, seductive territory of "Dressed To Kill" with an erotic corporate thriller fueled by sex, ambition, image, envy and the dark, murderous side of passion.

The film stars Rachel McAdams and Nomi Rapace as two rising female executives in a multinational corporation whose fierce competition to rise up the ranks is about to turn literally cutthroat.

For more movie news, visit www.TBNweekly.com. Click on the "Movie News & Reviews" link on the left-side menu.

Crossword

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

- Across**
- Jail, slangily
 - Indian turnover
 - Bacchanal
 - "___ we there yet?"
 - Big roll
 - Choice
 - Caribbean, e.g.
 - Out
 - Dwarf buffalo
 - Lack of compassion
 - Engine parts
 - Assimilate mentally
 - Matador
 - ___ tide
 - Assumed name
 - Knight fight
 - ___ vera
 - Exemplifying Inaccurately
 - Dawdling
 - Dash
 - Counters
 - Supergarb
 - Cordwood units
 - Dwarfed ornamental tree
 - "Damn it all!"
 - Having a "+" charge
 - Opera star
 - Maltreat (hyphenated)
 - Grassy area
 - "... happily ___ after"
 - Cheers
 - ___ and outs
 - "___ #1!" (contraction)
 - Least wild
 - Absorbed, as a cost

- Length x width, for a rectangle
- Warm, so to speak
- Small fish that swims upright
- Ratio of reflected to incident light
- Tablelands
- "Your turn"
- Transmitted
- Come before
- Big ape
- Hindu queen
- "Ick!"
- Bakery supply
- Depressing
- Pickpocket, in slang
- Pack (down)
- Assortment
- Classic board game
- Bridget Fonda, to Jane
- "... or ___!"
- Mouth, in slang
- Ideally (2 wds)
- Pinocchio, at times
- "___ bitten, twice shy"
- Auspices
- Treeless grassy plains
- Most dapper
- "___ on a Hot Tin Roof," Williams play
- Disrespects
- Moisten
- Antipasto morsel
- "Well, I ___!"
- Close call
- Beat
- ___ podrida
- Agenda
- Hip bones
- Blow off steam
- "___ on Down the Road"

- Down**
- Bills, e.g.

Sudoku

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

Sudoku 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

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

Horoscopes

August 29, 2013

Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

Come on, Capricorn. The green light has been given. Why are you stalling? An old friend makes you an enticing offer. Take them up on it.

Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

Turnabout is fair play, Aquarius. Whatever choices you make this week, you can expect there to be consequences. Travel plans begin to take shape.

Pisces

February 19 - March 20

A romantic gesture falls flat. Don't be too disappointed, Pisces. Something far more pressing is happening behind the scenes. A deadline draws near.

Aries

March 21 - April 19

Dreams of long ago resurface, and this time, you're in a position to make them happen. Go, Aries, go! The rumor mill heats up. Pay it no heed.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20

Flashes of the past mingle with the present, as friends of yesteryear become a presence in your life once again. A recipe mix-up tantalizes the taste buds. Bon appetit, Taurus.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Moments of togetherness are rare these days. Make time for them, Gemini, or lose out. A breakdown in communication at work leads to a frenzy of activity.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Family members make a surprise announcement and tears of joy flow. Keep your suspicions to yourself, Cancer. A note clues you in to a work predicament.

Leo

July 23 - August 22

The race for a prized asset begins. Get a jump on the competition. Leo. A youngster reveals a secret. Some confidences were meant to be broken.

Virgo

August 23 - September 22

A check of the finances uncovers a surplus. Don't spend it all in one place, Virgo. Greetings from afar pique your interest in new hobby.

Libra

September 23 - October 22

Accidents happen, Libra. Keep that in mind when an acquaintance makes a serious error. Offer your assistance rather than your critique, and they will return the favor.

Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

Painstaking efforts to bring the pieces of a puzzle together pay off. Celebrate with lunch for all, Scorpio. A cheeky friend adds to the fervor.

Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

The waiting is over this week, Sagittarius, as a series of announcements reveals what is to come. Embrace it, and you will do well.

