

Seminole Fire Chief retires

After 31 years of service, George Bessler stepped down Aug. 30 ... Page 5A.

LARGO LEADER

Vin Diesel stars as 'Riddick,' opening in theaters this week

'Also, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers' and 'South Pacific' play in theaters ... Page 1B.



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September 5, 2013

ENTERTAINMENT



Music scene

Tampa Bay will welcome a diverse selection of musical artists in September including Maroon 5 performing Sept. 13 at the Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fair, Diana Ross at The Mahaffey Theater Sept. 10 and Steely Dan, who takes the stage at Ruth Eckerd Hall on Sept. 14. ... Page 3B.

LARGO

Dispose chemicals and old electronics

Pinellas County Utilities will take unwanted electronics, chemicals and hazardous waste during a mobile collection event Saturday, Sept. 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Largo Recycling Collection Center, 1551 Starkey Road. Pinellas County Solid Waste offers this service free to county households. Businesses should arrange for drop-off and payment by calling Creative Recycling at 813-621-2319 for electronics, or EQ Florida at 813-319-3400 for chemicals. ... Page 3A.

POLICE BEAT

Man arrested for shooting deputy

Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a deputy-involved shooting that occurred about 12:12 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, in Largo. A suspect in the case, Bryant Collins, 32, of Clearwater was transported to the Pinellas County Jail where he was charged with aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer. ... Page 6A.



Bryant Collins

COMMUNITY

Inspiring Change

Columnist Chad Herman urges the community to do what they can to help end domestic violence in the community. ... Page 8A.

VIEWPOINTS

Debra Saunders

Doctors take a different look at marijuana. ... Page 9A.



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Commissioners debate their raises

Largo commission votes 5-2 to raise their salaries equal to staff pay increases

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO - Admitting that the process "always feels very awkward," Largo Mayor Pat Gerard opened the debate on whether she and her fellow commissioners should receive the 2.5 percent pay increase the commission approved for the rest of city staff Sept. 3.

"Of all the votes that we take in a year's time ... this is the one that makes everybody sitting up here squirm, because you're voting on your own compensation," Gerard said. "Unfortunately, it's the only way it ever gets voted on." The mayor currently receives an annual salary of

\$19,688. Commissioners are paid \$13,125 a year. Earlier in the meeting, commissioners unanimously agreed to a 2.5 percent raise or the rest of city staff. But during the budget workshop Aug. 16, they were divided when Commissioner Michael Smith suggested they forgo the same pay increase for themselves.

Smith remained adamant in his position on the issue, promising that he would give his increase back to the city if he lost the vote.

"I really think people run for this office because they have a passion and care for this city, not for the pay," he said. "From my gut, I cannot support us get-

ting (a raise) this year."

Smith works for the Pinellas Park Public Library and said that as a city employee, hearing that city leaders were giving up their raises while rewarding employees, even with a small raise, would be a "big morale boost."

He and Commissioner Jamie Robinson were the sole votes against the increase. Smith and Robinson also are the newest additions to the commission, winning elections for their seats in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Commissioner Harriet Crozier reminded the "new

See RAISES, page 4A

The end of a bowling era

Close-knit staff, bowlers say goodbye as Twedt's Lanes closes its doors after 46 years

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO - On Sept. 2, the family of bowlers and staff met for one last time at a small bowling alley in Largo.

Twedt's Lanes, first opened in 1967, shut its doors this week, the property sold to an out-of-state corporation.

Tracy Bolton, who worked at the bowling center for 20 years, got teary-eyed as she echoed the sentiment of many in the room that day.

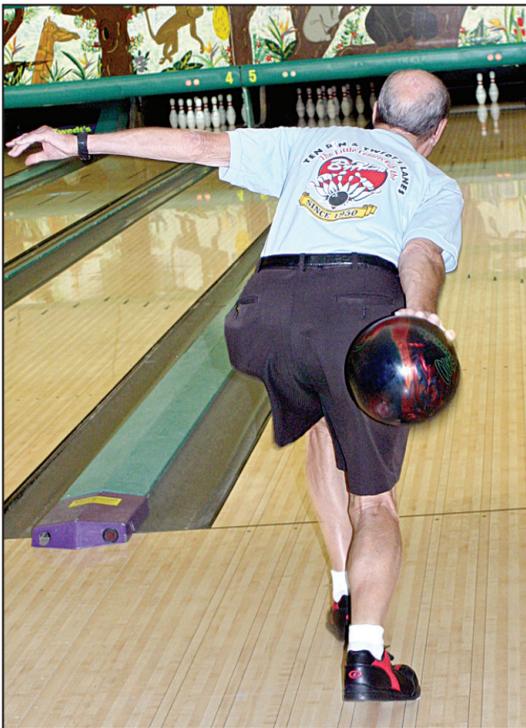
"It's sad, very sad," she said. "We're like a big family." Bolton was pregnant with her second daughter while she worked at Twedt's. Her daughters, now 18 and 22, grew up in the center, which hasn't changed much over the years, she said. She, her daughters and other family members - the ones who weren't working - came to bowl one last time and say goodbye to everyone Sept. 2.

"Everybody all week long has been making an appearance, coming to see the building one last time, come bowl a game or two," Bolton said. "It's a shame. Everybody's getting together too late."

The waiting list for a lane was an hour long that afternoon. Many of those bowling said they would miss the family atmosphere.

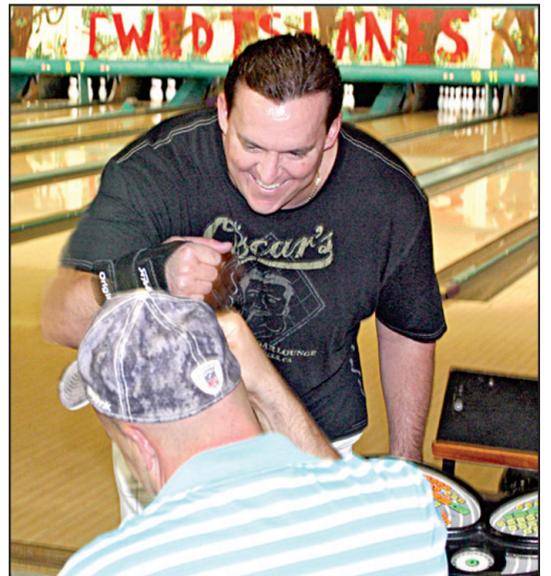
"A lot of bowling alleys are a lot larger than this. This one, it's all family," said Kay McAleer, who sat at the bar eating lunch with her husband.

See TWEDT'S, page 4A



Photos by JULIANA A. TORRES

Above, Jim Thompson of Largo attempts to score a spare at Twedt's Lanes, where he's been bowling for more than 15 years. Longtime bowlers and staff packed the Largo bowling alley for its final day Sept. 2. A sale of the property closed Aug. 19. Top right, Michael Kilpatrick of Clearwater celebrates scoring a spare on a split with his friend Jeff Hughes of Largo, seated. Kilpatrick and Hughes, who were both on a men's league at Twedt's, brought their families to enjoy one last afternoon at the alley. At right, Twedt's staff, from left, JoAnn Haynes, Christina Guzman, Chris Springstead and Todd Janseen share a joke amidst serving customers, who they say feel like family.



Superintendent concerned about student testing plans

By TOM GERMOND

LARGO - Pinellas School Superintendent Michael Grego said Aug. 29 that student testing is the challenging part of new state educational standards that are under fire.

Grego was speaking at a Pinellas Education Foundation event at the foundation's headquarters on Starkey Road.

"We need to be concerned," Grego said. "We cannot test ourselves to excellence."

Grego and other panel members gave their views on Common Core standards, which were established by the state in 2010 for English language arts and mathematics.

Florida is in a group of 19 states called the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. Under consortium's plan, Florida students would take PARCC assessments in place of the FCAT by the 2014-2015 school year.

Grego said he is a champion of accountability but was skeptical of the 20 days of assessments that PARCC had initially proposed, saying it equates to a full month of assessments on the school calendar.

"So you are going to take too short of a calendar which is 10 months and really should be 11, and take it down to nine ..." he said.

He also wants to make sure that students are being tested for "the subject content and not the ability to maneuver through a computer test."

"Is the student knowledgeable about mathematics or is he knowledge about solving a math



Photo by TOM GERMOND

Pinellas County Superintendent Mike Grego gives an update on the state of education in the county at a Pinellas Education Foundation event Aug. 29. Later, a panel discussion was held on topics such as Common Core's educational standards.

problem on a computer? Two different things," Grego said.

Grego, who was appointed superintendent in September 2012 and has held several administrative positions in his 28-year career, received

See EDUCATION, page 4A

Overflow crowd vents frustrations on flood insurance

By MELINDA GREENE

TREASURE ISLAND - About 200 people turned out at the Treasure Island City Hall Aug. 27 to hear a panel of speakers and vent their concerns over the controversial Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012.

The overflow crowd was funneled into the nearby community center where the presentation was televised simultaneously.

Treasure Island Mayor Bob Manning introduced the speakers for the evening who included Patty Latschaw, vice president and principal flood coordinator, Wright Flood; Anita Ford, agency principal of Insurance Resources; Anita Ryals Wright Insurance Regional Sales Manager; Pam Dubov, Pinellas County Property Appraiser; Jim White of Century 21, and Ron and Jacob Holehouse of Holehouse Insurance.

The aim of the bill is to end federal flood insurance subsidies or discounts for owners of homes and business buildings built prior to 1974 and the implementation of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

Opponents of this legislation say it is guaranteed to send the cost of flood insurance premiums soaring for many Pinellas County policyholders.

The bill has been approved by the House of Representatives and is scheduled to take effect Oct. 1, pending a final vote from the Senate when it reconvenes in September.

Under this legislation, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has the ability to increase premiums by up to 20 percent a year. Premiums will increase an average of 10 percent for policies

See FLOOD INSURANCE, page 4A

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City calendar

Highland Recreation Complex

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

Sign up for 5K and half-marathon training

LARGO – Highland Recreation Center is hosting running training programs to help residents prepare for the Tampa Bay Times Annual Turkey Trot 5K or the Women's Running Half-Marathon.

The training will equip participants with group runs, tips on proper stretching and training plans to take home and follow for the remainder of each week. Classes are open to runners ages 16 and older. A city of Largo recreation card is required.

Training for the women's half-marathon meets Sept. 3 through Nov. 23 on Tuesdays, 6 p.m., and Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. The half-marathon race will be held Sunday, Nov. 24. The cost is \$99 for residents and \$123.75 for nonresidents.

Train for the Turkey Trot class meets Oct. 2 through Nov. 27 on Wednesdays, 6 p.m. The class will conclude with the race held on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28. The cost is \$50 for residents and \$62.50 for nonresidents.

Highland hosts weight loss group

LARGO – Highland Recreation Complex will host a weight loss group starting Monday, Sept. 9, 6 p.m.

Damiane Handa, certified health coach from The Balance Branch, leads this program, designed to help participants lose pounds and keep them off without 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.

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.

For more information, visit PlayLargo.com or call 518-3016.

Sign up for a mother-son event

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 at the Largo Community Center.

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.

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.

Largo Central Park

The Largo Central Park is at 101 Central Park Drive. Within the park are the Largo Public Library, at 120 Central Park Drive; Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, and the historic Largo Feed Store, at 295 Central Park Drive. For information about events, call 587-6740, ext. 5014 or visit LargoEvents.com.

Anniversary gala to raise funds

LARGO – The Suncoast Performing Arts Foundation will present the 17th anniversary gala to benefit the Largo Cultural Center Sept. 28, 6 p.m.

The black-tie event, themed "Once upon a time," will include a silent and live auction, dinner and a signature live show in the theater. Tickets are \$125.

The Largo Cultural Center, with financial assistance from Suncoast Performing Arts Foundation, provides experiences that cut across cultural, social, racial, educational and economic barriers. The center's resident theater company, Eight O'Clock Theatre, has grown to be one of the most prestigious amateur troupes in Tampa Bay. The foundation also helps fund the center's Children's Series and awards need-based scholarships for theater camp experiences to area youth. Call 587-6793 or visit www.suncoastarts.org/Gala.html.

Ride the train

LARGO – Ride miniature trains around Largo Central Park on Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., during the first full weekend of the month.

The next train weekend is Sept. 7-8. Rides are free, though donations are accepted.

Largo Community Center

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

Enjoy lunch with a show

LARGO – The Largo Community Center presents luncheon and a show Sept. 19, noon to 2 p.m.

The cost is \$12. Enjoy a scrumptious meal, dessert and entertainment. Purchase tickets in advance in the office one month prior to luncheon. No refunds or exchanges.

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.

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National POW / MIA Recognition Day

September 20th is National POW/MIA Recognition Day. To honor these individuals Chapel on the Hill is hosting a Dinner followed by a Patriotic Concert. Tickets must be purchased no later than September 16th so the number of dinners can be planned. Tickets can be purchased by sending in a check or calling the office with your credit card information. Tickets will be held at the door.

Place: **Chapel on the Hill, 12601 Park Blvd.**
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Around town

Mobile collection event set up

LARGO – Pinellas County Utilities will take unwanted electronics, chemicals and hazardous waste during a mobile collection event Saturday, Sept. 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Largo Recycling Collection Center, 1551 Starkey Road.

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

Household electronics and chemicals – such as TVs, cell phones, computers, paints, motor oil, fertilizers and batteries – should never be dumped in the regular trash, drains, storm sewers or on the ground. These products can be harmful to the environment and to the people handling them if they are not disposed of properly. Electronics (“e-waste”) contain useful materials that can be extracted and recycled, such as aluminum, glass and plastic. As for chemicals, the average household can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of chemicals around the home over time.

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

Women’s club to meet

CLEARWATER – The GFWC Clearwater Woman’s Club will host its first luncheon meeting of the season on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 11:30 a.m., at the Palms of Largo, Royal Palms, 200 Lake Ave., NE, Largo.

GFWC Clearwater is a nonprofit organization that supports 16 local nonprofit organizations, centered on helping women and children. The meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested

in attending the first meeting of the season will get a free lunch, compliments of the GFWC board of directors.

Call Patti at 771-6812 or email patandpatticain@aol.com. Visit www.gfwcclearwater.org

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.

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.

Visit www.suncoastmrrc.com.

Elks to host Patriot Day event

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 Patriot Day is an annual observance to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. with coffee and cake, with a ceremony at 11 a.m. Local officials and members of the fire and police departments will attend.

For more information, contact Debbie Faris, 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 Publix Charities and Transamerica. Additional sponsors include Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini, P.L., ProVise 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.

A final shot



Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

Barbara O’Malley, a member of the Lincolnshire bowling league, lines up a shot at Twedt’s Lanes Sept. 2, the last day the Largo bowling alley remained open.

