

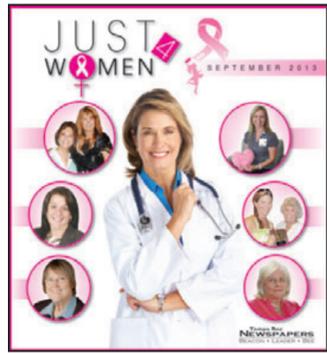
LARGO LEADER

Men at Work vocalist Colin Hay to play at Largo Cultural Center

Find out about his and other upcoming performances scheduled locally ... Page 1B.



INSIDE



LARGO



9/11 ceremony

In observance of Patriot Day Sept. 11, members of the Largo Fire Rescue honor guard and Largo Elks Lodge 2159 pay tribute to those killed in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. ... Page 3A.

CRIME BEAT

Two stabbings investigated

Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a stabbing incident that occurred about 11:18 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15. According to the sheriff's report, deputies found stabbing victims at two separate addresses in unincorporated Largo. Deputies said the incidents are connected. ... Page 5A.

SPORTS

Largo junior golfer places second

Madison Heideman of Largo, finished second in the division for girls ages 11 to 14 during the Tampa Bay Junior Open in Wesley Chapel Sept. 14-15, part of the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour. ... Page 11A.



Madison Heideman

VIEWPOINTS

Bob Driver

How to get good at gabbing. ... Page 9A.



Largo selects a new fire chief

Deputy chief takes helm of department, becomes first female fire chief

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – After a nationwide search, the city of Largo decided to permanently install Deputy Chief Shelby Willis, who has been leading the department since April, as chief of Largo Fire Rescue.

Willis took over the department after the resignation of then-Chief Mike Wallace, who left April 1 after an internal investigation revealed low morale and questionable leadership decisions in the department. Since then, Willis has sought to openly collaborate with all levels of fire personnel and “handle issues proactively,” in an effort to reverse the negative outlook, she said.

She was excited to learn Sept. 13 that she had been chosen for the permanent position, though she admitted that a “bit of anxiety,” followed as she realized that she no longer had the excuse of being “just the interim chief.”

“You realize the full responsibility and gravity of the position,” she said.

The city formally announced the decision Sept. 16. Dozens of applicants ap-

plied to be Largo Fire Chief, a field that was narrowed down to eight semifinalists who were interviewed by telephone, according to a press release. Representatives from fire labor, executive management and command staff interviewed the four finalists, with each of the panels choosing Willis as their pick for fire chief.

– Fire Chief Shelby Willis

Willis said including a cross section of the department on decisions was exactly her policy as interim chief. In April, she asked Largo's firefighters to be patient as the organization realigned its priorities to work together.

“And they've met us. They met me and met the administrative staff halfway, and it's been a great experience,” Willis said. “We have a good collaborative relationship at this point. It's just going to get better.”

Willis said she emphasized moving past the low morale and well identified issues that plagued the department, bringing fire personnel to the table to discuss solutions instead.

“I try to meet all levels of the organization, just to get their input and get their feedback. And we'll continue to do that going forward,” she said.

A hiring board made up of firefighters, union officers, lieutenants and command officers also interviewed applicants for five open firefighter positions, due to start Oct. 1.

“They interviewed the people, they ranked the people. They handed me a list on who we want to hire, and that's what I did,” Willis said.

The ensuing support of the department has been overwhelming, she said.

See CHIEF, page 4A



Photo courtesy of the CITY OF LARGO. As of Sept. 16, Shelby Willis is the city of Largo's first female fire chief.

Recognition, at last



World War II veteran and prisoner of war McPherson “Mac” Plecker, 94, receives a military congressional coin from former U.S. Congressman Mike Bilirakis, left, in a ceremony Sept. 14 at The Plaza at the Palms of Largo. Plecker was awarded nine military medals that he had earned but never received, pinned on his chest by retired Senior Chief Petty Officer Paul Rizzo, right.

WWII POW receives delayed military medals

LARGO – After 67 years after his discharge from the U.S. Navy, World War II veteran and prisoner of war McPherson “Mac” Plecker, 94, received the nine military medals he earned but never received.

The medals were awarded in a ceremony Sept. 14 at The Plaza at the Palms of Largo.

Plecker, a patient at Suncoast Hospice, said the paperwork for the medals was lost many years ago. Humble as many veterans are, he never mentioned it to others. Upon learning about Plecker's service and missing medals, his Suncoast Hospice care team offered to help work with the Department of the Navy

to get his medals and ribbons.

Among those he received were the Purple Heart, Prisoner of War Medal and the American Defense Service Medal. Former U.S. Congressman Mike Bilirakis presented Plecker with an American flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol in his honor recently as well as a military congressional coin. Staff from Congressman Bill Young's office also read a letter of gratitude from Congressman Young.

Suncoast Hospice and Palms of Largo co-hosted the event. The Plaza at the Palms of Largo is space designed for and dedicated to veterans.

Photo by JIM LAYFIELD

Options for animal control considered

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Passions ran high due to a number of diverging opinions, still many took time from their allotted three minutes to thank Pinellas County Commissioners for devoting their attention to the matter of pet overpopulation.

Animal advocates are determined that something be done to stop the practice of euthanizing pets in Pinellas County and improve responsible pet ownership.

A Sept. 10 work session focused on two proposals – trap, neuter, vaccinate and return to the area where they were trapped (TNVR) for the county's feral cat population, and mandatory spay and neuter (MSN) for all cats and dogs.

After nearly four hours of discussion, the commission agreed to support a pilot program for TNVR but put a hold on mandatory spay and neuter, opting to continue with the voluntary program already in place. Commissioner Norm Roche is ready to go forward with TNVR without a pilot program and MSN.

For years, animal lovers have taken care of the feral cat colonies in locations throughout Pinellas. Most do their work in secret because technically, they're breaking the law. Officials don't have population figures per geographic location, but they estimate that free roaming cats number somewhere between 92,367 and 172,687.

Free roaming cats include those that are owned and domesticated but left free to roam and those that are feral – not owned, not socialized and free roaming.

Maureen Freaney, director of Pinellas County Animal Services, said a TNVR program would include humanely trapping feral and free roaming cats that would then be spayed or neutered, vaccinated for rabies and, if needed, receive other medical treatment. The left ear would be notched and the cats would be returned to the community from which they were originally trapped.

Animal Services currently loans traps to citizens and trapped cats are accepted at the shelter for no charge. The cats are held for four days to give their owner a chance to reclaim them. Kittens are held only two days due to risks for disease in the shelter's environment.

After the holding period, they are examined and friendly cats are put up for adoption. Freaney said Animal Services has an extensive foster network in use to help socialize feral kittens so they too can be adopted. Older feral cats, those not socialized, are humanely euthanized.

Current county ordinances make it difficult for

See ANIMAL CONTROL, page 4A

Briarwood ordinance passed as residents relocate

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – After asking how the current property owners are continuing to help residents of the Briarwood RV Park relocate, the Largo Commission approved another step in the development of the land into a 260-unit apartment complex Sept. 17.

The approved ordinance changes the land use designation of the property at 2098 Seminole Blvd. from its low-density residential classification to “residential high.” The designation was needed before Largo-based Dockside Investors can begin construction on the property, hopefully by March or April, said company representatives.

Development of the Briarwood property has been in the works for about a year. Aside from concerns that the com-

plex would cause extra traffic on Seminole Boulevard and be obtrusive to its neighbors, the development of the forested RV park has been delayed several times due to difficulties in relocating its current residents. The property itself was classified as a camping ground, not a mobile home park, but – largely due to its former absentee landowner – the tenants who rented plots month to month described themselves as permanent residents. Many of their RVs are rundown or have additions constructed that make them hard, if not impossible, to move.

Lawyers at Gulfcoast Legal Services offered to help represent residents and succeeded in slowing down the process of development and bringing awareness of the residents' hardships to leaders at both the city and county level. County commissioners delayed their approval of the land

use designation change in July, requesting the property owners help residents relocate. Dockside Investors agreed, setting aside \$30,000 into a relocation fund and contracting with Community Services Foundation to help them in the process. The county approved the reclassification Aug. 6, which sent the issue back to Largo commissioners.

Tina Harper, Briarwood's property manager, told the city commissioners that the remaining families were being helped with a variety of ongoing issues. Of the 15 families that remain in the park, seven were scheduled to move by the end of September, she said.

“There's no one reason why some of these people still remain,” Harper said, offering the example of one resident

See BRIARWOOD, 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 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.

Training 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.

Dogs invited to a day at the pool

LARGO – Soggy Doggy, the annual event opening the pool at the Highland Family Aquatic Center opens for dogs only, will be held Oct. 5, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at 400 Highland Ave. NE.

Owners are not permitted to swim during this time. Dogs shorter than 20 inches have the pool from the start until 1 p.m., and dogs taller than 21 inches take over from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The cost is \$5 per dog, and owners enter free. Dress your dog for activities and contests in the theme of this year's event: Mardi gras.

The pool will be open to all dogs on Sunday, Oct. 6, noon to 3 p.m. Bring your receipt from Saturday for a \$3 discount. For more information, call 518-3016 or visit www.LargoPools.com.

Highland to host monster-themed Zumba

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

The event includes raffle prizes, healthy snacks, home goods and beauty vendors. The cost is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. On-site childcare will be available for \$5 for potty-trained children, 3 to 10 years old.

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 founda-

tion also helps fund the center's Children's Series and awards need-based scholarships for theater camp experiences to area youth.

For more information, call 587-6793 or visit www.suncoastarts.org/Gala.html.

Largo Community Center

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

Center hosts Friday night films

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

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

Weekly events

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

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

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

• **Bay Area Singles and Couples Dance:** Sundays, 6 to 10 p.m. Dress to impress, and join about 150 singles and friends of all ages to dance to an extensive music library to fit every taste. Cost is \$8.



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Stormwater fee approved by Pinellas County Commission

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – The public said now is not the time to add more fees. They cited rising taxes, water bills, electric bills and higher insurance costs.

However, most did agree that something should be done to fix deteriorating water quality. Kelli Levy, the county's Surface Water coordinator, said 74 percent of Pinellas' water bodies are impaired. The public also agreed that aging infrastructure should be repaired. Levy said failing pipes are now an almost daily occurrence.

Still, the majority protested fees that are increasing taxes for some by as much as 25 percent. They said it was too much, too fast.

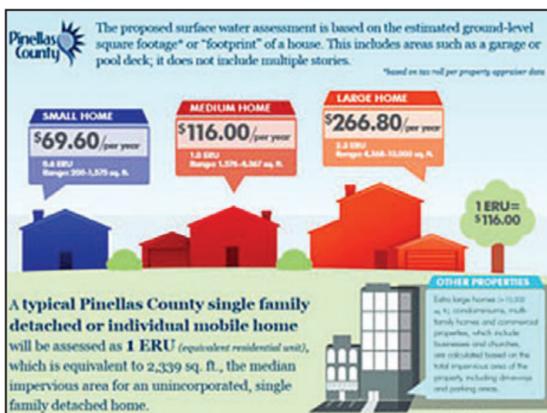
Pinellas County Commission Chair Ken Welch sympathized with the 30 or so speakers who attended the Sept. 10 public hearing.

"They'll never be a perfect time," he said just before the vote was taken. "I understand times are rough."