The Florida Orchestra announces upcoming season lineup

The Florida Orchestra has scheduled a stunning selection of concerts for its 2013-14 season, which will feature performances in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater.

The season will include concerts from several different series, such as Tampa Bay Times Masterworks, Duke Energy Morning Masterworks, Raymond James Pops, Rock Concerts and morning Coffee Concert series.

Tickets are currently on sale. Single-ticket prices for Tampa Bay Times Masterworks, Duke Energy Morning Masterworks and Raymond James Pops start at \$15. Single-ticket prices for Morning Coffee Concerts start at \$24.

Single-ticket prices for Rock Concerts start at \$35. Services charges and facility fees may apply.

For tickets, call 892-3337 or 800-662-7286; or visit www.floridaorchestra.org.

Tickets also may be purchased at The Florida Orchestra ticket center, found in the St. Petersburg College Building at 244 Second Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The season opener will be Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, scheduled for Friday, Oct. 11, 8 p.m., at the David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa; Saturday, Oct. 12, 8 p.m., at the Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg; and Sunday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater.

The Master Chorale will join the orchestra in this performance of Stravinsky's solemn and baroque-intoned Symphony of Psalms together with Beethoven's beloved Symphony No. 9 with its life-affirming "Ode to Joy." Evan Rogister will conduct.

The 2013-14 season will run from October through May with most of its 14 Tampa Bay Times Masterworks concerts and eight Raymond James Pops programs being performed at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts in Tampa on Friday evenings, Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg on Saturday evenings, and Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater on Sunday evenings.

Also presented at the Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg, the orchestra offers three additional series: three Rock Concerts on Friday evenings; three Duke Energy Morning Masterworks on Fridays; and eight morning Coffee Concerts on Thursdays. There also will be three morning Coffee Concerts at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater on Wednesdays.

The Florida Orchestra has sold out many concerts in the past few years and has grown its attendance base by 27 percent since the 2008-09 season, contributed to in part by lowering its ticket prices significantly on the Masterworks and Pops series, which was initiated as part of an accessibility initiative in the 2011-12 season. Because of the community's interest in a variety of musical styles, the orchestra has also introduced a three-concert Rock Concert series, and in recent seasons has staged some special performances that have included classic films with live orchestra accompaniment and programs of video game music.

Masterworks Series

The 2013-14 Tampa Bay Times Masterworks series of 14 concerts will feature symphonic favorites from Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Mahler and more.

"The upcoming season offers a wonderful array of symphonic and choral works, including such favorites as Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Elgar's Cello Concerto, Brahms' Symphony No. 2, Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra and many other works that we know will provide extraordinary concert experiences to the Tampa Bay community," said Thomas Farquhar in a press release. Farquhar is the TFO board chairman. "In addition, concertgoers will be treated to a select group of solo artists, including some of our orchestra's principal musicians, along with some highly gifted guest conductors as we continue our search for the orchestra's next music director."

Following 10 seasons as The Florida Orchestra's music director, Stefan Sanderling will be returning to lead the orchestra in a concert program as conductor emeritus and artistic adviser. Stuart Malina, TFO's principal guest conductor, will also conduct a Masterworks program.

TFO has invited 12 guest conductors for this season's Masterworks series. Five conductors will be making their TFO debuts, including music director of the Berkeley Symphony Joana Carneiro, chief conductor and artistic advisor to Sweden's Norrköping Symphony Orchestra Michael Francis, music director

of the Wichita Symphony Daniel Hege, former kapellmeister at the Deutsche Oper Berlin Evan Rogister, music director of both the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the Chicago Sinfonietta Mei-Ann Chen.

Returning conductors include assistant conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Teddy Abrams, music director of the New West Symphony Orchestra in Los Angeles and the assistant conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra Marcelo Lehninger, associate conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra Cristian Macelaru, music director of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra Rossen Milanov, music director of the National Opera of Lorraine and the Orchestre Symphonique et Lyrique de Nancy in France Tito Muñoz, former music director of the Seattle Symphony Gerard Schwarz, and assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic Joshua Weilerstein.