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Education center helps pair find a new career through service

By BOB COSTIGAN

The Pinellas Technical Education Centers along with its Public Works Academy has been offering students various career and technical education courses since 1962. Today they offer a wide range of programs, everything from accounting and automotive service technology to computer systems technology to dental assistant and practical nursing – more than 60 programs in all.

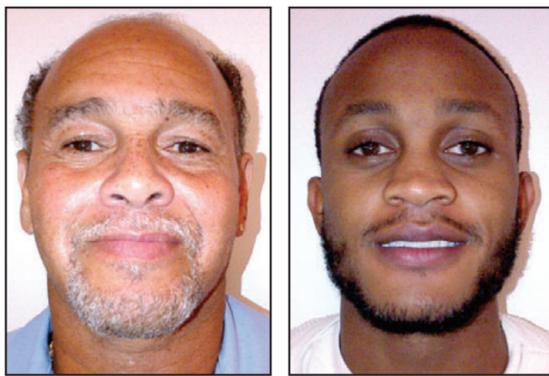
Their mission is to “provide students the opportunity to develop national workplace competencies to fill the needs of business and industry.”

Edward Davidson, 55, of St. Petersburg and Rashard Young, 22, of Clearwater are both currently unemployed and are students in PTEC’s Public Works Academy. They volunteer at Pinellas County’s South Cross Bayou water reclamation plant as part of the curriculum’s volunteer requirement time needed to graduate.

Young said he is interested in someday becoming a wastewater or water treatment plant operator. He discovered that PTEC enabled him an opportunity to get his “foot in the door with a big city or municipality” while going to school and getting his license.

Davidson, who previously worked in construction, said he was looking for a career change when he heard about PTEC. He likes PTEC, saying “it prepares you to get a job with a city or county and it gives you the hands-on training needed. And you get to network with a lot of different people.”

Davidson also would like to become a facility operator. While he notes “no one knows for sure what the future holds, this is really going to help us.”



Photos courtesy of PINELLAS COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS
Edward Davidson, left, and Rashard Young volunteer at Pinellas County’s South Cross Bayou water reclamation plant as students of Pinellas Technical Education Centers’ Public Works Academy.

While they have only been volunteering at the plant for a few weeks, together they have done and are learning to do a variety of things, such as working with the plant operator to determine how much chemicals, such as chlorine, is in the water. Christina Pellegatti, tech-

nical project coordinator at South Cross Bayou, believes Davidson and Young as well as PTEC and the Public Works Academy are very helpful. With the budget shortfalls that county has seen in recent years, they have come to rely on volunteers more and more.

“It’s a win-win situation for everyone,” she said.

Ray Gorman is a teacher at the Public Works Academy and agrees with Pellegatti. He notes that for students like Davidson and Young it’s a training and education program to help them get entry-level jobs in public works, which has about 14 different career paths. The academy has supplied South Cross Bayou with volunteer students in the past.

“It’s a great relationship because without the assistance we have with Pinellas County it would be very difficult for us to do our program,” said Gorman. “Our students have to have 195 hours of intern on the job experience so the volunteer program has been a real success in helping our students meet that requirement.”

Both Davidson and Young receive financial aid through the school. They offer Federal Pell Grants and other agency scholarships, which are available to eligible students and is used to help students meet their educational expenses.

Pinellas County volunteers can expect to make a difference in the life of their community, while exploring interests, sharing knowledge, assisting others and making friends. For more information, visit www.pinellascounty.org/volunteer, email volunteers@pinellascounty.org or call 464-VIPS (8477).

This article was provided by Pinellas County Communications.

Briefs

Water system maintenance program begins

The method of water treatment utilized by Pinellas County and its wholesale customers will be temporarily modified between Sept. 3 and 23. This short-term change from chloramine to chlorine disinfection is a routine maintenance measure designed to optimize water quality.

Those impacted by this maintenance program include Pinellas County customers as well as customers in the cities of Clearwater, Pinellas Park, Safety Harbor and Tarpon Springs.

Many communities using chloramine convert back to chlorine for a short period to maintain system water quality. Pinellas County switched to chloramine in 2002 to ensure compliance with Environmental Protection Agency standards.

Kidney dialysis patients should not be impacted, but should contact their dialysis care provider for more information about chlorine treatment. Fish owners should not be affected if they already have a system in place to remove chloramines, but should contact local pet suppliers with any questions.

There are no major indications of significant bacteriological contamination problems and this disinfection program is designed to maintain distribution system water quality and minimize the potential for any future problem. The water will continue to meet federal and state standards for safe drinking water.

Customers may notice a slight difference in taste and/or odor of the water during this temporary change in treatment. Conditions experienced by water customers will be identical to the more than 50 years

prior to 2002 when chlorine was used as the primary disinfectant in the water.

For more information, visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities or contact Pinellas County Customer Service at 464-4000.

Education workshop free to homebuyers

For those thinking about buying a home but unsure of where to start, a free homebuyer education workshop is a good place to begin. The workshop is being offered on Saturday, Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County, 600 Cleveland St., Suite 800, Clearwater.

Attendees will learn the basics of the home buying process, including helpful resource information on down payment assistance and homes for sale. The workshop is especially helpful for those who are working with a lender and need a homebuyer education class certificate or have owned a home before and are considering a new purchase.

Course materials from NeighborWorks America will be available for purchase by check or cash. The books feature comprehensive materials, helpful in navigating the home buying process. The cost is \$17. Those who complete the class also will have the opportunity to win door prizes.

The class size is limited so those interested should call 464-8210 or email housingfinanceauthority@pinellascounty.org to register. The Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County and the Pinellas Com-

munity Housing Foundation sponsor the workshop.

Master Food & Nutrition Volunteer program beginning soon

The Pinellas County Extension Master Volunteer University is looking for volunteers to help whip up a healthier community. Scheduled to begin in October, the Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer program allows persons to share with county residents valuable lessons about nutrition, fitness, wellness and culinary arts in a fun environment.

Volunteers reach a variety of citizens including seniors, children and families through faith-based organizations, family centers, schools, recreation centers and other organizations. Prior training, education and nutrition knowledge are not needed. What is required is a personal commitment to volunteer and a sincere desire to learn and help others along the way.

To rise to the level of a Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer, participants will take a 40-hour training course developed by Extension experts. The classes will run from Tuesday, Oct. 1 through Tuesday, Dec. 3. Classes will be spiced up with lectures, workshops, demonstrations and field trips to give volunteers all the tools necessary for success.

Applications for the program must be submitted by Friday, Sept. 20. A \$50 training fee covers class supplies and course materials. For an application, email Nan Jensen at njensen@pinellascounty.org or call 582-2104.

RAISES, from page 1A

commissioners” that past commissions had debated whether the city charter should dictate when Largo leaders receive raises, instead of the commissioners themselves. But past leaders always came back to basing any increases on what the rest of city staff received, she said.

“None of us ran to get the salary. We ran for the city and to help the residents. I think everybody understands that, but I also think we work very hard,” Crozier said.

The last raise commissioners received was a 4 percent increase, equal with staff, in 2009.

Commissioner Curtis Holmes said that the increase, which amounted to about \$7 a week, almost covered the gas he spends “running errands around town.”

“We don’t get any reimbursement for expenses whatsoever,” he reminded his fellow commissioners.

Smith argued that every event he attended and every board he participated on was a choice he made for which he shouldn’t have to be compensated.

Commissioner Woody Brown said that he thought it was good that Largo commissioners had other day jobs, but had no problem voting for the pay increase.

“Personally, I give up income so I can be a city commissioner,” he said, adding that the role commissioners provided was “very valuable to the taxpayers and the city of Largo.”

The debate came after the commission passed the first reading of the 2013-14 budget and tax rate. Holmes correctly predicted that he would be the sole vote against raising the city property tax rate from 5.0 mills. The proposed rate, at 5.21 mills, is equivalent to

\$5.21 for every \$1,000 in taxable value.

The increase is designed to bring in 5 percent more in property tax revenue as was collected last year. It helps fund the 2.5 percent employee salary increase, an additional police officer and another IT administrator to cover growing service needs.

Largo resident and Friends of Largo Nature Parks President Pat Edmond spoke in favor of the tax rate increase.

“I did the math and it’s extraordinary to me, but that increase ... is \$4.57 a month more than what I’m paying now,” she said. “I cannot imagine what I can buy for 15 cents a day, let alone have to give it up. So I think I’m going to be fine. This simply is not a catastrophe, and I feel that way about this budget as a whole.”

Holmes argued that while the city’s increase was small compared to other taxing entities in the county, it

was part of a cumulative increase that was hurting Largo residents.

“Yes, the services are great, but you still have to draw the line somewhere,” he said.

Commissioner Robert Murray pointed out that the city’s annual survey showed residents continually support the services it provides, especially parks and recreation options.

Gerard asked city residents to speak out if she was wrong.

“But I believe that the people of Largo trust us,” she said. “The services we have are a benefit to the people who can’t afford to go pay for those things.”

The final public meeting on the budget and tax rate will be held Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6 p.m., at Largo City Hall, 201 Highland Ave. Residents are invited to attend and voice their opinions.

TWEDT’S, from page 1A

son and parents. “They know our names, what we like to eat and drink.” “You get the same thing every time,” ribbed General Manager Todd Janssen, who played on a bowling league with McAleer.

Twedt’s is special because of its size, Janssen said. The staff has time to chitchat with the bowlers.

“When you’re this small, of course we know everybody by name and face. We get to know them on a more personal level,” he said. “They just pop their head in my door because they know they can.”

Janssen came to work at Twedt’s 15 years ago, moving from Ten Pin Lanes in Pasadena, the second bowling alley owned by Barbara Stealy and jointly called the “little centers with the big heart.” Janssen said Twedt’s has had its highs and lows, but he would miss the people most of all.

“You fight with them one week. And the next week, you come back, and you’re having a drink with them,” he said.

Stealy received a “very generous” offer to buy the property at an “opportunity time,” Janssen said. According to Pinellas County property records, the sale closed Aug. 19, transferring the property at 13100 Seminole Blvd. to a company based in Kansas City, Mo., called Legacy Largo for \$1.85 million.

Janssen said the new property owners plan to convert the bowling alley into a strip mall.

“It doesn’t surprise me at all. Everything around here’s being bought up,” said Janssen, who will become a general manager at Ten Pin Lanes. “I don’t know why they’re going to put a strip center here when they’ve got one (next door) that’s got three empty spots in it.”



Photos by JULIANA A. TORRES

Above, Olivia Hughes, 7, of Largo bowls with her family on the last night Twedt’s Lanes was open Sept. 2. At right, General Manager Todd Janssen chats with longtime customers Wesley Germann and Debbie Minkel of Seminole, enjoying a meal with their family.

During the winter, Twedt’s was home to about 16 leagues, some bringing a bus full of residents from nearby mobile home parks. The staff helped some of those leagues reestablish themselves at nearby bowling centers, Janssen said. Others were divided up into other leagues elsewhere.

Jim Thompson, a member of the bowling league from Lincolnshire Estates in Largo, said he wasn’t happy that the league would be playing at Liberty Lanes from now on.



“We’re comfortable here,” said the 83 year old. “The staff helps out every way they can.”

Lifelong Largo resident Erin Hughes and her family bowled one last time with the Kilpatrick family Sept. 2. She said she was sad that the “family lanes” were closing down. She remembered coming to the bowling center as a kid for youth groups and events. Her 93-year-old stepfather played on a league for 15 years. Her husband, Jeff, and Michael Kilpatrick played on a men’s league together. At least two of the families’ kids have had birthday parties at Twedt’s.

“You’re always connected somehow, even if you don’t come regularly,” she said. “Everybody knows everybody.”

EDUCATION, from page 1A

applause from the audience of civic and school leaders as he made his final remarks on the issue.

“Florida needs a sound assessment that works, that is balanced with instruction as we just can’t keep testing ourselves to some kind of glorified state.”

Gus Bilirakis, a Republican U.S. representative of Palm Harbor, also had some concerns about Common Core standards and said he would listen to local school officials.

“I’m worried about too much testing now,” he said.

He said that Common Core is not a national mandate, and Congress passed legislation to make sure the federal government does not force this on our states.

Regarding Common Core as a whole, State Rep. Larry Ahern, R-

Seminole, said he thinks the bottom line for Florida is that the standards described “are what the student should know or learn.”

“They don’t spell out the how for teachers. I think that’s the important part to understand about this set of standards,” Ahern said.

Senate President Don Gaetz and House Speaker Will Weatherford “said let’s stop and take a longer look at how Florida goes about writing its own set of standards. Again, that’s our prerogative. There’s been no federal mandate for that,” he said.

Gaetz and Weatherford have recommended that the state don’t participate in PARCC’s testing plan that is in conjunction with the new Common Core State Standards.

School Board chairwoman Carol Cook said the district has to reach the standards set by the state, and the board and superintendent will determine curriculum. School Board members had a lot of training in Common Core over the summer, she said.

rina on Treasure Island, said she got quite a shock when the business changed insurance carriers and needed to acquire an elevation certificate.

“We learned we are 5 feet above sea level, i.e., minus-6,” she said. “We now have the pleasure of paying an additional \$3,000 a month for the same coverage of our hotel. Unfortunately, the fact is commercial businesses will have no choice but to share some of this cost with the consumers and the effect it will have on tourism in our area is of deep concern.”

“Well, it’s great to be the property appraiser,” joked Pam Dubov, Pinellas County Property Appraiser, as she took the podium, “I’ve come to you with no good news at all.”

With regard to the impact the bill is likely to have on local market values, Dubov said. “The evidence from what I have heard from Realtors and bankers is mixed. There are people who can afford to pay those rates, but they are very few in number compared to those who have been participating in the market.”

Information regarding the age of a home and whether it lies within a flood zone can be found on FEMA maps.

With the base elevation level now a major factor in determining how much insurance costs will be, Dubov said that without a certificate of elevation, it’s impossible for her office to ascertain how high the lowest living area of a house is with respect to the base flood elevation. Currently, no clearinghouse exists where this type of information can easily be found.

“So you as citizens have the opportunity to have input through your school board members as well as the employees of the school district will have an opportunities to have input. And how we do it and what we choose as far as books and curriculum, that is still a local decision.” Cook said.

Common Core internationally benchmarked standards define what students in kindergarten through 12th grade should know in English language arts and mathematics. The standards include changes in how teachers teach to help children succeed in the areas that matter most, the Pinellas school district’s website says.

Also on the panel was St. Petersburg Mayor Bill Foster.

The moderator was Gypsy Gallard, publisher of the “Power Broker Magazine,” which targets Blacks in the Tampa Bay Area. Local officials, civic and education leaders attended the event, called the “Superintendent’s Roundtable, State of Education.”

Base flood elevation levels, she added, vary from house to house regardless of the street or neighborhood in which it is located.

“The federal government has moved ahead to put this program into effect, but they have yet to identify a database we really need to determine in advance who is most likely to be affected,” Dubov said.