Commissioners voted 6-1 to enact the fee, which will appear on the 2014 tax bill.

Many residents complained that they weren't aware of the fee until it was included on the Truth in Millage Notice mailed out Aug. 19. Others complained that the notice of Tuesday night's meeting wasn't adequate. A notice had been included in the envelope with the TRIM Notice, but some said they didn't get one.

Some complained that their bills were too high. Levy admitted that about 17,000 tax bills had been amended thus far due to calculations that had included pool cages. She urged people to ask for help if they believe their bills are incorrect. For more information, people also can



Pinellas County's new stormwater fee for unincorporated residents is tiered with a lower cost for smaller properties.

visit www.pinellascounty.org/environment/watershed/stormwater-fee.htm.

The fees are tiered and unincorporated residents are being charged due to the size of their property. The fee for smaller homes is about

\$69.90 a year, \$116.60 for a medium home and \$266.80 for a large home. The fees are based on properties' impervious surfaces from which rainwater flows into streets, ditches, storm drains and then on to streams, lakes and finally Tampa Bay of the Gulf of Mexico.

Storm water contains pollutants and those pollutants must be removed from the county's water bodies per federal and state regulations. The county needs money to clean up its water bodies and keep them clean, or face fines, which County Administrator Bob LaSala said would likely require even higher taxes and fees to pay for the cleanup as well as improving the stormwater system.

Commissioner Norm Roche voted no and continued to push for a countywide program.

"Water is everyone's problem," he said.

He made a motion against approval of the storm water fee to allow consideration of a "true countywide approach." His motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Susan Latvala agreed with Roche's theory, but pointed out that the county needed to work on its own problems before asking the county's municipalities to become a partner to combat the problem. Currently 15 of 24 municipalities collect storm water fees, which they have been used for several years to implement storm water management programs.

"I agree it should be countywide," Latvala said. "But we haven't done our job in the last 30 years. We need to do our job, cleanup and then got back to the cities."

"We're way behind the eight ball on this," Commissioner John Morroni said. "This should have been done long ago."

Briefs

Mobile waste collection set for Sept. 21

SEMINOLE – Pinellas County Utilities is sponsoring a mobile hazardous waste collection on Sunday, Sept. 21, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Seminole High School, 8401 131st St. N.

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

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 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.

Special telecast focuses on transportation plan

Pinellas County Community Television will present a live eTownHall telecast Tuesday, Sept. 24, 7 to 8 p.m. to engage citizens in the development of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization's

Pinellas Transportation Plan.

The eTownHall will provide citizens with an opportunity to learn more about the future of transit in Pinellas County while sharing their comments and concerns with four panelists representing the MPO and the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority.

Through the eTownHall format, people can participate in the discussion by blogging their questions and comments, listening on the phone, or by viewing the telecast on Channel 622 (Bright House Networks), 18 (Knology) or 44 (Verizon).

Panelists will include the following:

- Ken Welch, chair of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners; MPO Board member; and PSTA Board member
- Julie Bujalski, Dunedin City Commissioner, Pinellas MPO Board member, and PSTA Board member,
- Sarah Ward, interim executive director of the Pinellas MPO
- Brad Miller, chief executive officer of PSTA

The MPO is focused on improving transportation throughout the county and has kicked off an effort to create a 30-year blueprint for the entire county transportation system. The Pinellas Transportation Plan includes transportation improvements that best serve the community's needs and expectations. Specifically, the Plan identifies future transportation projects and priorities that will maintain and improve the transportation system in Pinellas County over time. All means of travel are considered including public transportation, bicycle, pedestrian, freight/truck, and roadways.

For more information, visit www.pinellascounty.org/etownhall/MPO/default.htm or call the Pinellas MPO at 464-8200.

Elections Office schedules ballot mailings

Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark announced that ballot mailings for the Nov. 5 Municipal Elections are tentatively scheduled for registered voters residing in the municipalities of Belleair Beach, Clearwater, Kenneth City and St. Petersburg.

Voter registration deadline for these elections is Oct. 7. No early voting is scheduled for any of these elections.

Ballots for absent military and overseas voters are scheduled for mailing on Sept. 20. Clark's office plans to begin mailing out ballots to domestic voters by Oct. 1. State law requires ballots be mailed to military and overseas voters at least 45 days prior to an election and 35 days and 28 days prior to the election for domestic voters.

Belleair Beach's referendum election will be conducted by mail ballot only. All registered voters in Belleair Beach will be mailed a ballot. Voters also can pick up a ballot and vote in person at any Supervisor of Elections office beginning Sept. 20.

Mail ballots to military and overseas voters eligible to vote in the Belleair Beach election will go out Sept. 20. Domestic ballots will be mailed out beginning Oct. 16, 20 days prior to the election as required by state law.

Mail ballots for all elections must be received in a Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. Nov. 5.

Additional mail ballot requests will be fulfilled as received. To request a mail ballot, visit www.voteinpinellas.com, call 464-VOTE (8683), or email absentee@voteinpinellas.com.

Daily ballot requests and ballot mailing updates will be posted at www.voteinpinellas.com.

CHIEF, from page 1A

"It's just even more exciting, because now, they're ready to move forward as much as we are," Willis said.

The ladder to leadership

Willis, 45, is Largo's first female fire chief but said she didn't notice the shattering of any glass ceilings as she rose through the ranks at Largo Fire Rescue. She's always felt like part of the team.

"The uniqueness is lost on me," she said. "In fire and police in the city of Largo, it doesn't matter if you're male or female, doesn't matter your color or ethnicity. If you can do the job, you're accepted."

Willis joined the U.S. Air Force as a security police officer at age 17, fresh out of high school and young enough that her parents had to sign permission for her to join. After serving between 1985 and 1989, Willis returned home to Florida and found her initial career ambitions thwarted.

"I had a very difficult time finding a job as a police officer. There wasn't a lot of opportunities at the time," she said.

She decided to go back to school to become a paramedic, also earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of South Florida.

While in paramedic school in 1995, an ironic call during a ride along with a Largo engine crew

changed Willis' career path once more.

"The engine company I was with got a call for a crematorium, of all places," she said.

It was a real fire, a full alarm assignment. She watched as the firefighters began pulling out hoses and running into the burning crematorium. The scene was impressive.

"I knew that second that I wanted to be a firefighter," she said.

She was a volunteer at the Redington Beach Fire Department before Largo Fire Rescue hired her as a paramedic/firefighter in 1997. She set her sights on becoming division chief of emergency medical services first. She achieved that feat in 2006, realizing that it might be possible to achieve the top job as she rose to deputy chief.

It was a challenge to accept some of the decisions Wallace made after becoming fire chief in October 2007, Willis said.

"It's always difficult when you don't agree with policy that's coming out of your supervisor's office," she said.

Especially given her military background, Willis remained firm in her stance of supporting the policymaker of the organization.

"I did have the ability to walk into the chief's office and say, 'I don't agree with this; here's an alternative perspective.' But in the end, my job is to implement the policies that he or she sets," she said.

A perfect score

The city of Largo surprised Willis July 2 with a plaque commending her most recent educational achievement: a perfect score in completion of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer program. She is Largo's third executive officer to complete the program, and one of only 188 graduates in the history of the program to have scored a 4.0.

Willis said she didn't expect to earn the distinction when she began the intense, four-year program that involves a thesis paper of applied research.

"I didn't think it was possible, but I was really, really excited about the topic, and I think that helped tremendously," she said.

For her topic, she explored the best way to prepare firefighters for retirement. The process is often difficult for professionals who are used to having a tremendous amount of responsibility and a constant team of peers with them.

"They don't walk into a scene and take control anymore. It's hard to give up," Willis explained. "They have to have something to retire into ... if they're just going to do the honey-do list and play golf once a week, it's usually not enough to keep them interested and keep them content with their retirement."

The study found that the best policy was to prepare retiring firefighters at least five years out, making sure that they knew what major hobby, new career, part-time work or volunteer efforts would be

come their new passion. Former firefighters without a plan tended to get sick, become depressed and have other medical issues, Willis said.

Steady change

Willis said that the department has seen a gradual turnaround since April.

"It's been a slow and steady change. It certainly didn't happen overnight, and we've still got a ways to go, but we're getting there," she said.

She plans to maintain a proactive approach to leading the department, involving all levels of the department in decisions and constantly soliciting feedback. She will have to hire a deputy chief immediately, as she was filling the roles of both interim chief and deputy chief while a final decision was being made. A series of successive promotions will follow, but for now, Willis said she doesn't anticipate making any other big changes to the department.

It will be important for both the fire leadership and its firefighters to work together to move the department in a better direction, she explained.

"I think the field is trying to see if we mean what we say. Are we going to be able to keep up this attitude and this forward movement? As we show them that, they'll also meet us with their continued excitement and their contribution," she said.

Willis has been married to her husband, Victor, for 21 years, and they have a 6-year-old son, Brody.

ANIMAL CONTROL, from page 1A

volunteers trying to help feral cat populations. First, it is against county code to feed strays. People who feed free roaming cats are breaking the law. County code prohibits dogs and cats from running free. In addition, it's against state law to release animals that are not indigenous to the state without a permit. Cats are not indigenous to the state of Florida.

Lastly, all dogs and cats in Pinellas are required to have a license and current rabies vaccinations.

Freaney said Pinellas is a county where all cats are supposed to live indoors. She said it is safer for humans, cats and other wildlife.

However, officials realize that not all cats live indoors. They know people let their cats run free. They also know there is a big population of feral cats. But so far, little impact has been made toward solving the problem of free roaming cats.

Freaney said officials recognize that trapping and euthanizing feral cats is not affecting the population, and they don't expect a TNVR program to have a significant impact. However, given the choice between free roaming cats that are not sterilized or vaccinated, she said the preference would be to do TNVR. She said officials are aware that many citizens are currently participating in TNVR (no vaccination) "under the radar."

Deciding to support a local nonprofit organization's efforts to do TNVR is a new direction for Pinellas County. SPCA Tampa Bay is very interested in implementing a pilot program, according to its CEO Martha Boden.

Freaney outlined conditions for a pilot program, including the ability of the organization to provide a viable business plan and funding sources. The group must get insurance and have liability provisions.

Cat colony management must ensure reductions in colonies and cats and include a way to validate the numbers. Independent validation of the pro-

gram's success also must be included. The organization must decide whether to target specific geographic areas or try a countywide program. It must develop policies and procedures to ensure protection of public lands, parks, beaches, schools and wildlife area. Efforts to respect private property rights have to be included.

The process also has to make sure friendly stray cats and kittens are separated from colonies, so they can be adopted or returned to their owners. The program must include an effort to promote the county's policy of keeping all cats indoors.

County staff is recommending that the nonprofit bring a business plan to the commission prior to relaxing any of the ordinances in place that might interfere with the program.

Mandatory spay and neuter

Probably the most controversial subject was mandatory spay and neuter. Both sides had compelling arguments with little neutral ground.

"The good news is that there's a lot of passion about this on both sides," Freaney said. "The bad news is that there's a lot of passion on both sides."

Freaney outlined some common provisions from those who advocate a mandatory program to sterilize the county's pet population. However, a number of those opposed to the program spoke against the primary requirement to spay and neuter by age 4 to 6 months, citing a myriad of potential health hazards, some specific to certain breeds and show animals.