Two piano soloists will make their TFO debuts. Irishman John O'Connor will perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3. American Andrew von Oeyen will perform in Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini.

Returning pianists include American Orli Shaham in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20, K.466. British artist Stephen Hough in Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, and German pianist Markus Groh in Bartok's Piano Concerto No. 1. American violinist Caroline Goulding will debut with TFO performing Korngold's Violin Concerto. Cuban-American guitarist Manuel Barrueco returns to perform TFO's premiere of Roberto Sierra's Concierto Barroco. Additional string soloists include TFO principal cellist James Connors in Elgar's Cello Concerto; TFO concertmaster Jeffrey Multer in Bartok's Violin Concerto No. 2; and TFO principal harpist Anna Kate Mackle with principal flutist Clay Ellerbroek in TFO's premiere of Takemitsu's Toward the Sea II for alto flute, harp and string orchestra. TFO principal percussionist John Shaw will be the soloist in TFO's premiere of Tan Dun's Water Concerto.

Vocal soloists performing this season in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Choral, include soprano Katie van Kooten, mezzo soprano Nancy Maultsby and tenor Nathaniel Peake. The bass soloist is yet to be announced.

Following is the Masterworks Series lineup:

- Opening Night: Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 - Oct. 11, 12 and 13, 2013
- Also Sprach Zarathustra - Nov. 1, 2 and 3, 2013
- Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 - Nov. 8, 9 and 10, 2013
- Elgar's Cello Concerto - Nov. 22, 23 and 24, 2013
- Mahler's Symphony No. 1, Titan - Dec. 6, 7 and 8, 2013
- Bravo Beethoven! - Jan. 10, 11 and 12, 2014
- Bartok and Brahms - Jan. 24, 25 and 26, 2014
- Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini - Feb. 21, 22 and 23, 2014
- Korngold's Violin Concerto - March 14, 15 and 16, 2014
- Bartok's Piano Concerto No. 1 - March 21, 22 and 23, 2014
- Mozart, Diamond and Brahms - April 11, 12 and 13, 2014
- Tan Dun's Water Concerto - April 25, 26 and 27, 2014
- Tchaikovsky's Pathétique - May 16, 17 and 18, 2014
- Ravel's Daphnis et Chloe - May 30 and 31, 2014

Pops Series

The 2013-14 Raymond James Pops series will be the first full season led by principal pops conductor Jeff Tyzik, a prolific arranger with many of his works

See ORCHESTRA, page 4B

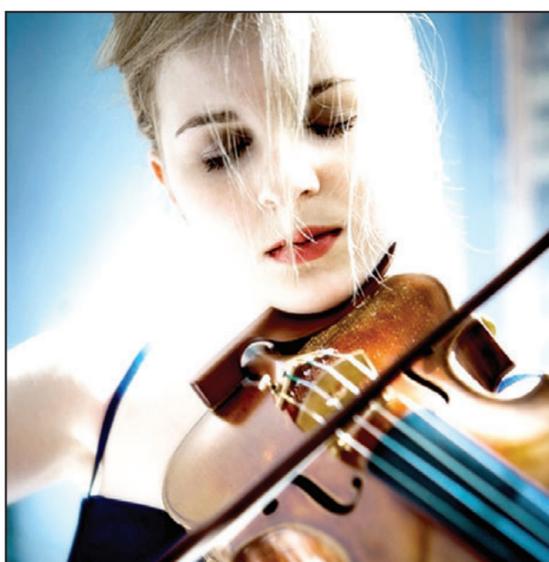


Photo by LISA MAZZUCCO/THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA



Photo by CHRISTIAN STEINER/THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA
Above, Orli Shaham performs Mozart's intensely dramatic, yet poetic and lyrical, Piano Concerto No. 20, with The Florida Orchestra Nov. 1-3. At left, Caroline Goulding plays Korngold's film-theme-inspired and crowd-pleasing Violin Concerto as part of the Masterworks series, March 14-16.