A certificate of elevation can be obtained from either the property developer or from community officials such as the city or town’s planning and zoning office for a cost of \$200 to \$500. Hiring a licensed land surveyor to prepare the document is an option as well.

Some property owners seeking to renew their policies on or after Oct. 1 will see a 25 percent annual increase in their flood insurance policies until they can supply a certificate of elevation that indicates their full-risk premium rate is lower than the subsidized rate using the current FIRM.

The Biggert-Waters Act signed into law in 2012, was designed to stabilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) federal flood insurance program which found itself \$18 billion in debt after Hurricane Katrina; in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy that figure has ballooned to about \$24 billion.

Residents hoping to relegate this bill to the ash bin were to make their voices heard and to contact Sens. Bill Nelson, Marco Rubio and Congressman Bill Young.

“We’re small, but we’re mighty,” Minning told the crowd. “Contact our elected officials; it’s the only mechanism we have to get a reprieve from this.”

Beach nourishment projects delayed

By BOB McCLURE

CLEARWATER - Due to a shortage of dredging equipment, scheduled beach nourishment projects for Treasure Island and Long Key have been delayed.

Pinellas County Coastal Manager Andy Squires told members of the Barrier Island Governmental Council Aug. 28 that work may not begin until next spring. It was previously hoped the projects would be done later this fall.

More details will be known in the next few weeks.

Squires said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is expected to award a bid Sept. 13.

"Once they award it, the contractor has 10 days to submit a schedule," he said. "So it looks like by the third week of September we'll know what their schedule is."

Squires said there have been changes because of the dozen projects across Florida that the Army Corps is trying to complete due to the storms last summer.

"There's a shortage of dredges," said Squires. "Several of the dredging companies originally had a May 1 completion date for the project. But it was strongly suggested by the Corps to extend that to Sept. 30, 2014. Otherwise we may not get a bid or the bids would be extremely high."

"So, we don't know what their schedule is going to be," Squires added. "There's a good chance it won't start until next spring."

"On the other side, we've been monitoring the beaches and they've been doing rather well. So if we don't have any bad storms in the meantime, I think we'll be OK."

Restore Act funds

Pinellas County officials are considering ways to spend about \$22 million it will receive as part of a civil lawsuit settlement through the Restore Act and the U.S. Clean Water Act.

Altogether, Squires said Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas would receive about \$15 billion in fines related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

"There are three main pots of funds that will be coming to Pinellas County," said Squires. "There's one pot that will be coming directly to Pinellas County - not through the governor and not through a federal council."

Squires said he has been tasked with developing a plan for the county to come up with a set of projects to implement when the money becomes available. He said the county doesn't know when that will be.

"So I've been talking with county administration and our com-

missioners regarding a process to basically come up with a plan and the direction I've been given is to develop a county-wide advisory committee of maybe seven individuals," Squires said.

He said it would consist of a BIG-C rep and perhaps a couple from the cities, the MPO and possibly staff from a couple of agencies.

"So I'm asking the BIG-C if they would like to recommend a representative that I can move forward to administration for approval," Squires said.

He said it would be a four to six-month process with three to five meetings. He said projects selected must help the ecosystem or the economy.

Treasure Island Mayor Bob Manning, who is chairman of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and is familiar with the Restore Act, was later selected as the BIG-C rep.

Squires said Pinellas County would receive its share over a 10- to 15-year period, which means "you're looking at about \$1.5 million to \$2 million per year."

"It sounds like a lot of money but when you think about it, it won't pay for undergrounding (of utilities) on Gulf Boulevard," said BIG-C president and Clearwater Mayor George Cretekos.

Seminole Fire Rescue chief retires

By TIFFANY RAZZANO

SEMINOLE - After leading Seminole Fire Rescue for the last three years and 31 years of total service to the city, Fire Chief George Bessler has stepped down.

Bessler informed City Manager Frank Edmunds of his retirement, which went into effect on Aug. 30, by email on Aug. 1. Terry Tokarz, currently the assistant fire chief, will take over as interim fire chief while Edmunds conducts a nationwide search for a permanent replacement.

In his email to Edmunds, Bessler wrote: "It has been my pleasure to serve the City of Seminole and the greater Seminole community for over 31 years. I have truly enjoyed and have found it very rewarding to work with dedicated emergency response personnel that sincerely care about the wellbeing of each other and our community. I have also been fortunate to work for a City Manager that genuinely cares about the welfare of our employees and of the community."

Bessler, 53, will join the East Lake Fire Rescue Department as assistant fire chief of training/EMS. He served as training chief with Seminole Fire Rescue for seven years and said he "dearly loved doing that work, providing training for firefighters." While he said serving as fire chief has been "extremely re-



George Bessler

warding," he wants to finish up his career in public service in a position he loves.

"I enjoyed that aspect of the position, but I'm young enough and healthy enough to go back and do what I love doing," he said.

He plans to permanently retire when he's 60.

"George has served the greater Seminole area very well during his successful career and has demonstrated true leadership skills during his tenure as Chief of the department," Edmunds said.

Bessler, who lives in Seminole, is president of the Rotary Club of Seminole Lake and is involved with the local Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of America.

Tokarz, who has 25 years with Seminole Fire Rescue, said he's interested in applying for the fire chief position permanently.

"My belief is that most people start jobs with expectation of advancing throughout the rank," he said. "You don't start in fire service immediately as fire chief; you work your way up. And I've done that here."

He added, "I'm excited about the opportunity and looking forward to the number one challenge of being interim fire chief and ultimately applying for the job and seeing what happens. It would be the final exclamation point on a fabulous career here."

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Clearwater man arrested after deputy-involved shooting in Largo

LARGO - Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a deputy-involved shooting that occurred about 12:12 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, in Largo.

According to detectives, Deputy Ethan Taylor was on routine patrol when he ran the tag of a gray 1994 Acura. The vehicle came back as a stolen vehicle reported out of St. Petersburg Police Department's jurisdiction. Taylor requested backup and began to follow the vehicle.

The suspect's vehicle pulled into a gas station located on the corner of 142nd Avenue North and S. Belcher Road. The suspect



Bryant Collins

then exited the vehicle, went into the gas station and then returned to his vehicle to pump gas.

Taylor and Deputy Lorie Fagan entered the gas station parking lot and began to approach the suspect near the gas pumps. The suspect noticed the deputies approaching him and put his vehicle in reverse. He then accelerated the gas, causing his vehicle to hit the unmarked car

driven by Fagan.

The suspect then put the car in drive and attempted to exit the parking lot. Out of concern for officer safety and the safety of those in the area, Taylor began to fire shots at the suspect's vehicle, the sheriff's report said. The suspect's vehicle then hit the curb and drove into a retention pond where it came to a stop.

The suspect, Bryant Collins, 32, of Clearwater was taken into custody and transported to the Pinellas County Jail where he was charged with aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer and driving while license was suspended/revoked.

No injuries were reported. Deputies Taylor, 47, and Fagan, 52, are on routine paid administrative leave. Taylor has been employed with the Sheriff's Office since June 1997 and Fagan since December 1986.

St. Petersburg police are investigating the stolen vehicle.

Truck rolls over, spills diesel fuel

By JULIANA A. TORRES

SEMINOLE - A construction pickup truck rolled over and spilled diesel fuel on Park Boulevard near Lake Seminole Park Aug. 29, causing traffic delays on both Park and Seminole boulevards while crews cleaned up the spill.

Seminole Fire Rescue responded to the scene of the crash at around 11:20 a.m. The driver of the Dodge Ram, who has not been identified, was transported to Bayfront Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries via ambulance, according to agency spokesperson Brad Dykens.

Between 20 to 40 gallons of fuel spilled onto Park Boulevard from the pickup truck, which was also carrying construction equipment, Dykens said.

"He must have fueled up this morning," he said. "Crews worked to contain the spill



Seminole Fire Rescue firefighters block off eastbound Park Boulevard to contain a diesel fuel spill after a Dodge Ram pickup truck rolled over Aug. 29.

Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

and to keep it from going into the estuary."

Firefighters used hazardous containment products that operated like dams to keep the fuel from spilling down the gutters and into the sewer system. They also laid down a flame-retardant blanket to keep the fuel from catching fire. But the agency called a private contrac-

tor to the scene to help clean up the mess, Dykens said.

"It exceeded the capabilities we had," he explained.

Officials cordoned off eastbound Park Boulevard while the spill was cleaned up. Without an easy detour around the blocked roadway, traffic was severely affected throughout the area.

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Seminole man charged with sexual battery

SEMINOLE - Pinellas County Sheriff's Office detectives arrested a Seminole man Aug. 30 for capital sexual battery on a female child under age 12.

Earlier this month, detectives with the Sheriff's Office Crimes Against Children Unit began conducting an investigation into allegations that Calvin Dowd, 35, had sexual contact with a minor under the age of 12. The alleged events took place in December of 2006 at Dowd's residence.

During the reported incident, Dowd approached the victim as she slept and inappropriately

touched and fondled her. Detectives interviewed Dowd and the victim on multiple occasions. At the conclusion of the investigation it was determined Dowd had nonconsensual sexual contact. Dowd allegedly admitted to the allegations. He is currently being held at the Pinellas County Jail without bond.

Man arrested for child abuse

PINELLAS PARK - A Pinellas Park man was arrested Aug. 28 and charged with one count of aggravated child abuse against a 6-month-old female.

According to The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, the incident occurred Aug. 15 at a private residence in St. Petersburg.



Derek Lee Adams

Detectives assigned to the Crimes Against Children Unit said Derek Lee Adams, 24, was changing the child's diaper when

See POLICE, page 7A

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Crash report

Driver dies in motorcycle crash

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – A Seminole man died at the scene of a motorcycle crash on Indian Rocks Causeway about 7:53 p.m. Sept. 2.

According to a report from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Jacob Austin Scott, 27, was riding his 2000 Kawasaki 1100 Supersport on the eastbound span of the causeway at the time of the crash. Deputies said speed appears to be a contributing factor and that Scott has a suspended driver's license.

Anyone with information on the crash is asked to call Sgt. Ryan Buckley at 727-582-6200.

One injured in motorcycle crash

ST. PETE BEACH – Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies as-

signed to the Major Accident Investigation Team are investigating a single motorcycle crash in St. Pete Beach.

According to the sheriff's report, the crash occurred about 11:21 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, on Blind Pass Road near 76th Avenue.

Deputies said the driver of a 2000 Harley-Davidson, Earl W. Pruitt Sr., 60, of Pinellas Park exited a nearby parking lot and pulled onto Blind Pass Road and then began to drive northbound in the southbound lanes.

When attempting to change lanes, Pruitt hit the median and was thrown from the motorcycle. He was transported to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. Pruitt was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

No other vehicles were involved. Deputies said it is not known if alcohol was a factor.

Help requested in hit and run of bicyclists

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Police Department needs the public's help in finding the vehicle and its owner who struck two bicyclists on Sept. 2 on Memorial Causeway and then left the scene.

Both bicyclists were left in critical condition. One of the bicyclists died from his injuries later that afternoon. Anyone with information is asked to call 562-4242.

Senior drives car into business

CLEARWATER – An 88-year-old woman was taken to the hospital as a precaution after she drove her car into a business at 2907 S.R. 590 at 10 a.m. on Aug. 30, according to Clearwater police. According to a police report, the woman blacked out and veered into the business.

Divers search for missing swimmer

CLEARWATER – Divers were searching for a missing person, possible drowning victim on Sept. 2 and 3 in the Gulf of Mexico.

Around 2:15 p.m. on Sept. 2, James E. Poindexter, 27, was swimming out by the south buoy, about 40 yards from shore at Bayside Park, around 951 Gulf Blvd., Clearwater, when his family saw that he was in distress. Poindexter called out for assistance, at which time a family friend tried to help but was unable to locate him.

The Clearwater Police Department Marine Unit – as well as assistance from the U.S. Coast Guard, Clearwater Fire & Rescue Marine Unit, Unified Command, Dive Team the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit, FWC, Sheriff's Office Eagle, and Chaplain Swick – responded in order to try to locate Poindexter.



Photo courtesy of CLEARWATER FIRE & RESCUE
Divers resumed their search for a missing swimmer on Sept. 3.

Baystate Park was closed down as Unified Command was set up.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office's Eagle responded as well and canvassed the area for the

duration. Chaplain Swick was requested for multiple family members on the scene. Poindexter was not found that night, and the search resumed in the morning.

POLICE, from page 6A

he became frustrated and began to squeeze her legs. He applied excessive pressure and pushed down on the victim's legs causing fractures below both knees. The child was in Adams' care at the time the injuries occurred and were discovered when the mother took the child to the hospital due to "her being fussy," the report said.

During an interview with detectives on Aug. 18, Adams allegedly admitted to the allegations. He was transported to the Pinellas County Jail and bond was set at \$50,000.

Murder suspect arrested

CLEARWATER – Clearwater Police arrested a 16 year old on Aug. 29 and charged him with first-degree murder in a random act of violence that left a 22-year-old man dead. Jason Paul was killed in January as he rode his bike home from work, a police report said.

Clearwater police charged Mychal King in the Jan. 6 murder. Paul was riding his bike near Crest Lake Park when he was stabbed to death. Clearwater detectives William Hodgson and Kerri Felici were instrumental in solving the case, police say, and they followed numerous tips and leads to bring charges against King, who has "an extensive criminal past."



Photos courtesy of CLEARWATER POLICE
Top left, Mychal King, 16, was charged with first-degree murder for killing a 22-year-old man in January. Top right, Jason Paul, 22, was stabbed to death while riding his bike near Crest Lake Park in January.

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Domestic violence affects everyone, how to help

The story often begins in a similar way: a young lady becomes involved with a wonderful young man. They spent most of their time together. It feels like love at first sight.

After many months, this young man begins suggesting that the lady wear only the things he likes. She wants to please him, so she wears things that make him happy and by doing this, she is happy too. A few months later, he makes comments on her weight, her friends and even her view of herself. His words echo statements she's heard from others that she loved in the past.

By the end of the first year, she wears what he tells her to, speaks only to the people he allows her to and feels horrible about herself. She believes he is right about everything. She explains to concerned friends that it is mostly her fault that he gets angry sometimes.

One day, her sister asks her to lunch. She is happy to go and having a great time until her phone begins ringing. The text messages and voice mails become increasingly more threatening until he arrives at the restaurant. He screams at her and when her



Inspiring Change

Chad Herman

sister speaks up he yells at her as well. He puts the woman into his car and drives away.

It's four months before her sister sees her again. She won't look anyone in the face and she has fresh bruises on her arms, her chest and her face. Her friends, her family, even people passing on the street ask to help her but she looks the other way for fear of being seen talking to someone.