The mandatory program would prohibit the sale of unsterilized animals older than 4 to 6 month. Exceptions were available for working, service, show and hunting dogs or animals that could not be sterilized for health reasons. The program also called for increased licensing fees and citations for those who did not sterilize their animals.

Freaney said that currently all dog and cats avail-



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER

Maureen Freaney, Animal Services director, answers questions from Pinellas County Commissioners during a Sept. 10 work session about potential programs to help with pet overpopulation.

able for adoption through Animal Services are spayed and neutered. Animal Services also offers incentives for spaying and neutering to residents who reclaim their pets and to pet owners of dangerous animals and those involved in bite cases.

The county offers low cost spay and neuter services for cats to citizens on public assistance and has reduced impound fees for sterilized animals. Animal Services also works with the community to promote voluntary spay and neuter.

Freaney conveyed some of the reasons mandatory spay and neuter wasn't the best idea, and several speakers brought up the same concerns. She said in other communities mandatory spay and neuter had led to decreased rabies vaccinations and licensing for pet owners who, for a variety of reasons, had not sterilized their animals. As a result, revenue from license fees went down.

Mandatory spay and neuter doesn't help with the problem of residents who can't afford services, nor does it help with the cost of making affordable spay

and neuter services available. Freaney said families who could not afford to have their animals sterilized would have to surrender their pets.

Some advocates for MSN said people who couldn't afford the service probably should not have pets.

Several speakers said the decision to have a pet spayed or neutered should be between the pet owner and their veterinarian. Some feared that pet owners would not get their animals' proper care if they were in violation of the law.

Cost of enforcement also would be prohibitive, Freaney said.

Freaney recommended that Animal Services continue to work with its partners and others to make voluntary low cost spay and neuter more accessible, including providing support for SPCA Tampa Bay's efforts to build a low cost spay and neuter clinic and the Humane Society of Pinellas' Neuter Scooter.

County staff also recommended a new policy that calls for mandatory sterilization at the owner's expense of any animal impounded for a second time. A couple speakers asked that the code include time intervals. One woman gave the example of a dog getting out when it was 5 months old and again when it was 5 years old. She said she didn't believe that dog should be sterilized. Commissioners asked staff to consider that issue.

Another idea is to increase the license fee for animals that are not sterilized. Freaney cautions that increasing the fee might lead to less people buying their annual license. Hold times for reclaiming animals also could be changed to allow animals to spend less time in the stressful shelter environment.

Freaney assured the commissioners that Animal Services was working closely with all interested parties on problems caused primarily by irresponsible pet owners.

"This is not the time to do mandatory spay and neuter ... this is a big decision and it should be a community decision," Freaney said.

BRIARWOOD, from page 1A

who planned to stay until the last minute before he moved to New York. "But most everybody is finding some place to go, finding apartments. It's progress every single day."

Dockside hopes to help the rest find resolution before the park closes Nov. 1.

"The eight (remaining) families will definitely be taken care of Nov. 1, to the extent that they cooperate," said attorney Ed Armstrong, representing Dockside. "We can't force anything. They will continue to have every opportunity to relocate successfully."

Per additional commission approval, the city will be amending the developer's agreement to remove a provi-

sion that requires the apartments on the property to be rented at market rates.

"The city received a threat that there would be a Fair Housing Act complaint filed," City Attorney Alan Zimet explained. "Rather than fight the battle, administration decided that they were comfortable with this applicant, that we knew what the plans were at this point, and we could go forward without that."

Dockside assured the commission that they had no intention to build anything but market-rate apartments, even without the provision.

Commissioners unanimously agreed to both the ordinance and the pending change to the developer's agreement. After staff prepares the amendment, it will be approved in two public hearings, scheduled for commis-

sion meetings on Thursdays, Oct. 1 and 15, 6 p.m. at Largo City Hall, 201 Highland Ave.

City concludes pension negotiations

Also during the Sept. 17 meeting, commissioners unanimously agreed to changes to the pension plan, negotiated with city's fire and police unions over the last year.

The changes include a phased increase in the employee payroll contribution rate from 5 percent to 8 percent over the next three years and reduced benefits for new hires. It also allows the use of all premium tax revenue to fund basic plan costs until funding benchmarks are achieved. After that, the revenue will continue to be added to the employees'

SHARE accounts.

Commissioner Robert Murray said he agreed that the change was necessary to keep the city's pension plan going "forever."

"I think this is a step in the right direction in order to make it sustainable," he said. "It's very important we're taking this step."

The Sun Coast Police Benevolent Association membership ratified the changes with a vote of 90-10. The International Association of Firefighters Local 2427 will be voting on this issue in the next two weeks.

If approved by both unions, the city is set to save \$536,000 in the upcoming budget year, an amount already accounted for in the budget that was set for final approval Sept. 18.

Wall Springs Park fire deemed 'suspicious'

By SUZETTE PORTER

PALM HARBOR - Pinellas County's Parks & Conservation Resources Director Paul Cozzie got an unexpected wakeup call the morning of Sept. 11 from the Palm Harbor Fire Department.

Palm Harbor firefighters responded to a fire at Wall Springs Park, 3725 De Soto Blvd. in Palm Harbor, just before 7:30 a.m. They soon discovered that the observation tower was ablaze. Pinellas County officials closed the park for the day shortly thereafter.

Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives with the Arson and Auto Theft Unit are investigating the fire that reportedly caused substantial damage to the 35-foot tower. Detectives said the fire appears to be suspicious in nature and asks that anyone with information that could help detectives to call Detective Larry McLean of the Arson and Auto Theft Unit at 727-582-6200.

The observation tower was added to Wall Springs Park in 2005 and cost about \$315,000. The cost was paid from Pinellas County's Capital Improvement Fund.

The tower allows visitors a panoramic view of the 210-acre Wall Springs Park, which is located on the site of a historical, natural spring that was once a popular spa and bathing area. It is home to an array of wildlife, such as squirrels, raccoons, rabbits, reptiles and birds.

County officials report that the fire affected no wildlife, although some vegetation, mostly pine needles and leaf litter, was burned.

As of Friday, Sept. 13, the east section of the park was open. The section on the west side remained closed at the bridge. There has been no word of when the west side will reopen.

Sheriff's Office investigates stabbings

LARGO - Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a stabbing incident that occurred about 11:18 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15.

According to the sheriff's report, deputies found stabbing victims at two separate addresses in unincorporated Largo. Deputies said the incidents are connected.

Deputies responded to 6463 146th Ave. in unincorporated Largo, where an injured male, Jeffrey Laforge, 28, and an injured female, Amy L. Wilson, 30, both of St. Petersburg were located. The two had been stabbed. Laforge was transported by air to Bayfront Medical Center for treatment of life-threatening injuries. Wilson was transported by ambulance to Bayfront Medical Center for treatment of life-threatening injuries.

Deputies also responded to 6262 142nd Ave., where a third person, 23-year-old Andrew Fronczak of Largo was located. He had also been stabbed. Fronczak was transported by ambulance to Bayfront Medical Center for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

Detectives assigned to the Robbery/Homicide Unit said the stabbing incidents are connected and are not random acts, as the individuals involved are known to each other. At this time, they are not seeking any other parties involved. The investigation continues.

Crime beat

Man beaten in jail transport van dies

A Treasure Island man died at 6 a.m. Sept. 12 at Kindred Hospital in St. Petersburg from injuries he received while in the back of a van transporting him to the Pinellas County Jail.

Thomas Morrow, 60, was taken into protective custody by the Treasure Island Police Department July 6 under the Marchman Act, aka the Florida Substance Abuse Impairment Act, which allows people to get help for family members who do not seek substance abuse services voluntarily.

Leonard Lanni, 37, also had been taken into custody that same night on disorderly conduct charges. According to investigators with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, at about 10:55 p.m., Morrow and Lanni were being transported to the Pinellas County Jail when Lanni battered Morrow.

Morrow was transported to Bayfront Medical Center by ground for treatment of life-threatening injuries. He was later transferred to Kindred Hospital where he died. The Medical Examiner's Office has taken custody of Morrow's body and an autopsy will be conducted.

Lanni is being held in the Pinellas County Jail on charges of attempted second-degree murder. The State Attorney's Office is re-

viewing the case and Lanni could face a murder charge.

The criminal investigation continues as well as the Sheriff's Office review of the incident.



Leonard Lanni

Man arrested for child porn

Detectives with Pinellas County Sheriff's Special Victims Unit arrested a man Sept. 11 for possessing child pornography after he allegedly admitted to downloading and sharing the content via his computer.

Randy Lee Rosenberry, 53, was charged with 12 counts of sexual performance by a child (possession of child pornography). His address is being withheld per Florida Statute 119.071.

According to detectives, Rosenberry's arrest is the result of an undercover Internet investigation

that began in June 2013. Through the investigation, detectives identified a potential suspect believed to be sharing child pornography videos via the Internet.

Detectives obtained a search warrant, which was served at Rosenberry's residence Sept. 11. Rosenberry's computer reportedly contained downloaded material, which is currently under review. Additional charges are pending.

Rosenberry was released from the Pinellas County Jail Sept. 11 less than eight hours after he was booked on \$60,000 surety bond - \$5,000 for each count.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office is a member of the Central



Randy Lee Rosenberry

Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. The investigation continues.

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To enroll, families must email Fit4Allkids@allkids.org.

For questions, parents can call 727-767-2308.

Space is limited so please email to RSVP!

Classes are offered from 6:30pm to 8pm at

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Signs! Signs! Everywhere Signs! Understanding Largo's Changing Sign Code

"Planning for Largo Sign Code Success: What Every Business Needs to Know" is the topic of an informational business program being held on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive.

The program is presented by the Chamber and the City of Largo. It will highlight what businesses must know and what action they must take before the monument sign

compliance deadline ends on June 5, 2017. Topics will include the new sign code, permitting process, sign incentives and hiring a sign contractor. There will be an opportunity for one-on-one assistance following the formal presentations.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is requested. Contact the Chamber at 727-584-2321 or email tom@centralchamber.biz with name and company affiliation.

Slyce Pizza Bar to host Chamber Happy Hour

The Chamber will hold a B2B Happy Hour on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Slyce Pizza Bar, 3575 Gulf Boulevard, Indian Rocks Beach.

The B2B Happy Hour is an informal event allowing Chamber members and guests to exchange business cards and become ac-

quainted. Attendees who provide a door prize of \$15 or more in value are provided a 60 second infomercial to spotlight their business.

Cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for guests. Advance registration is strongly recommended. To register, call the Chamber at 584-2321 or email events@CentralChamber.biz.

Looking for a Business - Visit the Chamber Website

Finding a reputable Central Pinellas business is a mouse click away. Just visit CentralChamber.biz. The site averages more than 10,000 unique hits a month. It's designed for easy visitor navigation specifically in finding a business.

And, the homepage Calendar of Events makes it quick and easy to find all that's happening at the Chamber. Spotlight Billboard Ads are available to preferred Chamber member businesses at \$500 a year. Call the Chamber at 584-2321 for more information.

Welcome

The Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce is the area's leading organization spearheading initiatives to strengthen the regional business community. In addition to its many business-to-business programs and services, its advocacy on behalf of the Chamber's membership and non-aligned businesses is especially significant. The rising tide does lift all ships!

For the past 61 years, this volunteer-driven association has been empowering business by providing the necessary tools and resources to help them succeed. This includes networking leads groups, government advocacy and economic development initiatives in addition to programs and events focused on professional development.