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Pad Thai
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Upcoming entertainment in Largo

• **"Maybe Baby, It's You,"** by Charlie Sharian and Shari Simpson; through Sept. 1, at New Stage Theatre, inside Country Day World School, 11650 131st St. N., Largo. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Call 813-817-2585 or visit newstagelargo.org. "Maybe Baby, It's You" boasts a comedic night about the search for that most elusive of entities, the soul mate. Performed by local talents Chris Jackson and Alison Burns, the production covers ground from the first kiss to the not-so-golden age of marriage. The show promises to be a heart-felt night mixed with high energy as these two actors transform into 26 characters throughout the evening.

• **"South Pacific,"** with book by Oscar Hammerstein II and Joshua Logan, music by Richard Rodgers and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II; presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, Sept. 6-22, at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25.50 for adults and \$12.50 for children 19 and younger with identification. A city of Largo handling charge of \$3.50 will be added to each ticket. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. Set on a tropical island during World War II, the musical tells the sweeping romantic story of two couples and how their happiness is threatened by the realities of war and by their own prejudices. Considered by many the finest musical ever written, the score's songs include such classics as "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair," "Younger Than Springtime," "Bali Ha'i," "There is Nothin' Like a Dame," "This Nearly Was Mine" and "A Wonderful Guy." Its portrayal of Americans stationed in an alien culture in wartime is as relevant today as when it first thrilled audiences in 1949. The original Broadway production won 10 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Score and Best Libretto. The 2008 Broadway revival won seven Tonys including Best Musical Revival. This production will be directed by Linda Weir and will feature Amy Phillips as music director and James Grenelle as choreographer.

• **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.

• **Fifth annual Las Vegas Casino Night,** Saturday, Oct. 5, 6 to 10 p.m., at the Armed Forces History Museum, 2050 34th Way N., Largo. Tickets for the fundraiser are \$35 for casino and \$75 for the Texas Hold 'em Tournament if purchased before Sept. 16. Tickets after Sept. 16 will be \$40 for casino and \$80 for the tournament. Call 539-8371 or visit www.armedforcesmuseum.com. The event will feature a full dinner buffet from Orange Blossom Catering, as well as blackjack, roulette, craps, slot machines, poker, a Texas Hold 'em Tournament, silent auction, Chinese auction, prizes and more. This fundraiser benefits the museum's community outreach and youth education programs as well as the museum's mission to honorably preserve the history and memories of the military and its veterans.

• **"Little Shop of Horrors,"** by Howard Ashman and Alan Menken; Oct. 10 through Nov. 3, at New Stage Theatre, inside Country Day World School, 11650 131st St. N., Largo. For performance times and ticket information, call 813-817-2585 or visit newstagelargo.org. A down-and out skid row floral assistant becomes an overnight sensa-

tion when he discovers an exotic plant with a mysterious craving for fresh blood. Soon "Audrey II" grows into an ill-tempered, foul-mouthed, R&B-singing carnivore who offers him fame and fortune in exchange for feeding its growing appetite, finally revealing itself to be an alien creature poised for global domination.

• **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.

• **"La Cage aux Folles,"** with book by Harvey Fierstein and music and lyrics by Jerry Herman; presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre, Nov. 1-17, at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25.50 for adults and \$12.50 for children 19 and younger with identification. A city of Largo handling charge of \$3.50 will be added to each ticket. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. After 20 years of un-wedded bliss, Georges and Albin, two men partnered for better-or-worse get a bit of both when Georges' son (fathered during a one-night fling) announces his impending marriage to the daughter of a bigoted, right-wing politician. Further complicating the situation is the family business: Albin and Georges run a drag nightclub in St. Tropez, where Albin is the star performer Zaza. Georges reluctantly agrees to masquerade as straight when he meets the family of the bride-to-be. But Albin has other plans, with hilarious results. The production features Michael Newton-Brown as director, Emi Stefanov as music director and James Grenelle as choreographer.