Two years into the relationship, the young woman walks into a bathroom and finds a card. It asks: "Does your partner hurt you?" She cries, calls the number and is soon on her way to a domestic violence shelter and a wonderful new life.

Domestic violence affects all of us! Whether we are friends, acquaintances or neighbors to the abused or the abuser, we are affected. One in three women will be in an abusive relationship in their lifetimes. One in four teenage girls will be verbally

abused by a boyfriend by the time they are 16.

According to the Center For Disease Control, 1.3 million people are abused in the United States alone. Of those 1.3 million, 80 percent of them are women.

According to the Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force prevention committee "the number one way to end domestic violence is by speaking out against it and the prevention of it, protecting the survivors, and always saying something when you see it happening."

Last year, 13 people were killed in Pinellas County, by people who told them they loved them. In 2011, 11 people were killed by their partners. These people were doctors, teachers, pastors, horse enthusiasts and mothers - people who you may have seen every day.

Domestic violence isn't biased. It affects all races, all genders, all tax brackets and all ages. The Center For Disease Control has called it a "plague on our society and killing more people than most cancers."

So what can you do to help? Pinellas County has two domestic violence outreach centers and off-site shelters to assist in ending these problems and helping the survivors heal. The Haven of RCS (call 441-2029) handles all inci-

dents and neighborhoods north of Ulmerton Road. Community Action Stops Abuse, or CASA (call 895-4912) handles all incidents and neighbors south of Ulmerton Road. Both are nonprofit organizations, which means that they survive off the donations from the community. Your donations will keep them working toward the end of this disease.

You could organize a neighborhood, church or community donation drive for one or each of these shelters or take up the cause on your own. Both of the shelters need the same items on a continuous basis: bras of all sizes, wipes, socks, bath robes of all sizes, shoes, flip flops and slippers of all sizes, children's clothes, hair brushes and combs, twin-size sheets, hair care products, bath towels, feminine hygiene products, blankets and quilts, body wash and soap, hand towels and wash cloths, facial scrub, lotions, purses and organizers, journals, deodorant, alarm clocks, razors, calculators, bus passes, cosmetics, strollers, gift cards and phone cards.

Donations aren't the only way you can help. You can pick up the "palm cards" from each of the outreach centers and put them in dressing rooms, sitting rooms, restaurants and bathrooms.

You have the ability to assist in ending domestic violence in our community and save the lives of people like the young woman in our story.

Chad Herman, a Largo resident, is a motivational speaker dedicated to inspiring his audiences toward social change, ending violence and affirming others' ability to create a better future. Visit his website at www.motivatinglepositivchange.com.

Health briefs

HealthSouth to celebrate rehabilitation week

LARGO - HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Largo will join rehabilitation providers across the nation Sept. 15-21, in celebration of National Rehabilitation Week.

During National Rehabilitation Week, HealthSouth hospitals provide the roadmap to recovery for patients overcoming challenges after an illness or injury. True stories of inspiration are made possible through HealthSouth Largo's dedicated team approach to patient care, offering personalized programs and advanced technologies.

The week will be highlighted by various events and activities at the hospital. Community members are invited by personal invitation to attend a Celebration Reunion on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

"Getting patients back to their active lives is our mission at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Largo," said Tripp Smith in a press release. Smith is HealthSouth Largo CEO. "National Rehabilitation Week provides a great opportunity for our hospital to honor how much each of our patients have accomplished since their injury or illness. We invite the community to join in our celebrations and to learn of the successes that rehabilitation brings to patients at our hospital every day."

For information, visit www.healthsouthlargo.com.

USF Bulls to host blood drives

The University of South Florida, which donates more blood than any other group in Tampa Bay, is kicking off its fall blood drives with OneBlood.

Countless lives will be affected in hospitals served by OneBlood, the local blood center. Bloodmobiles will be located on both the Tampa and St. Petersburg campuses as follows:

- Thursdays, Sept. 19 and Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., in the Student Life Center at USF, St. Petersburg Campus, 140 Seventh Ave. S., St. Petersburg.
- Tuesdays through September, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Sun Dome, 4200 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa
- Wednesdays through September, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Marshall Center, 4103 Cedar Drive, Tampa.

For a list of other USF Bull Blood Drives, visit www.oneblood.org/promotions/202534-USF-Bulls-Out-For-Blood.stml.

From Aug. 26 through Oct. 26, all lifesaving donors will enjoy a limited edition Bulls Blood Donor T-shirt along with a wellness check up of blood pressure, pulse, temperature and iron count, including a cholesterol screening. Also, as a special gift only to USF students and faculty who donate, IKEA Tampa will be giving a voucher redeemable for a \$10 IKEA gift card. In addition, donors who give blood twice between June 1 and Sept. 30, 2013, will receive a voucher for a free steak dinner courtesy of Outback Steakhouse and be entered into a drawing to win "Outback for a Year."

For further details and rules visit www.oneblood.org/outback/. Generally, healthy people age 16 or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can donate blood.

Foundation to host One Step Closer

ST. PETERSBURG - The Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation will host the third annual One Step Closer to the Cure 5K Run/Walk, set for Saturday, Sept. 14, at Albert Whitted Park, 480 Bayshore Drive SE.

The event will kick off at 7 a.m. Proceeds will benefit the Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation.

This community event will feature several types of challenges in which any age can participate and help find a cure. There will be a 5K Run/Walk, a 1-Mile Fun Run, and the Overcoming Obstacles Challenge. More than 1,400 participants are expected.

"One in 70 women in Tampa Bay will develop ovarian cancer," said Claudette Carlan in a press release. Carlan is foundation chairperson. "Our goal is to fight this disease through early detection, treatment and research. Bring your family and come out and join the fun while supporting a worthy cause."

Proceeds go toward the goals of the Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation. The foundation sponsors research, assists in the development of an early detection test and in prevention efforts, educates the community and offers financial assistance to patients fighting ovarian cancer.

For information or to register, visit www.CMOCF.org/OneStep or www.facebook.com/cmocf, or call 863-381-2034.

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Sam's Club to host health screenings

Sam's Club will host free diabetes awareness health screenings to promote early detection and prevention of diabetes and prediabetes, and to help with blood sugar measurement.

The screenings will take place Saturday, Sept. 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the following Sam's Club locations: 7001 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park; 2575 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd., Clearwater and 1725 34th St. N., St. Petersburg

The screenings will offer free A1c blood tests and glucose screenings. The full screenings also include blood pressure, body mass index and vision screening. Visit www.SamsClub.com.

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Public helps keep classroom supply cabinets stocked

When public schools opened earlier this month, classroom supply cabinets were well stocked.



As I See It
Margo Pope

It wasn't because of some great windfall of tax dollars. Rather, it was the willingness of teachers and parents to dig deeper into their own pockets for the common good – general classroom supplies. Hand sanitizers, tissue boxes, and paper towels, for example, along with the usual stash of crayons, pencils, pens and paper fill these cabinets.

It's a given that classroom supplies will be fronted by teachers and the parents. A nationwide survey of 800 teachers for the National School Supply and Equipment Association (www.nssea.org) found that teachers annually spend \$1.6 billion of their own money on classroom supplies. On average, teachers said they spent \$485 of their own money on school supplies, instructional materials and other classroom materials during the 2012-2013 school year. Ten percent said they annually spend \$1,000 or more out of their own pockets.

Another finding was that 25 percent of teachers surveyed required parents to purchase general classroom supplies but that was down from 47 percent surveyed in recent years. There did not seem to be an explanation of the drop.

Since 1998, Florida has allocated a public school teacher stipend for classroom supplies and materials. This year, the Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program will provide up to \$250 per teacher. Gov. Rick Scott initiated a debit card for teachers for that amount to ease the process. But the Tampa Bay Times reported last week that only seven districts out of 67 had enrolled – Miami-Dade, Orange, Hamilton, Hendry, Jefferson, Lafayette and Levy.

But that's not to say other districts' teachers won't see the money. Most districts for years have provided the state funding directly to teachers by check. Districts also are concerned that the state debit system doesn't take effect until late September, six weeks after most schools opened. We look for improvements in the system next year.

Community response to the classroom supply dilemma is growing. Civic groups and businesses organize drives for students in need and teachers. Tax dollars will only stretch so far.

Margo C. Pope is a former opinion editor of The St. Augustine Record.

LETTERS

Lackeys of big insurance

Editor:

News reports say Citizens insurance will raise rates again? This despite the fact that Citizens already charges three times the national average for insurance. It is now time to put an end to Citizens' price gouging by constitutional amendment.

If the state Legislature actually represented the people of Florida, overcharging to the level of extortion by Citizens would have been stopped years ago.

However, as everyone knows our state legislators are nothing but lackeys for big insurance and the price gouging by Citizens will continue.

It therefore looks like the only way for the hurricane lashed property owners of this state to have reasonable insurance rates is a constitutional amendment that would not allow Citizens to ever charge more than the national average for insurance.

Bob Snow

Clearwater

Other views

From Florida newspapers' opinion pages

The Lakeland Ledger

Florida sinkholes: Lawmakers act against residents

Florida has more sinkholes than anywhere in the country, so residents typically treat them like the state's other inconveniences of nature, such as hurricanes and alligators – we learn to live with them.

But the sinkhole that opened near Clermont this month and swallowed a condo resort building should alarm state and local officials into getting serious about addressing what is a growing threat to homes and businesses, not to mention Floridians' pocketbooks.

The Miami Herald

Punish Syria for crossing 'red line'

The United States should not waste time seeking U.N. support for a retaliatory strike. It would be blocked by Russia. Forming a coalition with Britain, France and other countries that have condemned Syria's government would amply demonstrate international resolve.

Deepening American involvement in yet another Middle East conflict goes against President Obama's instincts – and ours. Unemployment should be his principal focus. But events have a way of intruding on presidential agendas. In this instance, it's unavoidable. Syria's brazen disregard for humanitarian norms cannot go unanswered.

Florida Today

Ailing vets' wait a national disgrace

Since 2001, the government has trained, equipped and deployed more than 2.5 million men and women to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. But those who came home with brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder or other serious afflictions have too often found that the military's efficiency ended abruptly when they filed a disability claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Veterans filing a new disability claim can wait a year or more to get an answer from the VA, potentially costing them thousands of dollars a month in disability payments, even as they get VA medical treatment.

What do you think?

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Here are some more guidelines for letters:

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The treasure of popular songs

In my next life I hope I can be a songwriter. I can think of few achievements more satisfying than to compose the lyrics of a beautiful song that captures love, courage, heartbreak, sweet memories, struggle, regret, revenge, faith or other emotions.

I can't recite more than a few lines of the Gettysburg Address or Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. But I can give you every word of "This Land Is Your Land," "Don't Fence Me In" and dozens – maybe hundreds – of other popular songs. I bet that you can, too.

How do song lyrics get so deeply embedded in our brains? Repetition, probably. In the cradle we are treated to lullabies. By age 3 we're exposed to nursery rhymes. Unless we're hearing-impaired or living in a mine shaft, at every stage of our lives the songs keep coming at us – from radios, TV, iPods, computers, movies, our own children. The best songs, and some of the worst ones, will be repeated so often in an average lifetime that the words and melodies become pinned to the corkboards of our minds.

The first songs I can recall were "The Way You Look Tonight" and "The Music Goes Round and Round." Our nation's entry into WWII brought "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" and "Der Fuehrer's Face." I entered my teens in the company of Sinatra, Como and Nat Cole. I must confess that after the advent of rock music in the 1950s I memorized many fewer lyrics. Today I'm an illiterate when the conversation turns to rap, hip hop and other noise-ridden varieties of music.

For an intriguing exercise, try listing 20 or so events of your own personal life, and then name the pop hits that were current at that time. It shouldn't be hard to do. I go into nostalgic shock each time I hear Jo Stafford sing "You Belong to Me," at the top of the charts in September 1952, when I entered college and life was greener than it's ever been for me, before or since.



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

Pop music has changed in other ways. Too often, dignified performance has given way to tawdry exhibitionism.

Can you name the tune that's triggered in your mind when you remember the first time you kissed your true love? Or the love that got away?

I'm a sucker for love songs with happy endings. Maybe some day the Pew Research Center will launch a study to determine how many love songs have a happy theme vs. those that deal with romances that ended badly. Among the upbeat titles might be "You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To," "When Your Hair Has Turned to Silver," "Till There Was You," "Our Love Is Here to Stay," "Just in Time," and "Long Ago and Far Away."

The sad songs might include "Are You Lonesome Tonight?," "I Cried for You," "Autumn Leaves," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," and one of the most poignant tunes in all of song-writing history, "Yesterday." Legend has it that Paul McCartney produced that song in about 10 minutes. Examples like that pretty well demolish the notion that great works of art must, or should, be the product of years of suffering.

Other countries and cultures have rich his-

stories of songwriting and memorable ballads, but offhand I can't name any other nation that has churned out the volume of popular music that the USA has. A history of America could be written based on the songs that reflected the struggles, triumphs, madneses and enthusiasms of our country and its people.

Although the USA has steadily become more citified, I recently heard that country-western songs are the music category most requested and played on American radio stations.

Despite my lifelong admiration for many music performers, I've had personal contact with only two people in the music business. One was the late Helen O'Connell, who sang with the Jimmy Dorsey band and alongside Bob Eberle during the 1940s. My wife had known Helen in Los Angeles, and when Helen performed in the Tampa-Orlando region in the '70s and '80s we would sometimes hook up with her for a visit.

My other musical acquaintance was my Bucknell University fraternity brother Bruce Lundvall, whose skill at discovering and developing talent led him to become the head of the prestigious Blue Note label. In recent years Bruce has lamented the radical changes in the music industry. People used to pay cash for song records and take them home to play. In today's digital era, you can just switch on a radio or computer and download songs, free of charge.

Pop music has changed in other ways. Too often, dignified performance has given way to tawdry exhibitionism. Can you picture Ella Fitzgerald or Rosemary Clooney displaying their pudenda the way Miley Cyrus did a week or two ago at the video music awards? I can't, and I don't want to.

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



About weed: Listen to the doctor

CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta admitted earlier this month that he had been wrong in his opposition to medical marijuana during the rollout for his documentary "Weed." Gupta reported on research that demonstrated the proven benefits of marijuana in treating neuropathic pain. Medical marijuana was the only drug that helped a 5-year-old girl with Dravet syndrome live without constant seizures. It calmed the constant hiccupping of a 19-year-old. Israelis use it to treat Parkinson's disease and other ailments.

Gupta took on the federal government's classification of marijuana as a Schedule I drug, which has no accepted medical use but has a high potential for abuse. (Heroin also is a Schedule I drug. Methamphetamine is Schedule II.) Gupta now believes that classification is an outrage.

The doctor didn't say marijuana is all good. He cited research that found that regular use by teens can lead to a permanent decrease in IQ. But Gupta could find no documented case of a death from a marijuana overdose, whereas someone dies every 19 minutes from a prescription-drug overdose. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 80,000 Americans die each year from excessive alcohol use.