Most importantly, the Chamber consists of people who realize that they can accomplish collectively what they cannot accomplish individually. **If a Return on Involvement (ROI) is your approach to business and life in general, then you'd be a welcome addition to the Chamber family.** To become a "Preferred Central Pinellas Business" please visit www.CentralChamber.biz or call us at 727-584-2321.



Chamber Chairman of the Board Debra Jones of Regions Bank and Adam Nasif of Aio Wireless, Area Code Wireless on Walsingham Road 1 n Largo enjoy the Chamber's recent B2B Happy Hour at Thirsty Marlin.

Time is running out for Chamber Cup reservations

The days are ticking away until this year's winner of the prestigious Chamber Cup is decided at the 10th Annual Chamber Cup Classic Golf Tournament.

The event is being presented by Clearwater Toyota on Friday, Oct. 18 - rain or shine - at The Bayou Club, 979 Bayou Club Blvd, Largo. Registration is at 10:30 a.m. with lunch at 11 a.m. and a 12 noon shotgun start.

Cost is \$125 a golfer and \$500 a foursome and several sponsorship packages are available for greater business recognition. To register individually or as a team, or to learn more about event sponsorship opportunities, contact the Chamber at 727-584-2321 or e-mail tom@CentralChamber.biz.

Chamber Ambassador of the Month

Congratulations to Chamber Ambassador of the Month Diana Robertson of All About Scrubs, 885 West Bay Drive in Largo. All About Scrubs carries uniforms in a variety of colors for those in the healthcare industry, from the basic to the most current trendy styles. Diana also works with small offices to assist with their staff scrub needs by meeting them at their location for fittings and delivery. She also offers in-house embroidery, corporate wear to include polo's and t-shirts, and other promotional products.



Free Business & Community Guides Available

The Chamber's 2013-2014 Business & Community Go-To Guide is available free of charge, one per customer, at its 151 3rd Street N.W., Largo offices.

The full color publication features alphabetical and categorical listings of the organization's Preferred Central Pinellas Businesses. Special sections are included with information about regional recreation, shopping, health care and education resources.

Bulk copies of 25 or more are available at \$2 per guide. It's a great presentation resource for realtors and sales account representatives. Call the Chamber at 584-2321.



Rowena Weese of CruiseOne (www.mycruisebuilder.com) celebrates her new business with a ribbon-cutting.



Chamber Chairman of the Board Debra Jones of Regions Bank, Incoming Chairman of the Board Dr. Jim Rivenbark of Diagnostic Clinic, Debbie Jackson of Jackson & Associates CPA, PA and Rick Donohue of Hampton Inn & Suites-Largo participate in the recent Board of Directors Annual Planning Meeting at Hotel Indigo.



Prino Breakfast Club, 201 West Bay Drive, Suite E-5, celebrates its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting.

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Supporting Business & Community

We salute the following businesses and organizations that joined or renewed their association with the Chamber during the past month. For a complete listing of Preferred Chamber Businesses, stop by the office for a free copy of the 2013 Central Pinellas Business & Community Go-To Guide or visit the Chamber website at www.CentralChamber.biz.

- A 2 Z Printing & Graphics
- Accents on Windows
- All About Scrubs, Inc.
- Bayshore Health & Homemaker Services, Inc.
- Brown Insurance & Financial
- Centratel Business Telephones
- Class Appliance Center
- The Columns at East Bay
- Creative Design Team
- Curtis Pools
- DeNyse Companies
- Duke Energy - TRUSTEE
- Florida Blue - NEW TRUSTEE
- Florida Lifestyle Vacation Rentals, Inc.
- Freedom Square Life Care Retirement Community - TRUSTEE
- Great Bay Distributors, Inc.
- Integra Composite Repairs
- Just Tires Tire Discounter
- Largo Cultural Center
- Law Offices of Steven W. Moore
- Life of Riley Salon Supply
- Little Greek Largo/Bardmoor
- Louis Haskel CPA
- NorthStar Bank
- One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning
- One Resource Center, LLC
- The Palms of Largo - TRUSTEE
- Pinellas County Economic Development
- Piper Fire Protection, Inc. - TRUSTEE
- Television Advertising Partners, Inc.
- Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market
- WorkNet Pinellas

Leads Network Teams Deliver!

Develop new business leads! Join more than 75 business leaders already engaged in one or more of the four Chamber Leads Network Groups. Members meet twice a month to share business leads and build business contacts. The success of the program is participation so regular meeting attendance is required.

Participants must be Chamber members, provide a \$100 annual enrollment fee and cover the cost of meals. Call the Chamber at 584-2321 for an application and to learn if your business is eligible to become a team player.

Free SCORE Business Counseling

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

Chamber members Greg Moore of Chris' Carpet Service & Water Restoration, Patricia Smolen of Achieving Performance Success, Teri Hanson of Vacation Village, Mea McManus of Donald McManus & Company - CPA, Donna Seaman of Largo Cultural Center and Todd Moore of Big T Printing enjoy networking at the August President's Luncheon with Tom Morrisette at The Palms of Largo.

ER

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Tampa Bay **NEWSPAPERS** LARGO LEADER

Business news

Largo nursing school changes name

LARGO – Christian International School of Healthcare Professions, a provider of practical nursing diploma and registered nursing associate and bachelor degree programs in Pinellas County, recently announced a name change to Christian International College.

"These are very exciting times on the Christian International campus," said college administrator Carolyn Farrell in a press release. "Our progress has been very rapid since we first opened our doors to students in February 2011. In order to qualify as a college, an institution must offer more degree programs than diploma programs and have a greater number of enrolled students seeking degrees."

CIC is a Christian College whose sole area of study is nursing. It is this very combination that makes the college such a unique institution in the Tampa Bay area. The faculty is committed to delivering nursing education with a holistic approach to patient centered care.

The goal at CIC is always to soundly equip students so they are able to minister to a patient's spiritual and emotional needs, in addition to providing nursing care.

Conlin completes AEPI

LARGO – James Conlin recently completed the Advanced Estate Planning Institute, according to a press release from Raymond James' Wealth, Retirement and Portfolio Solutions group.

Conlin is senior vice president, investments and branch complex manager at the West Bay Drive office of Raymond James and Associates Inc., member New York Stock Exchange/SIPC. Conlin has been with Raymond James for more than 20 years and in the financial industry for 30 years.

The AEPI is a three-day program for financial advisers on developing strategies and recognizing opportunities within the estate planning, philanthropy and wealth management process and how to leverage this new knowledge to serve the needs of their clients. Among the topics covered are the changing federal estate tax laws, strategies for high-net-worth families, long-term care alternatives, irrevocable trusts and charitable techniques.

Westside Skate Shop relocates

LARGO – After 16 years in Clearwater, Westside Skate Shop recently relocated to 475 Seminole Blvd.

Owner John Montesi is excited about this location in the Largo Oaks Plaza as it has direct access to Bayhead Action Park, the City of Largo's new skate park. Westside Skate Shop sells skateboards, parts and gear and plans to attract pro skaters for autograph signings and demonstrations.

Peacock's Design and Consign to open

LARGO – Peacock's Design and Consign will host its grand opening gala on Thursday, Sept. 26, 5 to 7 p.m., at 200 Clearwater-Largo Road N.

The store features fine furnishings and home accessories and antiques. The grand opening event will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony sponsored by the Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce.

The store will go on to host a grand opening event

on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 27-28, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., offering refreshments, grand opening specials and drawings.

For information, call 400-6941 or email info@peacocksdesignandconsign.com. Visit www.peacocksdesignandconsign.com.

Largo Community Acupuncture to open

LARGO – Largo Community Acupuncture will open its doors Tuesday, Oct. 1, in the Smart Sixty Six building, 12360 66th St. N.

According to a press release, David Chambers moved here from Texas to start Largo Community Acupuncture. He graduated from Florida College of Integrative Medicine in 2009 with a master's degree in Oriental medicine. He is licensed in the state of Florida as an acupuncture physician.

In a community setting, individuals are treated in a group setting of four to six people.

Largo Community Acupuncture also will treat veterans on Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m., for a donation. Conditions treated include but not limited to are Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, anxiety, chronic issues and pain of all types for veterans.

Visit www.largocommunityacupuncture.com.

Tyrone Mall to host 'Wizard of Oz' celebration

ST. PETERSBURG – No need to trek all the way to the Emerald City for adventure: Pinellas residents are invited to visit Tyrone Square Mall for a special experience as Simon Malls celebrate the 75th anniversary of "The Wizard of Oz."

Simon Property Group Inc. and Simon Kidgits Club will host the 75th anniversary event on Saturday, Sept. 21, 1 to 3 p.m., in Sears Court at Tyrone Square Mall, 6901 22nd Ave. N.

At the celebration, families can participate in a variety of imaginative "The Wizard of Oz" inspired activities to revel in the charming tradition of the "Yellow Brick Road." Children who attend will receive a map, which leads to various stations that feature viewings of "The Wizard of Oz" film clips, craft-making and coloring activities, cutout character photo opportunities and exclusive movie-focused giveaways.

"Families across the country come to Simon Malls to do more than just shop," said Pamela Kluge-Rada in a press release. Kluge-Rada is Tyrone Square Mall's director of marketing. "Because Simon properties are places where the community gathers, we're encouraging adults and kids to come out, connect with each other and get immersed in a classic, fascinating film that people of all ages have enjoyed for years."

The Simon Kidgits Club is a fun and informative program that focuses on health, wellness, education, safety and entertainment for children ages 3 to 8.

Since 2003, the Simon Kidgits Club has kept children and parents alike amused with various events and activities while providing incentives for club members, such as special offers, rewards and games.

For information, visit www.simon.com/kidgits.

Covington Who's Who selects Lee

PALM HARBOR – Victor Lee, chairman and chief

executive officer of C2I Business Consulting LLC, has been selected as a featured member of the Covington Who's Who Executive and Professional Registry.

The selection recognizes Lee's commitment to excellence in business and management consulting.

Lee is currently a member of The Gerson Lehrman Group, which connects businesses and individuals to people with the insights to empower better decisions.

Rabon named chief development officer

CLEARWATER – Ruth Eckerd Hall recently announced the return of Kathy Rabon as chief development officer of Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Capitol Theatre in downtown Clearwater.

"We are so pleased to welcome Kathy back to Ruth Eckerd Hall," said Zev Buffman in a press release. Buffman is president and CEO of Ruth Eckerd Hall. "Her knowledge of Ruth Eckerd Hall as well as fundraising in our market along with her passion for the arts and education are a great asset to our strong team and will serve our community well."

"I'm excited to return to Ruth Eckerd Hall and join a team at such a respected venue in the Tampa Bay area and around the world," said Rabon. "I look forward to working with the entire development staff and Ruth Eckerd Hall team as we continue building on 30 years of presenting the highest level of entertainment and performing arts to the community and continue our successful relationships with our members, board of directors, corporate sponsors, donors and the Tampa Bay community as we identify new opportunities as well as enhance our current philanthropic support."

In addition to planning, directing and organizing the development functions of the organization to achieve fundraising goals for Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Capitol Theatre, Rabon also will provide leadership, support, training and direction for the development staff. She will continue the implementation of the major funding campaign programs and solicitations of major gifts and sponsorships.

Rabon will join the staff on Sept. 30.

Platinum National Title opens

CLEARWATER – Platinum National Title has officially opened for business in Pinellas County.