• **"Freckleface Strawberry,"** presented by Stages Productions, Saturday, Nov. 9, 11 a.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets are \$25.00 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. Freckleface learns that everyone is different – and that's what makes everyone special.

ORCHESTRA, from page 3B

featured throughout the pops season.

"I'm thrilled with our pops lineup for next season," Tyzik said in a press release. "We have an exciting mix of great music and guest artists. I'm looking forward to conducting TFO in my first season as your principal pops conductor."

Tyzik will conduct five of the pops concerts. Conductors for the other three concerts include Stuart Malina, TFO principal guest conductor; Michael Krajewski, principal pops conductor of the Houston Symphony, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra; and Bob Bernhardt, music director emeritus of the Chattanooga Symphony and opera and principal pops conductor of the Louisville Orchestra.

The eight-concert symphonic pops series will cover a broad array of programs.

Cirque de la Symphonie will return with its troupe of jugglers, acrobats and aerial artists performing to popular symphonic favorites. Let's Dance will feature dancers making their moves to the tango, waltz, blues, swing, 50s rock classics and more. Holiday Pops offers highlights from Duke Ellington's Nutcracker Suite, traditional carols and Yuletide tunes. Bond and Beyond spotlights Broadway songstress Debbie Gravitte in a concert of music from the films about James Bond. Inspector Clouseau, Austin Powers and other spies and gum shoes.

Following is the Pops Series lineup:

- Cirque de la Symphonie – Oct. 25, 26 and 27, 2013
- Let's Dance – Nov. 15, 16 and 17, 2013
- Holiday Pops! – Dec. 13, 14 and 15, 2013
- Bond and Beyond – Jan. 17, 18 and 19, 2014
- A Evening of Rodgers and Hammerstein – Feb. 14, 15 and 16, 2014
- When Irish Eyes Are Smiling – March 7, 8 and 9, 2014
- A Tribute to Benny Goodman – April 4, 5 and 6, 2014
- A Stars and Stripes Hit Parade – May 23, 24 and 25, 2014

Coffee Concerts

The 2013-14 morning Coffee Concert series in St. Petersburg and in Clearwater will be presented under the direction of principal guest conductor Stuart Malina.

For the upcoming season, the orchestra is increasing the number of concerts from seven to eight on its highly popular and successful Coffee Concert series in St. Petersburg. This series of familiar symphonic favorites is presented at the Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg on Thursday mornings at 11 a.m. There also will be a three-concert Coffee Concert series at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m.

Programming for the 2013-14 Coffee Concerts will cover musical highlights from symphonies, opera,

Broadway, film and ballet. Program highlights include Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4 and Gershwin's American in Paris.

Malina will conduct seven of the eight programs and James Feddeck will be the guest conductor on one program.

Following is the Coffee Concerts lineup:

- From Russia with Love – Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013, at the Mahaffey Theater
- Music Around the World – Thursday, Nov. 14, 2013, at the Mahaffey Theater
- Sounds of Celebration – Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013, at the Mahaffey Theater
- Musicians in the Spotlight – Thursday, Jan. 16, 2014, at the Mahaffey Theater
- Something Old, Something New – Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Ruth Eckerd Hall; and Thursday, Feb. 13, at the Mahaffey Theater
- A Salute to Broadway – Wednesday, March 5, 10 a.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall; and Thursday, March 6, at the Mahaffey Theater
- Theme & Variation – Wednesday, April 2, at Ruth Eckerd Hall; and Thursday, April 3, at the Mahaffey Theater
- Earth, Wind, Fire & Water – Thursday, May 22, at the Mahaffey Theater

Rock Concert Series

Following the launch of a Rock Concert series during the 2012-13 season, TFO has announced that the 2013-14 season's symphonic rock series

will showcase the music of The Beatles, Pink Floyd and The Eagles.

All three concerts will be on Friday evenings at the Mahaffey Theater.