Last week, Gupta's sentiments were echoed on the right when columnist Charles Krauthammer, a former psychiatrist, told Fox News that alcohol is much more harmful than marijuana. Quote Krauthammer: "If I were



Debra Saunders

Medical marijuana was the only drug that helped a 5-year-old girl with Dravet syndrome live without constant seizures.

starting a society from scratch and had to choose the intoxicant, I would outlaw alcohol and I'd allow marijuana." (Side note: But seeing as he can't reset the world, Krauthammer said he wouldn't legalize pot.)

Gupta's about-face might well signal a sea change in how this country looks at marijuana. Gupta told CNN's Erin Burnett that he used to look at medical marijuana advocates as "malingerers" who are "just looking to get high." But he came to see that cannabis not only helps severely ill people but also averts the dangerous side effects of more potent pharmaceuticals.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Pat Leahy an-

nounced Monday that his committee will hold a hearing Sept. 10 about the correct federal response to state laws legalizing the use of medical marijuana and, in the cases of Washington and Colorado, recreational use of marijuana.

Is President Barack Obama paying attention? Reporter Jessica Yellin asked White House spokesman Josh Earnest last week whether the administration was considering changing marijuana's Schedule I designation. Earnest responded with a long-winded no.

Before the American Bar Association recently, Attorney General Eric Holder delivered a speech that was supposed to signal big changes in the administration's approach to nonviolent drug offenders.

But he didn't mention marijuana enforcement, even though his Department of Justice has waged a ruthless war against medical marijuana dispensaries. Federal prosecutors have not only sent registered California dispensary operators to prison but has also gone after their landlords, their bankers and contractors.

Listen to Gupta and Krauthammer and it's fair to surmise that marijuana is the least harmful of all controlled substances. It's less toxic than alcohol, which is legal. It's less lethal than prescription drugs.

So why is Washington still waging a war on weed?

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

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Industry updates

Largo franchise earns 'Gold Standard'

LARGO – Once Upon A Child in Largo recently was recognized for achieving a "Gold Standard" measurement. The distinction is reached when a store achieves a set of standards set forth by the franchisor during the evaluation process. The Largo store achieved the customer experience, store operations and consistent brand identity to earn Gold Standard recognition in 2013. "Being recognized as a Gold Standard store is a very significant accomplishment, but even more, it means we're succeeding in providing our customers the best shopping experience possible," said Ben Rosa in a press release. Rosa is owner of Once Upon A Child in Largo. "Portraying a standardized look and maintaining a high level of experience for my customers helps ensure a consistent brand appearance, which in turn contributes to a more positive shopping experience. By reaching the Gold Standard, we're helping create an identity that customers recognize and value." The Gold Standard seal at the store can identify a Once Upon A Child Gold Standard store. Shoppers also may visit www.onceuponachild.com to locate Gold Standard stores.

"Once Upon A Child provides a place for parents to buy and sell their quality, gently used kids stuff for their ever-growing children – saving them time and money," Rosa said. The Largo location sells a wide selection of new and used kids stuff, such as apparel, furniture, equipment and toys.

Jersey Mike's Subs opens

LARGO – Jersey Mike's Subs officially opened its doors Sept. 4 at 2687 Roosevelt Blvd. Franchise owner James Connolly is hosting a grand opening and free sub fundraiser through Sunday, Sept. 15, to support the Abilities Foundation.

The new restaurant will circulate 10,000 coupons throughout the community offering a free regular sub for a minimum \$1 contribution to the Abilities Foundation. Half of these 10,000 coupons will be valid through Sept. 8, with the other half being valid through Sept. 15. Started at the Jersey Shore in 1956, Jersey Mike's continued its steady growth in 2012 opening 92 new restaurants throughout the country, a 33 percent increase in new store growth over 2011. Connolly exemplifies Jersey Mike's quest for excellence as it selects franchise owners who share the company's commitment to quality products and exceptional customer service and who are dedicated to giving back to the local community. Since 2010, locations throughout the country have raised almost \$7 million for worthy local charities and distributed more than 500,000 free sub sandwiches to help numerous causes.

"For our grand opening fundraiser we have the opportunity to partner with the Abilities Foundation," said Connolly in a press release. "Specifically, we will be raising money for the Veterans Mall. This branch of the organization helps provide household essentials for veterans who are transitioning back to life at home. We are grateful for this chance to give back to our veterans and support them through the work of the Abilities Foundation."

Jefferson Bank relocates

OLDSMAR – Jefferson Bank recently relocated its Palm Harbor branch to a newly renovated freestanding building in Alderman Plaza at 35320 U.S. 19.

The 3,400-square-foot branch is located at the southwest corner of U.S. 19 N. and Alderman Road in the Alderman Plaza and offers a covered, drive-up ATM and two drive-in lanes. Rose Fasano, branch manager, and her team will continue to provide professional, friendly service at the new location.



Jefferson Bank

"Jefferson Bank is a local institution committed to the communities we serve," said Bob McGivney in a press release. McGivney is chairman/CEO. "Our goal is to keep customer needs at the forefront of all our business decisions. The new Palm Harbor location provides enhanced accessibility and the covered, drive up ATM is much more convenient."

Program targets entrepreneurs

CLEARWATER – Beginning in October, WorkNet will launch an innovative technology-focused training program, called Startup Quest in Pinellas County.

The program educates aspiring entrepreneurs about opportunities to commercialize technologies developed at Florida's universities and federal laboratories.

The program is open to veterans and professionals with college degrees who are either unemployed or underemployed, and considering self-employment or working for a startup as a career path.

Interested candidates can attend a no-obligation informational session on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1 to 4 p.m., at the Feather Sound Country Club.

To register for the event visit bit.ly/StartUpQuest.

Experienced entrepreneurs and startup mentors that have already created their own successful businesses will lead an intensive 10-week training course. The mentors will guide participants through the process of creating business plans to bring new, patentable inventions and technologies to market. The program culminates with an investor pitch contest in front of real-world investor judges. Training is provided at no cost to eligible participants.

"Entrepreneurs play a vital role in economic development and new job creation" states Edward Peachey, President & CEO of WorkNet Pinellas and Tampa Bay WorkForce Alliance. "Hopefully the skills gained during the program will empower participants to form their own startup company here in the Tampa Bay area."

WorkNet Pinellas is still accepting mentors with technology startup experience to lead teams. To learn more about becoming a Startup Quest mentor email startupquest@worknetpinellas.org or visit www.worknetpinellas.org.

Airport receives safety distinction

CLEARWATER – The Federal Aviation Administration Southern Region recently awarded the Airport Safety Mark of Distinction Award to St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

The airport's assigned FAA Southern Region Airport Certification Inspector who recently completed our annual inspection made the nomination for this distinction.

The FAA developed this award to promote safety among the Southern Region certificated airports and to recognize any action, effort, or event involving an airport that deserves praise for its intended or demonstrated effect on the advancement of safety. PIE was noted for its "safe and successful oversight of the rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 which took place October 2011 through August 2012, the drainage improvements with Pinellas County, and 35,000 linear feet of crack sealing on Runway 18/36."

"Through professional action and fervent effort the staff and management of the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport have improved safety for the traveling public," said Winsome Lenfert in the award certificate. Lenfert is FAA Airports division manager.

Noah Lagos, airport director, accepted the award in a presentation from Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners Chairman Ken Welch at the August 20 BCC meeting.

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Dolphin baby season ends on a high note

Life at sea does not play out for our benefit, but it is to our benefit to watch it play out.

This summer's 2013 birth season of the John's Pass bottlenose dolphins has played out like an Alfred Hitchcock movie, at least for those of us who monitor the health and well-being of the local dolphin community. The suspense has been nothing like the terrible dolphin die-off on the east coast of Florida, however.

We have much to celebrate, though only one newborn bottlenose dolphin has appeared each month between April and July, two of whom perished. The lack of newborns was eased this week with the appearance of two new babies at the end of August, delivered on par with Hitchcock-like suspense.

Eight dolphin subgroups recently assembled near a tidy little causeway and included all of the calves born to local moms this year, some calves from previous years and the two new bonus babies.

Dolphin-like, the best action was a combination of fantastic and frustrating. The fantastic part was watching Stick's brand-new baby attempt its first hours of life. So new that its dorsal fin had not quite stiffened and its baby mouth still bore the traces of mammalian whiskers that would vanish that day, it revealed one of the first challenges of learning to swim like a dolphin.

This challenge involved the glistening newborn's tailstock, which apparently has a mind of its own, or rather a musculature of its own. The dolphin tailstock is the back half of the dolphin's body that serves as the propeller that pushes the dolphin forward via up-and-down strokes (in contrast, fish and shark propellers move side-to-side). This biological propeller is fitted with an efficient muscular mechanism that conserves energy: A dolphin has to create the down stroke through muscular effort but the up stroke is accomplished with a spring-like mechanism that bounces the tailstock up and ready for the



Newborn baby bottlenose dolphins like Jelly's newborn typically pop up at the surface with their eyes closed, either snoozing or cringing against the sudden bright light above the sea. In contrast, mother keeps a close [open] eye on her baby.

Photo by ANN WEAVER



Dolphin Watch

Ann Weaver

next down stroke.

This mechanism was amusingly obvious as Stick's new baby jiggled clumsily to the surface. Perhaps the down stroke is instinctive because the newborn surfaced alongside Stick's measured strokes with fair success. But the newborn was clearly thrown off, literally, by the up stroke.

Every time it surfaced at Stick's side, its miniature tailstock seemed to bounce up without restraint, pitching the tiny shiny baby forward uncontrollably into a headlong smash landing on its chin, the fresh new tailstock trailing innocently behind in its best ready-for-the-down-stroke position.

Stick's little nursery group included two other moms but also one of our local bull giants, Schnoz. For years, Schnoz' gender was a mystery due in part to his habit of swimming with a group of mom dolphins with newborns like this. This is unusual bull behavior; bulls are usually seen with moms when the calf is older.

The frustrating action was the other mom with a tiny shiny new-

born. She was frustrating because, with a second larger dolphin nearby, she moved away from us so concertedly that we were only able to see her from behind. This meant that the vital dorsal fin pattern we use to identify individual dolphins was never clearly visible. After a handful of such surfaces, we backed off to avoid harassing her. There are two possibilities as to the identity of the new mom, but a Hitchcock-like suspense continues until that part of the movie unfolds.

There were two other little dramas with our slightly older calves of the season.

One drama was striking. Front Slash's 6-week-old baby was busy with behavior associated with the 'tail stage.' The tail stage is characterized by a tiny dolphin that has acquired a modicum of control over its tail and fluke movements and is now better able to move smoothly between water and air for breathing. But the baby in the tail stage is now subject to sudden accelerations; as if its propeller operates at will, abruptly thrusting the little one forward from mom's side in an uncontrolled spurt that sometimes pitches the baby into a headstand or forward somersault!

The other drama was melodramatic. It involved first-time mom Sharkey's calf. Born by the Memorial Day weekend, it is our old-

est local calf. Now that it is 3 months old, it is old enough to get a name. But it was far too young and unlearned to be enrolled in an enthusiastic but disorderly social exchange between three teens and big bull Xiphos.

This exchange was so vigorous that all you saw with lots of splashing, punctuated by tauntingly sporadic glimpses of a tiny baby, which we finally figured out was Sharkey's calf. Sharkey haunted the sidelines, as many moms do when their baby is caught up with other dolphins.

Ultimately, we glimpsed Sharkey swimming away with her baby while the wild splashing continued. The suspense about whether the calf is OK continues until that part of the movie unfolds.

Life at sea play does not play out for our benefit, but knowing the stages of growth and development in young lives and the entire dolphin community is ecologically essential.

Dr. Weaver studies wild dolphins under federal permit 16299, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Send her an email at annstats54@gmail.com or visit her website www.goodnatureddolphins.com. NOAA advises anyone who sees a stranded dolphin in the Gulf of Mexico to call 877-942-5343 or 877-433-8299.

Find snook at inlets in large concentrations

The fall snook season is now open. Remember, for snooks the regulations are as follows: size limit on snook is 28 to 33 inches with a pinched tail, with a bag limit of one fish per person per day. Pinching the fish's tail requires anglers to measure the fish at its absolute maximum length. And as always a snook stamp is required in any situation that a salt-water fishing license is required. After what was a much improved catch and release summer for snook, it's hard to argue with the way the snook fishery has been managed.

The largest concentrations of snook right now are still going to be found in or around any of the inlets leading out to the Gulf. These fish have been hanging around bridge structures, jetties and sand shoals for the past few months and has undoubtedly received their fair share of catch and release angling pressure. Concentrate your efforts on peak tidal movement and always keep in mind that snook feed best on a major solar period. When these two events align, the bite can be awesome.

Fishing up next to bridge pilings requires pretty heavy tackle. Drop down hand sized grass grunts on a good moving tide and be ready to turn the fish away from the pilings just like you were grouper fishing. The pass shoals and jetties require a downsizing of tackle, light leaders and a loose drag will catch far better in these spots. Big grass grunts still work great here, as does a good-sized pilchard.

Many of the fish have actually begun to move out of the passes and began their trek inland. Nocturnal anglers know that this is the time of year that dock light fishing starts to get good. Those deepwater dock lights off the beaten path can often hold their fair share of keeper-sized snook as we head into the fall months. Live threadfins work great and as for artificial lures, the Maverick Golden eye gets the nod.

Beach snook remain a viable option. Early morning sight-casters can walk the beach looking for snook cruising the shallows. Though their numbers have thinned out some, anglers should still expect to encounter a decent amount of fish holding on most Pinellas County beaches. Shallow diving plugs or lip-less twitch baits work great on the beach, as does a free-lined shrimp.

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.



Fish Tales

Capt. Tyson Wallerstein

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

Tampa Bay Watch receives \$25,000 grant

TIERRA VERDE - Tampa Bay Watch recently received a grant of \$25,000 from the Coca-Cola Foundation to support the organization's Community Oyster Reef Enhancement project at McKay Bay.

"Tampa Bay Watch is honored to receive this generous support from the Coca-Cola Foundation," said Peter Clark in a press release. Clark is Tampa Bay Watch president. "Especially for such an important, high-impact project."

The goal of the project at McKay Bay is to establish a community-based oyster creation project that will construct approximately 2,900 linear feet of new oyster shell communities on the northern shoreline of McKay Bay. McKay Bay is an ecologically important estuary located in the heart of a heavily industrialized area in the city of Tampa that has suffered from many years of impacts from dredge and fill construction, urban and industrial runoff and dredged material disposal.