Founded by seasoned title and real estate veterans Leah Negri and Valerie Negri, Platinum National Title is a full service title insurance company which provides concierge title services to its clients.

With more than 10 years of experience in title insurance and real estate, general manager and founder Leah Negri has worked in all facets of the title business and understands what is important to her clients and Realtors.

Director of marketing Valerie Negri has more than 20 years of title/real estate experience with areas of expertise that include escrow distribution, processing, closing, management, business development and marketing.

Collectively the principals of Platinum have handled over 8,000 real estate closing transactions in their careers, which include residential, commercial, construction to perm loan, commercial lines of credit and refinance closings. As a full service title insurance company, Platinum National Title coordinates all aspects of the closing transaction, from start to finish.

"We do things differently at Platinum National Title," said Leah Negri in a press release. "We put the customer first in every aspect of the transaction. Our entire company philosophy is predicated on providing our realtors and clients with a closing experience unlike any other. Platinum National Title's prime objective is to simplify and quickly expedite the closing process from start to finish, while providing you with an unsurpassed level of service that you've never experienced before with a title company."

Bucs partner with PODS

CLEARWATER – The Tampa Bay Buccaneers recently announced that the organization has signed PODS Enterprises Inc., a moving and storage company, as a new sponsor with a multi-year agreement.

"The Buccaneers always enjoy forming partnerships with local businesses, and PODS Moving and Storage, headquartered in Clearwater, is a perfect example of our commitment to our local business community," said Bucs co-chairman Bryan Glazer. "We are pleased to not only have a new sponsor, but also an official provider for our team's moving and storage needs."

As part of the agreement, PODS also will have the opportunity to join the team in some of its many community efforts, as both the Buccaneers and PODS are dedicated to giving back to the Tampa Bay area.

"PODS is very excited about our new relationship with our hometown Bucs," said Ann Lehman, senior vice president of operations for PODS Enterprises. "Not only are we looking forward to providing them with moving and storage services, we see it as a great charitable partnership platform that will help both of us give back to the community."

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A new way to get to know your neighbors

By BRIAN GOFF

It has often been said that living in a big city makes it tough to get to know your neighbors. Everyone is so busy with work and family no one has time to stop and chat anymore. That is, unless there is something to chat about, and that's where the Little Free Library comes in.

The Little Free Library is an idea that seems to be catching on all over North America and has taken root in one particular neighborhood in Clearwater.

The concept is based on the premise, "If you build it they will come." The idea is to build a small structure, roughly about 2 square feet, and place it outside your house. Fill it with books that are free to borrow or take, then sit back and watch as the neighbors gather and get to know one another.

Todd Bol of Hudson, Wis., is the founder of the Little Free Library organization. He says it was something he thought up to honor his mother.

"It is a free book exchange to promote literacy and the appreciation of books," he said. "My mom loved people, and she always made you feel better about yourself. We always had books around and I had a lot of books; when she died, there were a lot of books left. So I celebrated her and put in the Little Free Library."

Bol said after he built one, he put it in a garage sale, and it had a special effect on people.

"People treated it like they would a puppy; they got excited, it was magic the way it opened up neighborhoods," he said. "That was four years ago, and people say that they have met more neighbors than they have in years. They stop and talk and just mingle with one another."

Since then Bol said there are Little Free Libraries in more than 50 countries.

"A woman from Ukraine contacted us and she built 100 of them," he said.

The library can take any form according to Bol, and they can be located anywhere.

"It can just be a box, or shaped like a house or cottage or a store then hung on a post outside your front door, or in parks or on docks or even on islands where only fishermen go," he said. "The key to success is a passionate steward who looks after it and maintains it and their book exchange."

In Clearwater, there is no doubt that passionate steward is Donna Kellner. She lives on North Madison Avenue and is as enthusiastic about her Little Free Library today as she was when she installed it a year and a half ago.

"I saw a story about the Little Free Library on one of the national news programs one night and immediately said, I've got to do that," she said. "I'm a big book lover and have hundreds of books in my house and decided it was something I had to do."

So Kellner, 54, went online, found the website, ordered a kit and, with her husband Larry, put it together. From there, she said it was only a matter of filling it with books and get it going. She said it didn't take long to catch on.



Photo by BRIAN GOFF

Clearwater's Donna Kellner stands next to the Little Free Library, which she has erected, outside her home.

"I'm a shy person, so I didn't have a grand opening or anything like that," she said. "I just put it out there and I watched. A couple of neighbors thought it was a mailbox, but after about a week, more people came and looked and read the information sheet and suddenly it became very popular," she said.

Kellner said there has been no issue with vandalism or theft at all. "How can you steal something that is given, free," she said. "There are no real rules; give a book, return a book. Some people even add to it and the library is never empty. Each book has a sticker that says this book is always a gift, never for sale. I have a light inside my library so people even come by at night and browse through the books."

Founder Bol says it shouldn't be surprising that the Little Free Library manages to bring people together. He says it is a natural instinct for people to want to interact.

"We want to get along with our neighbors and friends, and this is something that brings us together. The Library is a great statement about how people want to be together and connect to each other face to face. This is Facebook with a face," he said.

That has proven true in Clearwater in Kellner's Madison Avenue neighborhood.

"I have met people I hadn't seen in 30 years," she said. "I've met people from Tampa and St. Pete and people on vacation from North Carolina. I've met a lot of children. They call me the book fairy so it has been great. I've loved books since I was a little girl and this is my dream."

Anyone can start a Little Free Library. For more information go to their website at www.littlefreelibrary.org.

PSTA Board approves budget for 2014 year

ST. PETERSBURG – Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Board of Directors approved the agency's 2014 budget Sept. 11 with no change to the millage rate.

The budget includes expanded bus services as part of a three-year balanced budget plan, according to a press release from PSTA.

All-time record ridership and higher-than-expected fare-box revenues, along with prudent cost savings have given Pinellas County's transit leaders the opportunity to approve a slightly increased and balanced budget for 2014, PSTA officials said.

The budget plan for the coming year includes the purchase of new buses and minor increases in service. The adopted 2014 PSTA operating budget totals \$63,294,731 and with a reduced reliance on reserve funds, is forecasted to remain balanced through FY2015 and FY2016.

"Not long ago, it looked as though our reserves would be depleted in 2014," said PSTA CEO Brad Miller. "But thanks to record ridership generating strong fare-box revenues as well as a diligent effort by staff to identify efficiencies and save dollars, we're thrilled to be able to expand our bus services to benefit the community."

PSTA projects to save \$3.1 million through the end of the current FY2013, which agency leaders plan to use to replace aging buses. A slightly higher than projected increase in property values also will allow the agency to restore some service that was cut several years ago due to falling property tax revenues resulting from the Great Recession.

Improvements may include additional service in the evenings and along routes served by the Jolley Trolley, as well as a new transfer and customer service center in Pinellas Park. WiFi on PSTA buses and implementation of Smart Card fare technology also will come on line in 2014.

As the planned November 2014 referendum on the Greenlight Pinellas Plan gets closer and the plans for dramatically expanded transit system in Pinellas County are finalized, the FY2014 PSTA Budget provides funds to continue extensive outreach to citizens and communities across Pinellas County to ensure voters are well-informed before they make their vote on Greenlight Pinellas.

To learn more about PSTA, its service and budget documents, visit www.PSTA.net. For more information on the agency's transit improvement plan, Greenlight Pinellas, visit www.greenlightpinellas.com.

CSF to host seminars

Community Service Foundation Inc. will present a free, two-part first-time homebuyers seminar on Tuesdays, Oct. 1 and 8, 6 to 9 p.m., at Pinellas County Housing Authority, 11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

The seminar is designed to help first-time homebuyers go through the process of purchasing a home and qualifying for down payment and closing costs assistance. Participants must attend both sessions to earn a certificate.

The foundation also will host a free, two-part household budgeting seminar on Thursdays, Oct. 17 and 24, 6 to 9 p.m., at the Sunshine Center, 330 Fifth St. N., St. Petersburg.

The seminar is designed for people who want to live better on less and/or to save to buy a home. Participants must attend both sessions to earn a certificate.

For information or to register, call 461-0618, ext. 3.

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If you think you've seen a flying saucer, don't call us.

Our Close Encounters bureau is short-handed these days, so I doubt we will be able to cover the story.

Same goes for sightings of Big Foot, Jimmy Hoffa and the New Jersey Devil.

Over the years, we've received all kinds of unusual news tips. That's good. You can never have enough ears and eyes in this business.

But we have to pick and choose.

Throughout my career, it's been gratifying to hear from so many readers, whether they have news tips, need help or just want to vent.

Or, they're looking for an old article. I recently listened to a voice mail from a woman in California who was searching for any articles about the death of her husband. He was killed in an accident in 1959.

Wish I could help, but it's not possible. Our archives only go back as far as about 2004. Along those lines, my advice to readers is preserve your memories. Clip newspaper articles or preserve them electronically. We only have a limited amount of old newspapers in bound volumes, and we don't have time to search extensively for articles.

We receive a lot of inquiries from readers wanting to know the best way to submit materials for publication, such as notices about fundraising drives, sports teams' registration and student awards.

The best way to communicate with us is through email. Our general email address is editorial@TBNweekly.com. The staff member who handles email will make sure it gets to the right editor.

Here are some other tips for getting materials published in a timely fashion:

- If you want to submit a photograph, make sure you send it in a JPEG format. Please don't embed it in a word document; we may not be able to retrieve it. You may mail or drop off prints of pictures. We will try to save them, but we can't guarantee we will return them.
- Please give us adequate notice if you want us to cover an event. We can't cover an event if we are notified about it only hours before its scheduled time. However, we usually will accept pictures from the event that are submitted to us. Simply identify people in the photo, from left to right. First and last names.

But if there are a dozen people in the photo, just provide a general description of the event. The shorter, the better.

- Over the years, photographers have provided us great sunsets, wildlife and other feature photos. We publish such photos with the understanding that we can't compensate the photographers, but will credit them for their shots in the photo captions.

Some of these photographers have won awards in Florida newspaper contests for their work. We are happy to submit their photos.

- We hate faxes, love email. That's because we can copy and paste email, saving time in typing and editing.

- On deadline days, especially Mondays and Tuesdays, we may not have time to return your calls immediately. It's easier to communicate through email.

- If you have opened a business, we will be glad to run a short announcement about it. If you want more free publicity for it, buy an ad.

- We usually don't attend ribbon cuttings, unless somebody famous plans to attend.

The pope would qualify.

- Did I tell you we hate faxes?

- We will accept hand written letters to the editor, but it may take awhile for us to have them typed. See the note about faxes.

- If you are certain that you know the whereabouts of Jimmy Hoffa and will give us the scoop, take me to him.

You provide the shovels.

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



Tom Germond

How to become a conversationalist

Do you feel tongue-tied when you have to chat with people? Do you fear socializing with strangers? Do words and ideas desert you at the very moment you need to connect with members of the human race?

If so, please read these few brief suggestions on how you can become a confident conversationalist.

FIND SOMEONE TO TALK TO. Most conversations require at least two persons. Some people talk to themselves, or God, or their dog, but that's really not conversation, is it? What you need is another human, preferably someone who is awake, not drunk and who speaks the same language as you.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF. Once you have obtained a suitable "other" to talk with, you should identify yourself, in this fashion: "I am Clyde Moreau, a lung-tissue analyst from Omaha. I would like to converse with you. And your name is?" That should get the ball rolling, or at least ease the other person's suspicion that you might be a mugger or a life insurance salesman.