During the 2012-13 season, TFO presented symphonic rock tribute concerts to the music of Simon and Garfunkel, Michael Jackson and The Doors. In recent seasons, the orchestra has also presented a variety of successful symphonic rock concerts featuring Dennis DeYoung and the Music of Styx, as well as tributes to the music of Pink Floyd, The Beatles, Led Zeppelin and Queen. The positive community response to those concerts encouraged the orchestra to add the Rock Concert series to varied concert menu to reach a wider audience and to better serve the broad musical interests of the Tampa Bay community.

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of "Dark Side of the Moon," TFO's tribute to Pink Floyd will feature retina-dazzling rock concert lighting. The orchestra will join forces with a full rock band to perform such timeless hits as "Money," "Learning to Fly" and "Comfortably Numb." The featured vocalist for the concert will be Randy Jackson, the lead singer of the band Zebra. Arranger and conductor Brent Havens will be on the podium.

Following is the Rock Concert Series lineup:

- Classical Mystery Tour: The Music of the Beatles – Friday, Oct. 18, 2013
- The Music of Pink Floyd – Friday, Nov. 29, 2013
- The Music of the Eagles – Friday, May 9, 2014

MUSIC, from page 1B

had a lasting influence on all of us – the musicians who lived it, and loved it ... and still do."

Yesterdayze, based in the Tampa Bay area, plays fairs and festivals

all over North America, having most recently returned from a mini-tour of Nebraska and Montana.

Some local fans who live in the Seminole area asked why the band hadn't played the Music in the Park series.

"We thought that was a good question," Kinlaw said. "So we looked into it, and the folks in charge thought we were a good fit. So here we are!"

The outdoor setting at Seminole City Park suits Yesterdayze perfectly. "Probably the best thing about playing outdoor festivals is the closeness and intimacy with the fans," Kinlaw explained. "Every show can be a miniature Woodstock experience."

Following SPAN's salute to Sinatra and the '60s revival performed by Yesterdayze, the Music in the Park series will continue with Troy Duncan playing American country on Sept. 20, Tommy Roxx and the Big Deal serving up Southern rock on Sept. 27, The Sounds of Soul reliving the hits of Motown on Oct. 4 and Rus Anderson paying tribute to Elton John in his Rocket Man Show on Oct. 11.

Anderson takes the final slot in this year's Music in the Park lineup – and the show is sure to be a must-see event for area Elton John enthusiasts. The Rocket Man Show is an exact re-enactment of a young Elton John concert, featuring replica costumes, 100 percent live instrumentation and a grand piano. Anderson has spent years perfecting his playing, vocals and mannerisms to deliver a compelling and energetic tribute, one that has been endorsed by the official Elton John Fan Club.

Anderson is originally from Scotland. He has lived in Clearwater for about 10 years.

"I attended SPC Seminole campus," Anderson said in an email inter-

view. "So I have a lot of friends in Seminole. As a full time Elton John tribute, most of my shows are out of town – often out of state, so when I was approached by a local agent about performing a summer concert series here in Seminole with my band I was super excited. It's not too often I get to play to a home crowd!"

Anderson's show features a solid catalogue of Elton John's greatest hits, from the touching ballads to the blazing rock anthems. At every performance, he strives to give the audience a memorable night filled with nostalgia, singing, laughing and participation. He's particularly looking forward to performing at Music in the Park.

"The atmosphere at the band shell in the park here in Seminole is electric," Anderson said. "The backdrop is beautiful with all the trees and the lake, but most of all, there is a family-friendly, exciting energy when an event is taking place there."

Anderson has attended several events at Seminole City Park as an audience member, but this will be his first time on the performing end.

"It doesn't get much better than playing an open air stage at sunset to a rocking outdoor audience!"

In addition to the city of Seminole and Waste Management of Pinellas, other presenting sponsors include the Rotary Club of Seminole Lake, DeLoach and Hofstra PA, Seminole Title Company, Keller Williams Realty Gulf Coast, Dr. Sandra Lilo and Barnhorn Financial. Event sponsors include Humana Marketpoint, Oakhurst Medical Center, Seminole Historical Society, First Home Bank, Greater Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce, Rita's Italian Ices, Sapphire Signs, Seminole Beacon, Seminole Firefighters Local 2896, Suncoast Chrysler Jeep Dodge and Yoga4All.