Through the creation of 2,900 linear feet of new oyster communities on the northern shoreline of McKay Bay, many new ecological benefits will occur. These benefits include improved water quality that will lead to the reintroduction of sea grasses in McKay Bay, increased water filtration capacity which will directly benefit the McKay Bay estuary and the new oyster reefs will provide habitat, foraging areas and sanctuary for various species of fish and wildlife that frequent coastal and estuarine shorelines. The CORE project at McKay Bay will have a measurable, positive impact on the health of McKay Bay and, ultimately, the Tampa Bay estuary.

"For us, water stewardship begins at home in our own facilities, where process improvements and technologies have allowed us to save

more than 3 billion gallons of water since 2005," said Jeff Ortmeier, vice president of sales, Central Florida Market Unit, Coca-Cola Refreshments. "Tampa Bay Watch is also committed to water stewardship. Their McKay Bay project joins more than 100 water stewardship initiatives that we support in North America."

Community-based oyster projects are a cornerstone of Tampa Bay Watch's restoration programs. These projects encourage oyster growth through the construction and installation of oyster domes and oyster shell bars. Oyster shell reefs prevent erosion of bay islands and fragile coastlines and improve water quality through the natural biological filtration of living oysters. Natural water filters, oysters are also a food source for other bay inhabitants. Increasing oyster populations means a reduction in erosion and better overall water quality while restoring vital hard-bottom habitats in the bay.

Tampa Bay Watch is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) stewardship program dedicated exclusively to the charitable and scientific purpose of protecting and restoring the marine and wetland environments of the Tampa Bay estuary encompassing over 400 square miles of open water and 2,300 square miles of highly-developed watershed. Tampa Bay Watch involves more than 10,000 youth and adult volunteers each year in hands on habitat restoration projects.

For information, visit www.tampabaywatch.org, or call 867-8166.

Fishing tournament honors firefighter

PINELLAS PARK - The second annual Fireman John Memorial Fishing Tournament, to help All Children's Hospital and Florida Safe Pools purchase life jackets for children, will be held Saturday, Sept. 14.

Last year's tournament raised \$1,530, which was donated to All Children's Hospital.

Registration is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children younger than 14. This is an in-shore catch and release tournament. Fish from boat or land using live bait or artificial lures. There will be an open division, a junior division and a kayak division.

The tournament is held in honor of retired Pinellas Park

firefighter John Litz, who was an avid fisherman. In September 2011, while fishing with a friend, Litz was thrown from the boat and drowned. He was not wearing a life jacket.

For tournament rules, contact Tom at firemanjohnft@yahoo.com. There will be a mandatory registration meeting at Fat Cat Tavern, 6080 U.S. 19 N. in Largo, on Friday, Sept. 13.

For updates, visit www.facebook.com/FiremanJohn-FishingTournament or call 614-9368.

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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?"

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• **"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers,"** with book by Lawrence Kasha and David Landay, music by Gene de Paul, Al Kasha, Joel Hirschhorn, and lyrics by Johnny Mercer, Al Kasha and Joel Hirschhorn; Sept. 5-22, at Francis Wilson Playhouse, 302 Seminole St., Clearwater. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$13 for students. Call 446-1360 or visit www.franciswilsonplayhouse.org. Goin' courtin' has never been as much fun as in this rip-roaring stage production. It tells the story of Millie, married and living in the Oregon wilderness in 1850, who plans to civilize and marry off her six rowdy brothers-in-law.

• **"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.

• **Music in the Park,** featuring a performance by SPAN, Friday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road. SPAN will be playing the music of Sinatra and friends. The two-hour concert is the first of six on consecutive Friday nights at the park. Performances run 7 to 9 p.m. 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. For more information, visit www.myseminole.com.

• **The Starlight Concert Series,** featuring Fast Lane, Friday, Sept. 6, at Highlander Park, 903 Michigan Blvd., Dunedin. The series will feature free music under the stars through September on Fridays, 7 to 9 p.m. Concessions will be available, or attendees may bring a picnic basket, blanket or lawn chair. For information, call 812-4531. Fast Lane features Scott "Skyntyte" Free on lead vocals and guitar, Michelle "Velvet" Banfield on lead vocals, Larissa "Lacy Lou" Gifford on lead and background vocals, Vernon "Dr. Rockenstein" Montoya on keyboards, Keith "Mr. Ladd" Ladd, Josh Hoffenberg on drums and David "DB" Baggaley on background vocals and guitar. This six-piece band plays a blend of R&B, funk, soul and rock and roll.

• **John Mayer,** Saturday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m., at the Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Tickets start at \$36. Call 813-740-2446 or visit www.livenation.com. The consistency with which Mayer combines word craft and melody has earned him rarefied status as a respected songwriter and musician. As one of few musicians to achieve both critical acclaim and popular appeal, the seven-time Grammy Award winner has earned accolades for each album release while selling in excess of 17 million albums worldwide. Known as a musician who defies genre boundaries, Mayer is well known for collaborations with a range of artists. From rock to blues, hip-hop to jazz to country, Mayer has performed and/or recorded with Eric Clapton, BB King, Buddy Guy, T-Bone Burnett, Herbie Hancock, Dixie Chicks, Jay Z and Alicia Keys.



Photo courtesy of UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Vin Diesel reprises his role as the antihero Riddick – a dangerous, escaped convict wanted by every bounty hunter in the known galaxy – in "Riddick," the latest chapter of the groundbreaking saga that began with the hit sci-fi film "Pitch Black."

Opening this weekend

Diesel reprises his antihero role as ex-con, mercenary in 'Riddick'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Riddick'

Genre: Action and science fiction
Cast: Vin Diesel, Karl Urban, Jordi Molla, Matt Nable, Katee Sackhoff, Bokeem Woodbine, Dave Bautista, Conrad Pla, Raoul Trujillo, Nolan Funk and Kerl Hilson
Director: David Twohy
Rated: R

Riddick, the latest chapter of the groundbreaking saga that began with 2000's hit sci-fi film "Pitch Black" and continued with 2004's "The Chronicles of Riddick" reunites writer/director David Twohy and star Vin Diesel.

Diesel reprises his role as the antihero Riddick, a dangerous, escaped convict wanted by every bounty hunter in the known galaxy.

The infamous Riddick has been left for dead on a sun-scorched planet that appears to be lifeless. Soon, however, he finds himself fighting for survival against alien predators more lethal than any human he's encountered. The only way off is for Riddick to activate an emergency beacon and alert mercenaries who rapidly descend to the planet in search of their bounty.

The first ship to arrive carries a new breed of merc, more lethal and violent, while the second is captained by a man whose pursuit of Riddick is more personal. With time running out and a storm on the horizon that no one could survive, his hunters won't leave the planet without Riddick's head as their trophy.

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

'A Teacher'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Lindsay Burdge, Will Brittain, Jennifer Prediger, Julie Dell Phillips, Jonny Mars and Chris Doubek
Director: Hannah Fidell
Not rated

Part psychological thriller and part provocative character study, "A Teacher" explores the unraveling of a young high school teacher, Diana (Lindsay Burdge), after she begins an affair with one of her teenage students, Eric (Will Brittain). What starts as a seemingly innocent fling becomes increasingly complex and dangerous as the beautiful and confident Diana gets fully consumed by her emotions, crossing boundaries and acting out in progressively startling ways. Lindsay



Photo courtesy of MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Freda Kelly is the subject of "Good Ol' Freda," a Magnolia Pictures release.

Burdge delivers a deeply compelling and seamlessly naturalistic performance that brings us into the mind of an adult driven to taboo against her better judgment.

'Good Ol' Freda'

Genre: Documentary
Director: Ryan White
Rated: PG

Freda Kelly was just a shy Liverpool teenager when she was asked to work for a local band hoping to make it big. Though she had no concept of how far they would go, Freda had faith in The Beatles from the beginning, and The Beatles had faith in her.

History notes that The Beatles were together for 10 years, but Freda worked for them for 11. Many people came in and out of the band's circle as they grew to international stardom, but Freda remained a staple

See **OPENING**, page 4B

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Music scene

Diana Ross to play Mahaffey; Steely Dan returns to Ruth Eckerd Hall

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

The **Starlight Concert Series** will kick off on Friday, Sept. 6, at Highlander Park, 903 Michigan Blvd., Dunedin.

The series will feature free music under the stars through September on Fridays, 7 to 9 p.m. Concessions will be available, or attendees may bring a picnic basket, blanket or lawn chair. The lineup for the Starlight Concert Series is as follows:

- Sept. 6 - Fast Lane
- Sept. 13 - Mudflappers
- Sept. 20 - Betty Fox Band
- Sept. 27 - Legendary JC's

For information, call 812-4531. September also will see the return of a favorite series of outdoor concerts in Seminole.

The city's annual **Music in the Park** series will kick off Friday, Sept. 6, at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road, Seminole.

The music will run 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free. Six concerts are planned, including the following in September:

- Sept. 6 - SPAN: An evening with Sinatra and friends
- Sept. 13 - Yesterdayz
- Sept. 20 - The Troy Duncan Band
- Sept. 27 - Tommy Roxx and Big Deal

For information, visit www.myseminole.com.

Blair Crimmins and the Hookers will perform Saturday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m., at the St. Petersburg Coliseum, 535 Fourth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$20. Call 892-5202 or visit ticketmaster.com.

Crimmins began his current music career in Atlanta, Ga., with a determination to bring ragtime and 1920s style Dixieland jazz to new audiences. What he created was a sound that is at once modern while being deeply rooted in the past. Crimmins is touring to support his forthcoming album "Sing-a-Longs," set for release Sept. 10. The Hookers will be playing in the enormous ballroom of the St. Petersburg Coliseum to benefit the UPARC Foundation of Clearwater.

For information, visit www.stpete.org/coliseum.

The sixth annual **Tangerine Blues Fest** will take place Saturday, Sept. 28, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., on the Tangerine Greenway at 49th Street and 18th Avenue South in Gulfport.

This free event will bring to the stage an impressive lineup of performers. The first part of the festival will feature bluegrass artists. Beginning at 4 p.m., the blues bands will take over. Following is a summary of this year's scheduled acts:

- Boilin' Oil - 10 a.m.
- Sycamore Shade - noon
- The Blue Grass Sound Band - 2 p.m.
- Charlie Morris - 4 p.m.
- Lauren Mitchell Band - 5:30 p.m.
- TC Carr - 7 p.m.
- Selwyn Birchwood - 8:30 p.m.

The festival also will include an arts and craft show as well as food and beverage vendors. For information, visit www.tangerinebluesfest.com.

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

Hard Rock Café Tampa

- Eddie Money, Sunday, Sept. 1, 9 p.m.
- Blues Traveler, Thursday, Sept. 26, 8:30 p.m.

Hard Rock Café Tampa is at

Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, 5223 N. Orient Road, Tampa. Call 800-745-3000.

Jannus Live

- Blue October, Friday, Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- Rancid, Saturday, Sept. 7, 6:30 p.m.
- Pepper, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 8 p.m.
- Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros, Thursday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m.
- Rebelution, Thursday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

Jannus Live is at 16 Second St. N., St. Petersburg. Call 565-0550 or visit www.jannuslive.com.

The Local 662

- Icon for Hire, Thursday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.
- Iamdynamite, Thursday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m.

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

The Mahaffey

- Diana Ross, Tuesday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m.
- Engelbert Humperdinck, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- Pet Shop Boys, Friday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m.
- Loretta Lynn, Saturday, Sept. 14, 8 p.m.
- Maze featuring Frankie Beverly, Friday, Sept. 27, 8 p.m.

The Mahaffey is at 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Call 892-5767 or visit www.themahaffey.com.

Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre

- Jason Aldean, Friday, Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- John Mayer, Saturday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.
- Maroon 5, Friday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.
- Depeche Mode, Saturday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.
- Kid Rock, Sunday, Sept. 15, 6:45 p.m.
- Miranda Lambert, Friday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.

The Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds is at 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Call 813-740-2446 or visit www.livenation.com.

The Palladium at St. Petersburg College

- Billy Cobham, Friday, Sept. 20, 8 p.m.

The Palladium at St. Petersburg College is at 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Call 822-3590 or visit www.mypalladium.org.

The Ritz Ybor

- Zedd, Saturday, Sept. 7, 9 p.m.
- Thomas Gold, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 10 p.m.
- Gramatik, Wednesday, Sept. 25, 9 p.m.



Photo by DANNY CLINCH



Photo courtesy of PRESS HERE PUBLICITY

The Ritz Ybor is at 1503 E. Seventh Ave., Tampa. Call 813-247-2518.

Ruth Eckerd Hall

- Joe Satriani, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 8 p.m.
- Rick Springfield, Friday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m.
- Steely Dan, Saturday, Sept. 14, 8 p.m.
- Classical Albums Live - Zepp II, Thursday, Sept. 19, 8 p.m.
- Brian Wilson with Jeff Beck, Saturday, Sept. 28, 8 p.m.

Ruth Eckerd Hall is at 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com.

Skipper's Smokehouse

- Come Back Alice, Friday, Sept. 6, 8 p.m.
- Gumbo Boogie Band, Sunday, Sept. 8, 5 p.m.
- Coo Coo Ca Choo, Friday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m.
- Del McCoury and the TPA Collective, Saturday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.
- Ana Popovic Band, Sunday, Sept. 15, 5 p.m.
- Enter the Haggis, Friday, Sept. 27, 8 p.m.

Skipper's Smokehouse is at 910 Skipper Road, Tampa. Call 813-971-0666 or visit www.skipperssmokehouse.com.

State Theatre

- Goodie Mob, Saturday, Sept. 7, 8 p.m.

- Geto Boys, Saturday, Sept. 21, 8 p.m.

State Theatre is at 687 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 895-3045 or visit www.statetheatreconcerts.com.

The Straz Center for the Performing Arts

- J. Cole, featuring Wale; Friday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m., in Carol Morsani Hall
- The Weeknd, Thursday, Sept. 26, 8:30 p.m., in Carol Morsani Hall

The David A Straz Jr. Center - formerly the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center - is at 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Call 813-229-7827 or visit www.strazcenter.org.

Tampa Bay Times Forum

- Il Volo, Friday, Sept. 20, 7:30 p.m.

Tampa Bay Times Forum is at 401 Channelside Drive, Tampa. Call 813-301-2500 or visit www.tampabaytimesforum.com.

USF Sun Dome

- Imagine Dragons, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.
- Fall Out Boy, Sunday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m.

The Sun Dome is on the USF Tampa campus at 4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa. Call 813-974-3004.

For more music and concert information, visit TBNweekly.com.



Photo courtesy of MAHAFFEY THEATER

Above, Diana Ross performs Sept. 10 at The Mahaffey Theater. Top left, Steely Dan takes the stage at Ruth Eckerd Hall on Sept. 14. At left, Maroon 5 performs Sept. 13 at the Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds.

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Museum host Happy Hour with the Historian

ST. PETERSBURG – For those wondering what would Ponce De Leon think of his “La Florida” 500 years after his arrival on the peninsula and the beginning of Spanish influence in Florida, the next installment of Happy Hour with the Historian will explore the subject.