ASK QUESTIONS. But make sure they're not too personal. Don't ask, "Are you washed in the blood of the lamb?" or "Are those dumplings really yours, or have you had some reconstruction work done?" Instead, try to draw the other person out with questions about current events or popular culture. Examples: "Do you think Hillary will run in 2016? Have you heard about George Zimmerman's plan to become president of the National Rifle Association?"

FIND COMMON GROUND. No matter how varied our personal histories, most of us share certain interests. Restaurants, for example. "Have you tried the steak tartare at the Pinellas Park Wendy's?" "No, but I've dis-



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

covered this wonderful Greek place beneath the Sunshine Skyway bridge." And so on. A related topic is dieting. A recent survey showed that 94 percent of adult Americans are either on a diet or thinking about one. Another useful fall-back topic is dogs. Or cats. Or children. "Do you have a dog?" "Oh, my, yes. I came home one day last week and found my rat terrier chewing on my 2-year-old's foot. He's so cute." "Your child?" "No, the terrier." And there you go, two people exchanging unforgettable anecdotes.

SEEK HELP. No stranger can resist responding to a person who needs assistance or advice. "Sir, can you tell me whether Comcast tells more lies than Verizon, or vice versa?" "Ma'am, do you know the way to San Jose?" "Brother, can you spare a dime?"

TELL A FUNNY STORY. People like to laugh. When the conversation slows down, dredge up a joke. "Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain when he went to the dentist because he wanted to transcend dental medication?" A few knee-slappers like that will keep the chatter going every time.

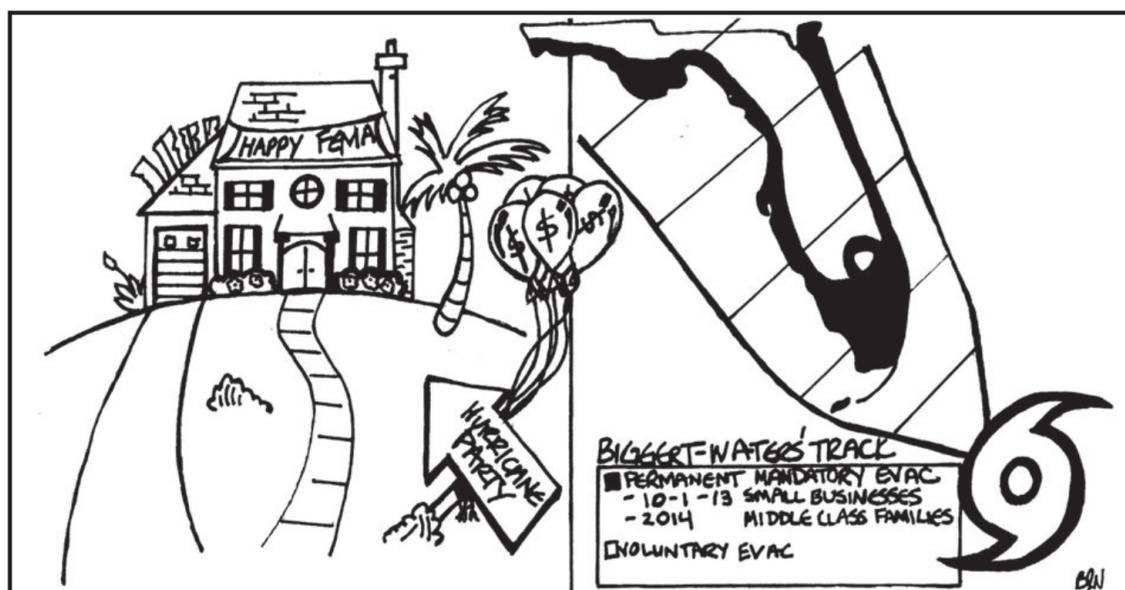
COMPARE CELL PHONES AND COMPUTERS. If all other attempts fail to find a common ground to discuss, simply say, "May I tell you about my new telephone, or my wonder-

ful computer?" That should get the conversational ball rolling at warp speed. Today's conversations are oriented not toward feelings, goals, and shared problems, but toward gadgets. "Does your phone let you talk to people on Mars?" "No, but it allows me access to every document in the Library of Congress. Here, let me show you." At that point, instant friendships can take place.

REMEMBER TO NOD AND SAY "HMMMM. IS THAT SO?" Conversation, ideally, is a two-way street. But in real life it's often a monologue - one speaker, one listener. If you're talking with a woman you hope to charm, or an executive you hope will hire you, it's important to show that you're paying attention - even if you're not. So be responsive, at least in a minimal manner. Nod your head every few seconds, and say "Really? Is that so? My goodness. Hmmm." As long as the other person is doing all the talking, you don't have to worry about being a skilled conversationalist. As the Roman orator Cicero put it, "Silence is one of the great elements of conversation."

DON'T BE AFRAID TO INTERRUPT. On the other hand, you should not hesitate to insert your own important (you hope) viewpoint into the conversation, even when the other guy is speaking. In today's world, interruptions are mandatory and rarely noticed. If you don't agree with that statement, try listening to any of TV's chatter shows or roundtables. On most of them, no one is allowed to complete a sentence. Of course, these gabfests should not be confused with actual conversation, whose highest forms usually involve a civilized give-and-take.

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



The above cartoon is by BRYAN NELSON, St. Petersburg



LETTERS

Oh, say can you see the bomb in your mailbox?

Editor:

Over the holiday weekend, a fireworks aerial bomb was placed in my mailbox at approximately 11 p.m. on Aug. 31. The rear of the mailbox was partially blown out and the front was blown open. The event rattled homes' windows across the street and a report to the sheriff was made plus pictures taken. The replaced mailbox and wood below it cost just under \$45.

The negatives this act created was greater than a disabled person or a minority person should worry about, in an area where they have lived for more than 25 years. Concealed guns on this street are being carried by many because of this act.

The tubular nature of a mailbox could have allowed the explosive to shoot its stuff like a gun into the home across the street. Thankfully, this did not happen.

The acts of Zimmerman were not good but dumb stupid stuff like this could get someone shot no matter the age of the person doing something or looking like they may be doing something. Residents are not trained like the law that is in your area. But having to carry a gun to put the garbage out at dusk or at night is happening on our street. So oh, say can you see the guns we carry in front of our homes or see the bomb in our mailbox?

Marshall Deitch
Palm Harbor

A sectarian civil war debacle

Editor:

The UN has said "NO" to your proposed adventure in Syria.

The NATO (essentially) has said "NO" to your proposed adventure in Syria.

The Islamic world has said "NO" to your proposed adventure in Syria.

The G-20 has said "NO" to your proposed adventure in Syria.

The citizens who elected you twice have said "NO" to your proposed adventure in Syria.

So, Mr. President, what is it about "NO" that you don't understand? The "N" or the "O"?

Why is the use of chemical arms more despotic than the slaughter that preceded it, and continues?

Why are the millions of refugees created by this sectarian debacle any less important?

Why, in this time of budget sequestration, are there funds to support this adventure in Syria?

The U.S. should not become involved in the Syrian sectarian civil war debacle!

The U.S. should not become involved in this religious conflict!

The U.S. has alienated too much of the (Islamic) world to risk any more of the same!

Mike MacDonald
Clearwater

Raise speed limit for Keystone Road

Editor:

I was wondering if you or anyone knows why the speed limit on the new, improved, double lane Keystone Road is a measly 35 mph. all the way across? The drive from Eastlake to U.S. 19 is torture. I drove the limit the other day and seriously, I created a mile long back up with people honking and desperate to pass. The outside lane was passing me like I was sitting still. It was agonizing to poke along, but I followed the speed limit.

As I was creeping, just past Patriots BBQ, a police officer was writing a ticket. What's the deal? Did Florida finally make Keystone a double lane to create a speed trap? The limit was faster when it was a pot-holed, rickety two way.

Why is the speed limit lowered to 35 on a new double lane?

Respectfully, a disgruntled Keystone driver.

Sandy Cruz
Palm Harbor

What do you think?

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

not print the letter writer's phone number.

Here are some more guidelines for letters:

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

- Please keep letters to editor to 500 words. Longer letters may be cut due to space limitations.

- Letters should address issues or current events. Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations. The newspaper will not print letters that contain slanderous or racial statements.

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We can't dwell on the 'what ifs' of life

Recently, I've had a few friends tell me that, when they were younger, they lost a friend in an accident and somehow feel responsible for their death. They know they ultimately aren't responsible, but think: if only they didn't tell the person something before they were killed, or if only they told them to do something different, they wouldn't have died.



Mom 2 Mom
Kadi Hendricks
Tubbs

Even though I have never lost a friend this way, I have seen what it does and how it affects a person. My brother was 29 years old when he lost his best friend, Frank. His friend was killed riding his motorcycle. An older man pulled right out from a stop sign and broadsided Frank. He was killed almost instantly. Frank, 44, was like a brother to my brother, and my family thought of him as part of our family. It was devastating on everyone, but especially my brother.

The night Frank was killed he was going to meet my brother and his wife for a special dinner. They were going to tell him the sex of their first child. He was going to be the godfather. It was going to be a celebration.

Before Frank left to go to the dinner, he called my brother and asked him what vehicle he should drive. Should he take his truck or his brand new Harley Nitrane? It was a beautiful night out, so my brother told him to take the Harley.

Frank never showed up for the dinner. Instead, my brother got a call to go to the hospital.

My brother for years, kept replaying the "what if" question in his mind over and over. "What if I would have just told him to take the truck? He would still be alive." I saw how much my brother hurt because his friend had died.

There are so many "what ifs." We all have them. Every day we could have done something different or said something different. Do you ever pass an accident on the side of the road and think, "I could have been

in that accident, if I was a few minutes earlier. But this morning, my child - right before we were about to leave - had to use the bathroom, and I was mad because now we are running a few minutes late.

It doesn't do us any good though to keep playing the scenarios over and over. We can't change what happens. I think sometimes there's just no good reason why someone dies accidentally and at a young age. We have to have some reason for it, so we think "what if."

Sometimes we just have to live with what happens and try and make the best of the situation even though it can be hard. If we beat ourselves up, it's not going to do any good.

My brother told me his faith in God has helped him. He also said a 2002 movie "Time Machine," which he watched one day on television, really made it sink in that no matter what, the accident was going to happen. In the movie, a mugger kills Dr. Alexander Hartdegen's sweetheart. Hartdegen builds a time machine so he can prevent the mugger from killing his girl, but she dies by getting run over by a horse and buggy. He travels back in time several times trying to prevent her from getting killed and each time she always ends up dying, just a different way.

My brother said even though it was just a movie, it helped him realize Frank was going to die, and it didn't matter what vehicle he told him to take.

It's been ten years since Frank passed away, and we are all still heartbroken, but my brother realizes he didn't do anything wrong.

My brother named his first child after his best friend. Her name is Franke.

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

Johnsons celebrate 50th anniversary



Gary and Arddy Johnson of Clearwater celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Aug. 24 with a family gathering.

The couple was married at Hebron Presbyterian Church in Clinton, Pa. Gary works for IBM. The couple enjoys going to the beach and ballroom dancing. Their daughter, who lives in Bangkok and works for the Associated Press, attended the anniversary celebration.