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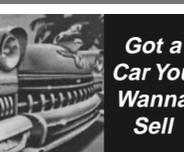
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Tarpon Springs Art Association to present work of its members

DUNEDIN – The Tarpon Springs Art Association will exhibit the work of 31 of its members for the month of September.

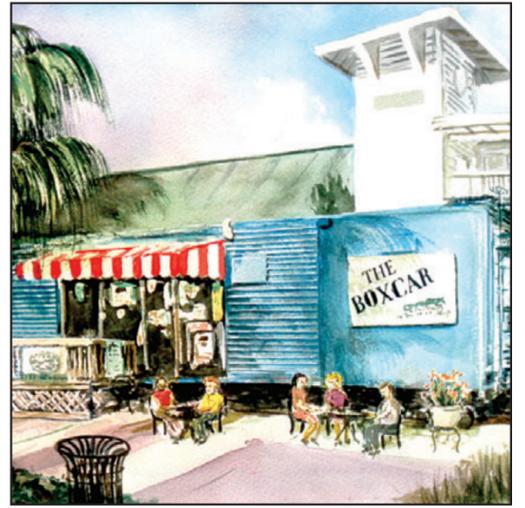
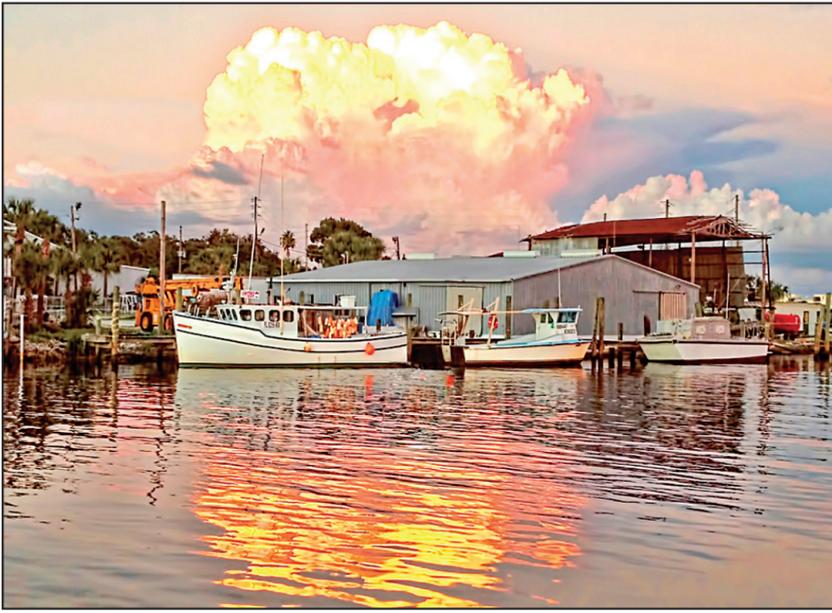
The exhibit will be on display at Stirling Art Studios & Gallery, found on the second floor of the renovated Stirling Commons building at 730 Broadway. The local artists will be showcasing their paintings, photography and sculpture.

There will be an exhibit reception on Friday, Sept. 13, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Participating artists will attend the event. The reception will coincide with Dunedin's 2nd Friday Wine and Art Walk.

Stirling Art Studios & Gallery is an artist collective of nine working studios, a classroom for Dunedin Fine Art Center, the Miniature Art Society of Florida and Creative Clay's Transition's Program.

Visitors should enter in back of the building and take the elevator or stairs to the second floor. September gallery exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 3 p.m. The gallery is open to the public. Admission is free.

For information, call Viv at 433-1420.



Images courtesy of THE TARPON SPRINGS ART ASSOCIATION
Above, "Morning at the Box Car," by Dick Duncan, is part of the September exhibition of Tarpon Springs Art Association artists at Stirling Art Studios & Gallery in Dunedin, along with "Sponge Boat, Tarpon Springs," by Trish Gregory, pictured at left.

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