The lecture series will feature historian and author J. Michael Francis on Thursday, Sept. 5, at the St. Petersburg Museum of History, 335 Second Ave. NE.

Francis will present Rethinking La Florida – From Ponce De Leon to Jamestown. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for a happy hour cocktail meet-and-greet with Francis. Admission is a \$5 suggested donation. The event runs 6 to 8 p.m. and will feature a full cocktail bar, wine and beer. Admission includes viewing of the museum.

Francis is the Hough Family Endowed Chair of the Florida Studies program at the University of South Florida – St. Petersburg. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge and received a four-

year appointment as a research fellow at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and a research fellow at the Library of Congress. U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar appointed Francis as one of only two historians on the St. Augustine 450th Commemoration Commission.

His teaching fields include colonial Latin America, Early Florida, Spanish Borderlands, the Pre-Columbian Americas and Spanish Paleography.

Francis published “Invading Colombia” in 2008 by Penn State University Press. His most recent book, “Murder and Martyrdom in Spanish Florida: Don Juan and the Gualuprising of 1597,” was published in 2011 by the American Museum of Natural History. His next book project, “The Martyrs of Florida,” is under contract with the University Press of Florida.

For information, call 894-1052 or visit www.spmoh.org.

Briefs

Band prepares for season

SOUTH PASADENA – After nine years of directing the South Pasadena Community Band, Max Millsbaugh recently announced his retirement.

The new man on the podium will be John Hoover. Hoover received his degrees from the University of Louisville and taught instrumental music in the Jefferson County School System in Louisville, Ky., for 27 years from elementary through high school. He also held the position of director of bands at the University of Louisville for four years and was the bandmaster of the 202nd Army Band of the

Kentucky National Guard for 25 years.

Before leaving Louisville, Hoover directed the River Cities Community Band, a position he held for nine years. He played the French horn professionally in the Louisville Philharmonic Orchestra for several years and until recently has been playing in several groups here in the Tampa Bay area.

The first concert of the season will be Thursday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m., at Galetta Garden, 7001 Sunset Drive, South Pasadena. The concert will feature show tunes, marches and music for all ages.

Rehearsals will start on Thursday, Sept. 5. Rehearsals take place Thursday evenings at

the South Pasadena City Hall. Those interested in joining should call Hoover at 398-9639.

Ballet presentation set

CLEARWATER – The Clearwater Main Library, 100 N. Osceola Ave., will host a workshop and presentation Friday, Sept. 13, 2 p.m., on classical ballet.

Children ages 5 to 9 will learn about “Swan Lake,” “Coppelia,” and “The Nutcracker” with crafts followed by a demonstration of dance and acting out scenes from the three ballets. Preregistration is required for the free event. Call 562-4970 or visit myclearwater.com/cpl.

OPENING, from page 1B

because of her unfaltering loyalty and dedication. As the Beatles’ devoted secretary and friend, Freda was there as history unfolded; she was witness to the evolution – advances and setbacks, breakthroughs and challenges – of the greatest band in history.

In “Good Ol’ Freda,” Freda tells her stories for the first time in 50 years. One of few films with the support of the living Beatles and featuring original Beatles music, the film offers an insider perspective on the beloved band that changed the music industry.

‘Salinger’

Genre: Documentary

Cast: Régis Roinsard Philip Seymour Hoffman, Edward Norton, John Cusack, Danny DeVito, John Guare, Martin Sheen, David Milch, Robert Towne, Tom Wolfe, E.L. Doctorow, Gore Vidal, A. Scott Berg and Elizabeth Frank

Director: Shane Salerno

Rated: PG-13

For more than 50 years, J.D. Salinger, the elusive author of “The Catcher in the Rye,” has been the subject of a relentless stream of newspaper and magazine articles as well as several biographies.

Yet all of these attempts have been hampered by lack of access and the recycling of inaccurate information. Thus, Salinger has largely remained an enigma to the public and media alike. During the nine years in which “Salinger” was in production – including the six years while the project was being shot under wraps – filmmaker Shane Salerno interviewed hundreds of people the world over, many of whom had previously declined to go on the record about their relationship with the iconic author.

Salerno’s much speculated-upon documentary, which has made front page news since 2010, offers direct eyewitness accounts from Salinger’s World War II brothers-in-arms, his family members, his close friends, his lovers, his classmates, his neighbors, his editors, his publishers, his “New Yorker” colleagues, and people with whom he had relationships that were unknown even to his own family.

Providing unparalleled access to never-before-published photographs, diaries, letters, legal records, and documents, the highly anticipated “Salinger” paints a definitive portrait of one of the most fascinating figures of the 20th century. Particularly illuminating the last 56 years of the writer’s life – a period that, until now, had remained completely dark to biographers – Salerno has, for the first time, gotten beyond Salinger’s meticulously built-up wall.

‘Populaire’

Genre: Comedy and drama

Cast: Romain Duris, Déborah François, Bérénice Bejo, Shaun Benson, Mélanie Bernier, Nicolas Bedos and Miou-Miou

Director: Régis Roinsard

Rated: R

Spring, 1958.

Rose Pamphyle, a 21-year-old, lives with her grouchy widower father who runs the village store. Engaged to the son of the local mechanic, she seems destined for the quiet, drudgery-filled life of a housewife. But that’s not the life Rose longs for. When she travels to Lisieux in Normandy, where charismatic insurance agency boss Louis Echard is advertising for a secretary, the ensuing interview is a disaster. But Rose reveals a special gift – she can type at extraordinary speed. Unwittingly, the young woman awakens the dormant sports fan in Louis. If she wants the job she’ll have to compete in a speed typing

STARS, from page 2B

- Terri Rick, “Crazy for You,” Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Jacquie Padgett, “Playboy of the Western World,” Gulfport Community Players
- Gillian Bertrand, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Micki Bronson, “Fiddler on the Roof,” Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Rosalyn Savel, “The Importance of Being Earnest,” West Coast Players

Favorite Back Stage Person

- Betsy Byrd, Eight O’Clock Theatre
- Liz Werlin, Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Sabrina Hamilton, St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Helene MacNeal, Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Rosalyn Savel, West Coast Players

Favorite Lighting Design

- Dalton Hamilton, “The Producers,” Eight O’Clock Theatre

- Dalton Hamilton, “Fiddler on the Roof,” Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Wes Reid, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Marc Jump, “Fiddler on the Roof,” Tarpon Springs Performing Arts
- Mike Arnold, “Luv,” West Coast Players

Favorite Young Actor

- Ashton Sarlo, “Lost at Sea,” Eight O’Clock Theatre
- Thomas Rowell, “Pippin,” Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Ashton Sarlo, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Andrew Larson, “Fiddler on the Roof,” Tarpon Springs Performing Arts

Favorite Young Actress

- Maggie Musco, “Lost at Sea,” Eight O’Clock Theatre
- Paige Crockett, “Hollywood Arms, Francis Wilson Playhouse
- Carlista Bodimer, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” St. Petersburg City Theatre
- Melanie Rusoff, “Fiddler on the Roof,” Tarpon Springs Performing Arts.

competition. Whatever sacrifices Rose must make to reach the top, Louis declares himself her trainer. He’ll turn her into the fastest girl not only in the country, but also in the world! But a love of sport doesn’t always mix well with love itself.

‘Adore’

Genre: Drama

Cast: Naomi Watts, Robin Wright, Xavier Samuel, James Frecheville and Ben Mendelsohn

Director: Anne Fontaine

Not rated

Naomi Watts and Robin Wright deliver riveting performances in “Adore,” a sensual and provocative drama about two lifelong friends who find unexpected happiness in relationships that cross the bounds of convention.

An unpredictable tale of misguided love and a heartfelt celebration of the enduring nature of female friendship, the film is the English-speaking directorial debut of distinguished filmmaker Anne Fontaine. It is adapted for the screen by Academy Award-winning writer Christopher Hampton, from a novella by Nobel Prize winner for Literature Doris Lessing.

‘Touchy Feely’

Genre: Comedy

Cast: Rosemarie DeWitt, Ellen Page, Allison Janney, Josh Pais, Scoot McNairy, Ron Livingston and Tomo Nakayama

Director: Lynn Shelton

Rated: R

“Touch Feely” is a closely observed examination of a family whose delicate psychic balance suddenly unravels.

Abby (Rosemarie DeWitt), is a sought after massage therapist and a free spirit, while her brother Paul (Josh Pais) thrives on routine and convention, running a flagging dental practice and co-dependently enlisting the assistance of his emotionally stunted daughter Jenny (Ellen Page).

Suddenly, transformation touches everyone. Abby develops an uncontrollable aversion to bodily contact, which not only makes her occupation impossible but severely hinders the passionate love life between her and her boyfriend (Scoot McNairy).

Meanwhile, rumors of Paul’s “healing touch” begin to miraculously invigorate his practice as well as his life outside the office. As Abby navigates her way through a soul-searching identity crisis, her formerly skeptical brother discovers a whole new side of himself. “Touch Feely” is about the experience of living in one’s own skin, both literally and figuratively.

The film, written and directed by Shelton, and co-starring Allison Janney, Ron Livingston, and newcomer Tomo Nakayama (of the indie rock band Grand Hallway), is filmed on location in Shelton’s hometown and urban muse of Seattle.

For more movie news including what’s playing at local theaters and trailers, visit www.TBNweekly.com. Click on the “Movie News & Reviews” link on the left-side menu.

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Apartment Homes
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One Month Free with a
14-Month Lease.

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BELLEAIR GREENS APTS.
2BR/2BA units on Biltmore Golf
Course. Newly renovated.
Across from police, rec center.
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BELLEAIR BLUFFS, 2BR/2BA,
Carport. Recently Remodeled.
Pool. Close to everything. No
Pets. \$800/Month. (727)593-9212

105. Lots & Acreage

LOT IN INGLIS, FLORIDA
Nice lot w/house that needs finishing.
Canal in back leads to Gulf.
210 Palm Street, Inglis, Florida
\$42,000. (727)599-9209

120. Out of Town Sales

LAKE PANASOFFKEE
Weekender/ Vacation
Great Fishing With Dock,
Double-Wide On Double Lot,
Great For Vacation & Weekends.
New Air Conditioner. \$65,000 Firm.
(727)667-1647.

RENTALS

145. Unfurnished Houses

NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira
Beach. 3BR/2BA/1CG. Includes
Trash Service & Cable. Pets OK.
\$1,075/Mo. +\$1,075 Security.
(727)393-1628.

3BR/2BA/2CG, Seminole/ Largo
+Office, Screened-in Pool, Shaded,
Quiet Area, No Dogs. \$1,950/month.
First, Last, Deposit. (727)542-6578

155. Furnished Condos

SEMINOLE GARDENS
2BR/1BA, 1,012SF, 55+,
3rd Floor Elevator.
\$800/Month-Yearly.
Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.
(727)397-2534

IMMACULATE CONDO STUDIO
Walk to Indian Rocks Beach! Pool,
C/H/A, Nonsmoking, Petless.
Annual/Season/Vacation.
Starts At \$800/mo, Furnished,
Utilities Included. (727)742-6455.

SEMINOLE, VILLA MILAN
2BR/2BA, Rear Screened Porch,
3rd Floor Pool View. No Pets.
Annual lease. \$800/Month.
Guetzlaff Realty
(727)204-0829, (727)392-233

INDIAN ROCKS, INTRACOASTAL
Water View 2BR/2BA. FREE Cable.
Pool, Petless, Non-smoking.
\$1,100/Month. 2 Minutes to IRB.
(305)354-6830, (727)596-9656

BARDMOOR, 1BR/1BA CONDO
\$959/Month
Guetzlaff Realty
(727)204-0829

2BR/1.5BA TOWNHOUSE
Magnolia Square by Largo Cultural
Center. \$750/Mo, Yearly Lease.
John Doran Realty, (727)447-9579.

FIVE TOWNS, 55+, 2BR/2BA
1,360SF, end unit with balcony
overlooking lake. Carport, W/D in
unit, Cable, Pool, Clubhouse.
\$875/month + security. Annual
Lease. (727)480-0793

SEMINOLE, WILLOWS CONDO,
2BR/2BA, Everything New! Overlook-
ing Pond. Elevator. Pool, Clubhouse.
\$900/Mo. (727)804-9174.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS, IMMACULATE
2BR/1BA, 3rd Floor, Elevator,
Carport. Near Shopping/ Beach. No
Smoking/Pets. \$800/month
+ security. (727)834-8620

SEMINOLE, THE GARDENS 55+
Next to Seminole Lake Park.
2BR/2BA, 1,250SF, 2 parking spots.
Renovated, all new appliances.
Cable, pool, clubhouse & tennis
court. Nonsmoking, no pets.
\$895/mo. annual lease.
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170. Furnished Apts.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
for OEF/OIF Veterans. No Pets
Space is limited. Contact Michelle
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MADEIRA BEACH: 1BRs
& Efficiencyes. Fully Equipped.
Weekly. No Pets.
Includes Utilities. (727)397-4130.

175. Unfurnished Apts.

SEMINOLE GARDENS, 55+.
1BR Standard, Unfurnished,
Annual. No Pets. Nonsmokers
Only. Robert G. Castles, P.A.
Broker. (727)319-8229
www.SeminoleGarden.com

BELLEAIR BLUFFS
Deluxe 1-2BRs, 1st-2nd Floor.
Overlooking Non-smoking Center
Courtyard w/Beautiful Pool. Great
Location 1 Block From Shopping &
Intracoastal. 2942 West Bay Dr.
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Apartment Homes
Starting From \$575
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BELLEAIR BLUFFS, 2BR/2BA,
Carport. Recently Remodeled.
Pool. Close to everything. No
Pets. \$800/Month. (727)593-9212

175. Unfurnished Apts.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS
2BR/1BA, Carport, W/D Hook-up,
Clean, Quiet, Updated. Cat OK.
Includes W/S/G. \$750/Mo.
(727)455-2260.

EAST BAY/BELCHER, 2BR/1BA
Spacious, W/D hook-up. Small
fenced yard. Close to shopping.
Small dog OK. \$820/month.
(727)530-0335

185. Beach Rentals

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH
Cozy, Clean, Furnished Cottages.
1-2BRs starting at
\$329/week +tax
Steps to Gulf Beach.
Pet Friendly. (727)595-3000.
www.SunshineCozyCottages.com

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

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

SAND KEY: DAN'S ISLAND
Furnished, 2BR/2BA Condo.
Beautiful Intracoastal View!
\$1,800/Month. Annual.
(404)723-5690.

IRB 2BR/1BA CORNER
Condo. 1st Floor On Intracoastal.
Close To Beach & Park. Front Door
Parking. Pets Okay. \$1,100/Mo.
(727)488-1111.