The Johnsons have two granddaughters. The couple is planning a trip to Hawaii in the future.



Gary and Arddy Johnson

Faith briefs

First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks

LARGO - Phillips, Craig, and Dean will headline the Jamboree on Friday, Nov. 8, 7 p.m., in the worship center at First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks, 12685 Ulmertown Road.

The nationally acclaimed contemporary Christian recording artists have released 12 albums, recorded 18 No. 1 singles, and won multiple GMA Dove awards including Inspirational Album of the Year, Praise and Worship Album of the Year, and Special Event Album of the Year. They are one of the most celebrated and respected Christian music artists of all time.

Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$16 day of show, and \$25 for Artist Circle seating.

The concert will be a part of Indian Rocks' annual Jamboree, a family-friendly carnival hosted on the campus and running from Thursday through Sunday, Nov. 7-10.

For information, call 595-3421 or visit indianrocks.org.

Christian Fellowship Church

LARGO - New contemporary services will be offered Sundays, 8:30 a.m., at Christian Fellowship Church, 900 Starkey Road.

The church is taking a new direction with the contemporary services, which will feature music led by worship leader Terry Rogers. Pastor Steven Gulbranson presents the sermons. The contemporary service is geared to youth and adults alike.

For information, call 581-1742.

Good Samaritan Episcopal Church

CLEARWATER - The dedication of a new Peace Pole, in conjunction with the International Peace Pole Project, will take place Saturday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m., at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church, 2165 NE Coachman Road.

Clergy and people from many faiths will participate in the dedication. Peace Poles are the most prominent international symbol and monument to peace. Every Peace Pole displays the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in many languages.

Peace Poles stand as a silent visual for peace to prevail on Earth. It is estimated that there are more than 200,000 Peace Poles that have been dedicated in nearly every country on Earth. The event is free.

For information, call 461-1717 or visit goodsamaritan-swfla.org.

St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church

SEMINOLE - Beginning Sunday, Oct. 6, St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church, at 10851 Ridge Road, will change to the following schedule year-round: Vigil Mass on Saturdays, 4 p.m., and Sunday Mass, 8:45 and 10:45 a.m.

For information, call 397-3312 or visit www.stjustinmartyr.net.

New Thought Center for Creative Living

CLEARWATER - The New Thought Center for Creative Living will present Awaken Your Imagination, a four-week class, starting Sept. 25 on Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., in the Unity Peace Cottage, 2465 Nursery Road.

The Rev. Marla Sanderson will teach the class.

"Everything, starts in imagination," Sanderson said in a press release. "It can produce Disneyland or dysfunction, but it's always at work. On this mystical adventure, you can 'paint your life picture' in new and wonderful ways as you learn to focus and connect with the Creative Power."

The text for the class will be "Awakened Imagination" by Neville.

The fee for the class is \$80, payable at the first session.

To register, or for information, call 475-8991, or email revmarla@newthoughtctr.org.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

SEMINOLE - A homecoming celebration will kick off with a Gospel Opry concert Saturday, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m., at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 9530 Starkey Road.

All friends and members of the church are invited to a series of special events as the congregation expresses its gratitude for God's blessings over the past 54 years.

Former pastors, associate and assistant pastors and leaders will be speaking in the worship services.

The Gospel Opry concert will feature bluegrass gospel music. The Rev. Steve Waldorf will serve as guest speaker. Waldorf will be followed by a Welcome Back reception in the Family Life Center. Chaplain Jim Rutherford, the Rev. Jerry Milner and the Rev. Bill Sherman with the Rev. Archie Buie will preach Sunday, Sept. 22, at the 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. worship services, respectively. Everyone is invited to a covered-dish dinner at 12:30 p.m.

For information, call 391-0218.

Chapel-By-The-Sea Community Church

CLEARWATER - The ABC's of Happy, Successful, Christian Living will be detailed during the worship service on Sunday, Sept. 22, 10:30 a.m., at Chapel-By-The-Sea Community Church, 54 Bay Esplanade, Clearwater Beach.

The Rev. Freitag does not subscribe to the notion that there is only one way to be a Christian. His sermon will give attendees 26 ways, one for each letter of the alphabet. This is a nondenominational worship service. A nursery will be provided for children through 3 years old from 9:50 to 11:40 a.m. Adult Sunday school starts at 9:15 a.m. Youth Sunday school starts with church at 10:30 a.m.

For the coach pick-up schedule and route and information, call 446-0430 or visit www.chapel-bythesea.net.

Hope Presbyterian Church

CLEARWATER - The Hope Musical Benefit will be presented Sunday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m., at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road.

The church will celebrate all the good God does in the church and community and welcomes the public to do the same by inviting friends and family to support Hope Church in both presence and donations.

The event lineup will feature contemporary and well-known favorites and will include a fun night of fellowship, music and good company. Music and entertainment will include performances by Matt Winter, John Howell, The Hope Band, Marlene Abdo and the Clunk Sisters, Peggy Lee & her escort Sergio, The Hope Trio, and many others.

Old classics and new favorites will offer songs for all generations, from the humorous to the inspirational. All proceeds will benefit the mission and ministry of Hope Church.

For information, call 531-3200 or visit www.HopeFamily.com.

What's Selling in Pinellas County

Seminole

4BR/3BA/3CG

\$425,000

SOLD



4BR/3BA split floor plan offers a family and living room, large open kitchen, volume ceilings, fireplace and a 3 car garage.

Caroleanne Vorac

Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

Seminole

4BR/2BA

\$349,000

SOLD



This well cared for home is located in highly sought after Oakhurst Shores. Split floor plan features billiards area, dining room. The master bedroom has a private bath and huge walk-in closet. Open kitchen boasts a breakfast bar, double oven, tons of cabinets, designer backsplash and more.

Sandy Hartmann

Realty Executives - Adamo & Associates

Seminole

3BR/2.5BA/2CG

\$250,000

SOLD



Spacious home with a great floor plan, large back yard with easement access for boat/RV parking. New tile roof, and new A/C offered as well. Vaulted ceiling in main living area, huge master suite with his and her vanities, inside laundry and oversized screened porch. A true gem!

Ashleigh Masi

RE/MAX All Star

Indian Shores

3BR/2BA/2 HALF BA

\$469,000

SOLD



West side of Gulf Blvd. Steps to the beach in this 8 unit Gulf Front community. No HOA fees, large 2 car garage, great floor plan, 2 balconies, and partial beach views.

Rebecka Calhoun

Smith and Associates

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Largo golfer takes second in Tampa Bay Junior Open

WESLEY CHAPEL – Madison Heideman of Largo, finished second in the division for girls ages 11 to 14 during the Tampa Bay Junior Open in Wesley Chapel Sept. 14-15, part of the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour.

Heideman's final score was 162. Heideman had 17 pars and a scoring average of 4.8 on par four-holes. She was 12 strokes behind first-place winner Nicole Polivchak of Sarasota, but one stroke ahead of Cosette Anderson of Wesley Chapel.

For both days of the competition, junior golfers had to battle the elements, facing high heat and humidity as well as standing water throughout the course.

All winners also received an invitation to the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour's 2013 Tour Championship. The top 10 finishers in each division received points toward the Hurricane Cup and end-of-year honors.

The Hurricane Junior Golf Tour was founded in 2008 to provide golfers ages 11 to 18 an opportunity to play exceptional courses in a competitive environment. Golfers who participate on the tour compete in one of four age divisions: boys 15 to 18 and 11 to 14 and girls 15 to 18 and 11 to 14.

For more information, visit www.hjgt.org, call the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour headquarters at 904-379-2697, or email info@hjgt.org.



Photo courtesy of HURRICANE JUNIOR GOLF TOUR
Madison Heideman of Largo, center, holds her trophy for winning second place in the girls 11 to 14 division of the Tampa Bay Junior Open in Wesley Chapel Sept. 15. Also pictured are first-place winner Nicole Polivchak of Sarasota, left, and third-place winner Cosette Anderson of Wesley Chapel.

Briefs

Local soccer teams competed at Disney

CLEARWATER – Several Clearwater-area soccer teams recently competed along with 225 other soccer teams from 16 countries at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando.

The West Florida Flames W 97 Gold, a local U15 youth soccer team from Clearwater; the Strictly Soccer FC Select, a local U16 youth soccer team from St. Petersburg; and the Strictly Soccer FC Select, a local U17 youth soccer team from St. Petersburg were the local teams to attend. Some of the countries in which other teams were from included Canada, Brazil, Columbia and Venezuela.

Youth soccer teams ages 8 to 18 were given the opportunity through an open registration process to compete in front of thousands of spectators at the sports complex.

Video and photos related to the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex are available at www.disneysportsnews.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 and 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., Pro-Vise Management Group, LLC, Regions Bank, Sir Speedy's in Largo, Wallace Welch & Willingham and Westminster Suncoast.

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

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

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Bottlenose bulls offer a rare showing of their congenial side

"Vive la difference" is a pithy celebration of the differences between the two most powerful forces in the world, the male force and the female force. At sea among free-ranging bottlenose dolphins, the male force differs dramatically depending on whether the female force is present or absent.



Dolphin Watch
Ann Weaver

Recently we glimpsed two private portrayals of bullpen politics in the absence of females. The first is ruefully common and the second is tenderly rare. But they were both humbling portrayals that cooperation, communication and congeniality characterize bottlenose bull buddies.

An hour after dawn one early autumn day, the waters of the study were flat but not still. Tiny ripples covered their surface as if they were being jiggled gently from below instead of whisked lightly from above. Misty clouds covered most of the sky, which gave the waters a brightness against which dark dolphin forms stood out nicely.

Near a short causeway, the water wrinkled in a curious way. Capt. John Heidemann swung around slowly so we could keep an eye on it. Several minutes later, the brawny form of bottlenose bull Brick surfaced.

Brick visits our local waters annually in spring and summer. He is part of a super-alliance of bulls we call the Punch Buddies. Punch Buddies BNSB, Brick, Dollop, Grin, Nose, Square Scoop and Twin Dip all used to come to town over the same couple of days. Once here, however, they did not occur in the same groups but rather roamed the seas as pairs of bonded bulls.

Consequently, it took some time to recognize that they constituted a coordinated coalition. It seems to me that they cooperate among themselves subtly, cooperating indirectly by not fighting each other rather than cooperating directly by helping their buddy win a fight.

Brick surfaced several times to catch his breath from his long submergence as a second dolphin surfaced in the distance. I told Capt. Heidemann,

"That should be Nose."

Within the minute, Nose and Brick joined each other across 100 yards of water and headed under the causeway side by side. On the other side, they surfaced twice; both times Brick arched up specially to glance at us.

We waited for the next surface. After we waited several minutes, as before (I might add), we finally realized that the two bulls had ditched us.

They had clearly coordinated their separation, convergence and departure. But it was the startlingly clear act of communicating with each other. "Ditch 'em!", that took the sting out of their resolute departure. Do dolphins have a vocalization that literally means, "Ditch 'em!?" How did they coordinate their departure so succinctly?

Kids growing up in the American suburbs between World War II and the Vietnam War know what "Ditch 'em!" means!

I recall two reasons to ditch. One was the nasty neighbor lady who hated kids cutting across her lawn. When she glared from a window or doorway, the kids streaming across her lawn knew instinctively to "ditch" as fast as they could. The other reason was the creepy kid no one wanted to be around. Like the nasty neighbor lady, their mere appearance in the distance often triggered the regrettable response of ditching.