190. Waterfront Rentals

SAND KEY: 3BR/2BA CONDO
\$2,700/Mo. Waterfront, Unfurnished,
Balcony, W/D, 2,100SF, Parking,
Pool. Annual. Call (727)686-2554

ISLAND ESTATES 2BR/2BA
Condo, Fantastic Water Views,
Many Amenities. \$1,350/Month,
Annual Rental
Vangie (727)501-3268,
Pappas Realty & Mgmt

PRESTIGIOUS BELLEAIR STREET
3BR/2BA, updated 1,600SF home
w/dock. Small pets, OK. Available
now! \$2,000/month. (727)432-2258

195. Seasonal Rentals

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

SAND KEY Clearwater Beach,
Furnished, Large 1BR or 2BR
Condo, Pool, Seasonal/ Annual.
Monthly Available.
Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton
(727)644-0400.

BELLEAIR, 1BR/1BA, GROUND
Floor, W/D, Recently Updated,
Pool, Close to Shopping, Golf.
10/Minutes to Beach.
\$1,000/Month. Available
January-April. (905)847-7780

200. Vacation Rentals

CLEARWATER BEACH/
BELLEAIR BEACH
2700 Gulf Blvd. Gulf Front
1BR/1BA, 2nd Floor, Corner,
Overlooks Pool. Beautifully
Furnished, King & Pull Out Couch.
Weekly/ Monthly Flat Rate,
\$700/ \$2,500. Call Mark,
(727)449-9292 (Office).

210. Mobile Hm. Rentals

NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira
Beach. 1BR w/Florida Room.
\$555/Month +\$300 Security. Includes
W/S/G, Cable. Pets OK
(727)393-1628.

215. Efficiency Rentals

BEAUTIFUL EFFICIENCY
Good area in Dunedin. Furnished.
Includes: electric, water, TV/Cable,
Internet. Monthly/Weekly
Great for family vacation. Up to 3
people-extra. (727)741-8116

225. Duplex/Triplex Rentals

CLEARWATER BEACH 2BR/1BA
\$995/Month +Security. Walk to
Beach, Fenced Backyard, Newly
Remodeled. Includes Water,
Pest Control, Parking.
(813)417-6777.

245. Room For Rent

SEEKING FEMALE
Room, Bath, Privileges. Nonsmoker.
Largo Area. Must Have Car/ Job. Ref-
erences. \$400/Mo. (727)584-0826.

SAFE, CLEAN, QUIET.
Fully Furnished. Utilities, Cable
Included. Deposit, References,
ID Required. From \$150/Week.
(727)547-1199.

ROOM FOR RENT LARGO
3BR/1.5/BA Townhouse, W/D, All
Utilities Included, Pet OK, Fenced
Yard. \$450/Month. (727)238-8977.

265. Commercial Rentals

STORAGE GARAGES, 12'X23
and 23'X23' Boat, Trailer, RV
Storage. Office/ Warehouse Combo.
1784 N Hercules Ave, Clearwater.
(727)422-4995.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE
From \$441 Per Month.
Ample Parking. Madeira Beach.
(727)641-6465.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:
Noon Monday
Call 397-5563

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265. Commercial Rentals

LOOKING FOR ACCOUNTANT, CPA, EA, LAWYER OR OTHER
who needs small, private, upstairs
office in newly refurbished pristine
building, 500' area, two separate
offices, outside open deck, private
rest room and break room area, small
conference room downstairs for
clients. \$750/mo. 36 Tropic Blvd.
West, Largo, FL 33770.
(727)585-0156,
Cell (727)804-5860,
Craig M. Cotterman, Fiduciary

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Over 5,000 sq. ft., Good for
Restaurant, Bar, Club or Bank.
8901 4th Street North.
\$10,500/month. Triple net.
727-599-9209

MISCELLANEOUS

300. Notices

FUNDRAISER
Please pray for my mother, a local
Dunedin resident, diagnosed with
Lung Cancer. Please read our story &
consider supporting our fundraiser for
this most remarkable woman at:
gofundme.com/manierandazzo

READY, GET SET, GO!
January 25, 2014, five Pinellas
County Neighborhood Family
Centers will be hosting a 5K
and 1K run/walk to raise funds for
Healthy Kid Programs.
Website for details:
www.poundthepavement5k.org

520. Sales Help

WANTED
Real Estate Sales Mgr needed for a busy beach office. Must be an experienced licensed real estate broker. Prefer non smoker. Send resume confidentially to todd@plumleeproperties.com

plumlee
gulf beach realty

525. Medical Help

CNAs, HHAs NEEDED FOR Pinellas County Area. Choose Your Hours. \$10-15 Per Hour. (727)822-3034

CNAs & HHAs NEEDED. All days and hours. Live-in and Weekend availability a PLUS! Call Griswold Home Care. (727)547-7000

C.N.A.s & H.H.A.s

Part-Time/Full-Time Needed In The... Largo, Seminole Areas

Private Duty, In-Home-Care Flexible hours/days/nights Competitive pay

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Come join our team of Angels today!

535. Business Opportunities

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

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575. Auctions

GRANNYS AUCTION(AB1769) Buying & Consigning. Free Antique Appraisals Tuesday's 12-4. Furniture, jewelry, paintings, sculpture, pottery, glass, military, sterling, gold, etc. (727)572-1567
5175 Ulmertown Road, Clearwater

590. Antiques-Collectibles

www.mytampabayantiques.com
Calling Dealers For Charity Outdoor Market Sept. 7, 2013

600. Merchandise

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

HOT TUB, Spa Manufacturers 6 Years Old, Small Waterfall & Light. Seats 4 Or 5. Asking \$400. (727)251-2511.

640. Furniture

QUEEN PILLOW-TOP Set: \$259, Warranty. 6 piece, 800-count sheets: \$20, all sizes! Home Design Shop - 721 #C Lakeview Road, Clearwater. (727)687-0213.

DINING ROOM TABLE, 61"x41", Blonde, 6 Cane Back Chairs, \$170. **CD/DVD Revolving Rack,** Holds Over 150 CDs/DVDs, Black, 15 Adjustable Shelves, 51"x19", Like New \$120. **Coffee Table, 2 End Tables,** Glass Tops, Open Base, ALL \$65. (727)771-5280.

655. Musical Instruments

TECHNICS KN5000, Professional Electronic Keyboard. Full Band Sounds, Karaoke, Rack, Case, Stand, Amplifier, Books, Lots More. \$800. (727)530-4208.

PIANO, CONSOLE Walnut plus Bench, Dehumidifier. Excellent Condition, Beautiful Instrument, Great Tone. \$495. (727)441-8086. Clearwater.

693. Exercise Equipment

ELLIPTICAL, REEBOK Commercial Size, Works Great. Different Workouts & Levels. Asking \$100, Cover Included. (727)251-2511.

PROFORM 12-SPEED TREADMILL Good shape, \$150. (727)289-3857

700. Pets & Animals

ADORABLE LONG HAIR CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES!
Born July 1st. Mother has 3 Generation Championship Bloodline! Two females, three males. CKC & APRI registered. \$600-\$650/each. (727)420-9703

825. Auto Detailing

SIMPSON'S MOBILE REPAIR & DETAILING Services: Detailing Packages, Wash & Wax, Headlight Restoration, Carpet/Fabric Shampoo, Leather Cleaning/Conditioning, Oxidation Restoration, Complete Auto Repair! **WE COME TO YOU!** (727)688-4854

827. Auto Repair

Power Window & Lock Repair Licensed, Mobile, Guaranteed. Free Estimates. (727)322-3050
AllPowerAuto.com Jim Sailor

830. Van & SUV Sales

DODGE 2013 GRAND CARAVAN Wheelchair Van With 10' Lowered Floor, Ramp & Tie Downs. For More Info Please Call Ben At (727)644-6101.

885. Autos Wanted

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

CASH NOW

TOP DOLLAR PAID WE BUY CLEAN QUALITY TRUCKS, VANS, SUV'S & CARS
NO JUNK!
727-798-2921
NOBODY PAYS MORE!

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885. Autos Wanted

Got a Car You Wanna Sell

The Good, The Bad The Ugly

Call Now 727-400-1910

Auto Support

YOU'VE CALLED THE BEST NOW CALL THE BEST!

RUNNING OR NOT, TITLE OR NO TITLE MON. - SUN. 9AM - 9PM

WE PAY \$400 TO \$6,000 CASH!

FREE TOW 24/7 SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

895. Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE

SEMINOLE ESTATE SALE Thur-Sat, 9-3. Asian Screens, Patio Furniture & Statuary, Mask Collection, Rugs, Murano Glass, Home Goods, Tons Of New Things. Seminole Country Club, 8764 Baywood Park. Follow Signs.

BELLEAIR BEACH New Stearns & Foster king-sized pillow-top bed set; Large authentic rattan living room set; high-end formal dining room set; 20-year old dining room hutch and matching side board; two antique rockers; antique crystal, clock with glass dome, china, chairs and collectibles. Shown by appointment. (727)410-0275

975. Garage-Yard Sales

CHAPEL TREASURES! An Unusual Thrift Shop Full Of Fine Things. Friday & Saturday, 9AM-12PM, 12601 Park Blvd. Seminole. (727)929-2919. We Accept Donations And Drop Offs As Well. coth@coth.org

MULTI-FAMILY SATURDAY-SUNDAY September 7th-8th, 9AM-1PM, Housewares, Jewelry, Clothes, Furniture. **SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!** 6814 80TH Avenue, North, Pinellas Park

975. Garage-Yard Sales

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\$400 & Up Minimum Guaranteed for Junk Vehicles, State Approved Disposal. Serving Pinellas 25 Years. (727)458-3721, (727)564-0831

\$400 CASH & UP Complete Unwanted Junk Vehicles In Pinellas County. No Title Okay. Free Tow. (727)710-1702.

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910. Boat Slips

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GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

970. Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE

SEMINOLE ESTATE SALE Thur-Sat, 9-3. Asian Screens, Patio Furniture & Statuary, Mask Collection, Rugs, Murano Glass, Home Goods, Tons Of New Things. Seminole Country Club, 8764 Baywood Park. Follow Signs.

BELLEAIR BEACH

New Stearns & Foster king-sized pillow-top bed set; Large authentic rattan living room set; high-end formal dining room set; 20-year old dining room hutch and matching side board; two antique rockers; antique crystal, clock with glass dome, china, chairs and collectibles. Shown by appointment. (727)410-0275

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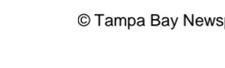
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Movie review

Cage, Cusack spar in unexceptional serial killer drama 'The Frozen Ground'

Not every movie can be an Oscar contender.

It also stands to reason that actors who have previously won Academy Awards can't wait around for the perfect script — and another shot at critical acclaim.

Nicholas Cage is a perfect example. Back in the 1990s, he scored Oscar gold with his performance in "Leaving Las Vegas." In that era, he was amassing a huge list of award wins and nominations, for everything from "Moonstruck" to "Adaptation." More recently, he has been less choosy about his films. A string of lackluster performances — "Season of the Witch," "Drive Angry," "Trespass," "Seeking Justice" and "Stolen" — have damaged his once distinguished reputation. Personal problems — broadcast and undoubtedly exaggerated by the tabloids — have further tarnished the actor's standing.

Cage shows a glimpse of his enduring potential in Lionsgate's new thriller "The Frozen Ground." His performance is relatively minimalist, and the brooding, conscientious character he portrays — Jack Halcombe — suits his demeanor.

In "The Frozen Ground," Halcombe — an Alaskan State Trooper — is assigned a daunting case, tracking a serial killer who has virtually gone unnoticed for 13 years. When one of the killer's victims manages to escape, she reports her abduction and rape to authorities. Due to her background as a runaway and prostitute, investigators initially discount her account.

Eventually, the 17-year-old escapee — Cindy Paulson, played capably by Disney alum Vanessa Hudgens — provides enough details to Halcombe to allow him to start connecting the dots.

John Cusack portrays the killer, Robert Hansen. Cusack gives a consistently chilling performance throughout, painting the murderer as a coldly sadistic predator. Cusack's Hansen is meticulous and manipulative — outwardly reserved and retiring until cornered.

This very adult role for Hudgens proves the "High School Musical" actress is serious about her career. Her depiction of Paulson is surprisingly multifaceted. She showcases the character's cynicism, underscores the tragedy of her past experiences and delivers some particularly unsettling moments in the backrooms of an Alaskan strip club. Whenever the film achieves a certain level of gritty realism, "The Frozen Ground" is actually difficult to watch.

These solid performances unfortunately don't



Reel Time

Lee Clark Zumpe

fully compensate for the film's flaws. "The Frozen Ground" is based on a true story. Director Scott Walker spends too much time exhibiting the formulaic police procedural sequences that have become monotonously common on television crime dramas. He asks the audience to follow three separate story arcs but fails to fully develop any one of the central characters. He further fails to fully exploit the talent of the supporting cast, which includes 50 Cent as Clate Johnson, Katherine LaNasa as Fran Hansen, Dean Norris as Sgt. Lyle Haugsvan and Jodi Lyn O'Keefe as Chelle Ringell.

There's nothing particularly inspired or innovative about "The Frozen Ground" — it's filled with genre clichés, from bureaucratic bickering and ready-to-retire heroes to moral certitude and a bulky textual epilogue. Walker tried to make a story based on actual events conform to the generic police procedural motif — in this case, the square peg did not fit the round hole.

There have been a number of exceptional films based on authentic serial killer cases, such as "Monster" and "Citizen X." "The Frozen Ground" lacks the psychological depth of "Monster," about real-life serial killer Aileen Wuornos. While "Citizen X" — a made-for-TV film about Soviet serial killer Andrei Chikatilo — spends a great deal of time examining bureaucratic hurdles and demoralizing procedural obstacles, it delivers a brilliant and thorough study of its central character, forensic specialist Viktor Burakov. Both "Monster" and "Citizen X" are masterpieces in this distinct crime drama subgenre dominated by sensationalistic and subpar filmmaking.

Not every movie can be a masterpiece. "The Frozen Ground" isn't a complete failure, but it could have been much better. The subject matter is engrossing, and the acting is exceptional: It is arguably Cage's best performance in years. The breakdown is all in the execution. The fine cast makes the film compelling and watchable. The unforced script and failure to fully develop the characters make it regrettably unmemorable.

"The Frozen Ground" was released theatrically Aug. 23 to a select few markets. To date, the film hasn't been featured at any Tampa Bay area locations. "The Frozen Ground" is currently available for rental viewing on Bright House On Demand, iTunes and Amazon Instant Video.



Photos courtesy of LIONSGATE
Top, Nicolas Cage stars as Jack Halcombe in "The Frozen Ground." Starring with Cage are John Cusack as Robert Hansen, at left, and Vanessa Hudgens as Cindy Paulson, above.

Looking ahead in Largo

• **"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.

• **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.

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