I never appreciated the wordless coordination of ditching, but more importantly how we all understood where to meet up later, also without words.

Sometime later at sea after being ditched, we again spied curious wrinkles among the distant wavelets and watched to see if they presaged dolphins. It took time, as it always does with bulls in the absence of females. Had we found Brick and Nose again?

Eventually, substantial dorsal fins identified big bulls Schnoz and Xiphos. Schnoz is a major long-term player in our local waters. Unlike other mature bulls, he worked alone until last year when he began forming a bond with Xiphos, the burly



Photo by ANN WEAVER

We tend to think of bottlenose dolphin bulls as incessantly active and even acrimonious as in this picture, but they have their tender side too. They just do not show it that often.

stranger who first appeared last spring.

Maybe the philosophers are right about love being as perennial as the grass. There are, after all, many ways to define love. In the case of bottlenose bulls, love is defined as a firm bond maintained with tender affection and even food sharing.

At first, these giants were snoozing. With the lingering tempo of dozing dolphins, they swam about 5 feet apart like bonded bulls. Interestingly, they took the same route that Dolphin Watch reported last month, which suggested that dolphins use something like sunken streets.

After a time, they roused to a half-awake state. They maintained their lingering tempo as they began tapping and toying with each other with unexpected tenderness. Oozing through super shallow waters and eventually under the same causeway where Brick and Nose ditched us, they muzzled each other. One would lean lightly against or pet the other by delicately drawing a fluke tip across him as

they submerged. At times, a fluke tip briefly poking out of the surface showed that one of them had rolled onto his side, a posture that invites friendly interaction. Schnoz even displayed a unique sign of affectionate interest by briefly wearing a piece of grass.

This kind of tender "social travel" is used by all manner of dolphins to sustain their affectionate bonds. It is rare to see among bulls, especially compared to being ditched, which is ruefully common. Both humbling portrayals argue that cooperation, communication and congeniality characterize bottlenose bull buddies.

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.goodnaturestatistics.com. NOAA advises anyone who sees a stranded dolphin in the Gulf of Mexico to call 877-942-5343 or 877-433-8299.

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Top five diversions

• **"Wedding Secrets,"** a comedy by Joe Starzyk, presented by West Coast Players, Sept. 20 through Oct. 6, at West Coast Players Theatre, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$17. Call 437-2363 or visit www.wcplayers.org. Bill and Susan are a young couple who meet, have a whirlwind courtship and marry. However, their families have never met the respective spouses, so the couple allows the families to believe they have only become engaged. Once the families gather, everyone else's secrets come to life: money problems, medical problems, divorces, teenage rebellion, horrible dating choices and a strange relative living in the basement. This comedy deals with change and family dramas.

• **"Lend Me a Tenor,"** by Ken Ludwig, through Sept. 29, at St. Petersburg City Theatre, 4025 31st St. S., St. Petersburg. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$10 for students. Call 866-1973 or visit www.spcitytheatre.org. Directed by Keven Renken, the show features a raucous pace. Half the cast is half dressed while the other half will have audiences seeing double.

• **The Troy Duncan Band,** Sept. 20, 7 p.m., at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road. As part of Seminole's Music in the Park series, the band will play current country music such as hits by Kenny Chesney, Keith Urban, Jason Aldean and Justin Moore. The two-hour concert is the third 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 information, visit www.myseminole.com.

• **Russell Brand:**

Messiah Complex, Friday, Sept. 20, 8 p.m., in Ferguson Hall at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets start at \$55. Call 813-229-7827 or visit www.strazcenter.org. Outrageous and flamboyant comedian-turned-actor, writer and radio presenter, Russell Brand comes to Tampa Bay with his new comedy show, *Messiah Complex*. *Messiah Complex* is a mental disorder where the sufferer thinks they might be the messiah. Did Jesus have it? What about Che Guevara, Gandhi, Malcolm X and Hitler? Always pushing the boundaries beyond what is both politically and culturally acceptable, catch Brand as he looks at the importance of heroes in this age of atheistic disposability. This show is intended for mature audiences.

• **Billy Cobham,** Friday, Sept. 20, 8 p.m., at the Palladium at St. Petersburg College, 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$30. Call 822-3590 or visit www.mypalladium.org. Jazz drummer, composer and bandleader Billy Cobham will celebrate the 40th anniversary of his first solo album, "Spectrum 40," bringing his groundbreaking "explosive power and exacting precision" to the Palladium's acoustically perfect Hough Hall. From

See TOP FIVE, page 2B



Photo courtesy of THE STRAZ CENTER
Russell Brand brings his new comedy show, *Messiah Complex*, to the Straz Center in Tampa on Sept. 20.

Hay to play LCC

Former Men At Work lead vocalist takes the stage at Largo Cultural Center

LARGO - He comes from a land down under - sort of.

Colin Hay, former lead vocalist of the Australian band Men At Work, will perform Tuesday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive.

Tickets start at \$34.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com.

Sure, Hay is probably best known as the lead singer for Men At Work, the platinum selling Australian band that topped worldwide charts in the 1980s with anthems like "Down Under," "Overkill" and "Who Can It Be Now?" It was Men At Work that introduced Americans to the Aussie food paste and sandwich spread Vegemite. The group won a Grammy in 1983 for Best New Artist, beating out Asia, Jennifer Holliday, The Human League and Stray Cats.

After three studio albums, Men At Work broke up in 1986.

By that time, Hay was already hard at work on his first solo project, "Looking for Jack."

"I made a solo rock album for Columbia called 'Looking for Jack' in 1987," Hay said in his biography provided by Compass Records Group. "When it wasn't commercially successful, I got the feeling that Columbia didn't know what to do with me, so I took up an offer from MCA Records, and Columbia let me go."

Hay went back to his original musical inspirations for "Wayfaring Sons," an album with Celtic folk influences for the MCA record. They dropped him soon after.

"I'd moved to the States in '89, and soon realized I'd have to work harder for more modest returns," Hay said. "I started my own label, Lazy Eye Records, and set about building a new audience, through writing, recording and touring. It's been hand-to-hand combat ever since, but nourishing work at the same time."

Hay's musical background

Though most people immediately think of Hay as Australian, he was actually born in Kilwinning, North Ayrshire, Scotland.

"I wasn't in bands as a boy, but I was surrounded by music," Hay said. "My mom and dad had a music shop, so there were instruments everywhere. The Hit Parade list came in every Monday morning, so obviously I knew The Beatles, The Kinks, The Rolling Stones, The Who, Screaming Lord Sutch, Gerry and the Pacemakers, Freddie And The Dreamers and, of course, Cliff Richard. I started



Photo courtesy of COMPASS RECORDS GROUP
Colin Hay, former lead vocalist of the Australian band Men At Work, will perform Sept. 24 at Largo Cultural Center.

playing guitar when I was 12." Hay taught himself to play guitar.

In the late 1960s, he immigrated to Australia with his parents. At 14 years old, he found himself in the middle of a thriving musical community in Melbourne.

"The late '60s and early '70s were remarkable, a golden age for Australian rock music," Hay said. "There were lots of places to play,

fantastic bands and lots of great musicians. A lot of them never saw the light of day, but there was uniqueness and brilliance."

One of those musicians was guitarist Ron Stryker.

Hay was impressed by his musicality and technique. The two started playing as an acoustic duo and Hay began writing songs.

"We liked all kinds of musi-

cians and writers, like Ry Cooder, John Martyn, Randy Newman, Joni Mitchell, Bob Dylan and the Beatles obviously, the reggae of Bob Marley and Jimmy Cliff to name a few," Hay said. "I'd always wanted to be in a great rock band. So, in the middle of 1979, we were joined by drummer Jerry Speiser, whom I met at university, and sax and flautist Greg Ham, whom I'd known since schooldays."

That combination of musicians - along with bass player John Rees - became Men At Work.

Men At Work released three studio albums, including "Business as Usual" (1981), "Cargo" (1983) and "Two Hearts" (1985). The band broke up in 1986, but Hay reunited with Ham in 1996 to tour South America. Boasting a new lineup, Hay and Ham continued touring under the Men At Work moniker through 2000. The band even performed "Down Under" at the closing ceremony of the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

Men At Work performed infrequently after 2000, with one of the last reunions of Hay and Ham taking place in 2009 when they performed "Down Under" at the Australia Unites Victorian Bushfire Appeal Telethon.

Sadly, Ham passed away in 2012.

Recently, Hay celebrated the

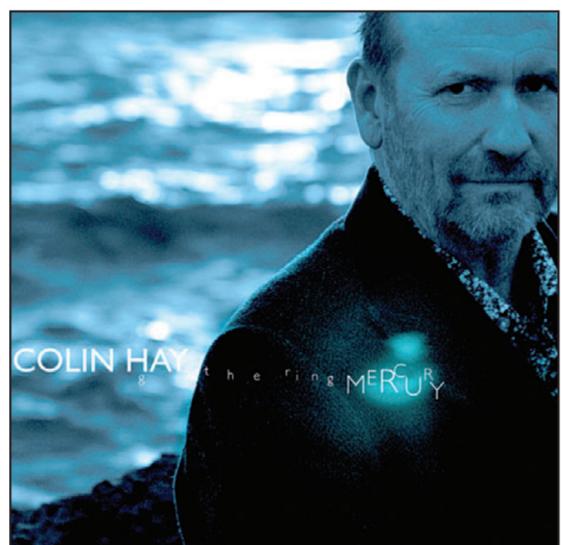


Photo by MARTIN SMITH
"Gathering Mercury," Colin Hay's 2011 studio album, features serious songs "full of optimism."

See HAY, page 2B

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Largo in the spotlight

• **"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, through Sept. 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.

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

performance, including "Don't Be That Way," "Memories of You" and the iconic "Sing, Sing, Sing."

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

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

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

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

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

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

Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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Across

- Devoted
- "What are the ___?"
- Make sense, with "up"
- Check payee, maybe
- Butcher's offering
- "Malcolm X" director
- Magician's incantation
- Absorbed, as a cost
- Solar system's central star
- Connections
- Remove band from around objects
- Barely gets, with "out"
- Boor's lack
- Containing a high amount of water vapor
- Ready-to-eat food shops
- 2004 Academy Award nominee
- Baby
- Greek wines
- "Comprende?"
- Maintaining outdated attitudes
- Formerly known as
- Small denomination British coin
- Balcony section
- Costa del ___
- Jack
- Eyeball benders
- Sort
- "Go, ___!"
- Japanese paper folding
- Dadaism founder
- Barbecue offering
- John McCain, e.g.: Abbr.
- A republic in West Africa (2 wds)
- Charlotte-to-Raleigh dir.
- "... or ___!"
- Bottom of the ocean
- "20,000 Leagues" harpooner ___ Land
- Abbr. after many a general's name
- Cafeteria-goers

Down

- Degraded
- Chastise
- Ryegrass
- Victorian, for one
- Adam's apple spot
- Blue eyes or baldness, e.g.
- Egg cells
- Young woman presented to society
- "Fudge!"
- Not just trim
- Chicken Little, for one
- Person held in custody
- Thoroughgoing (hyphenated)
- ___ lab (abbrev.)
- "For shame!"
- "Your majesty"
- In a well-delineated manner
- The Amish, e.g.
- Ball material
- Picks up a pickup, maybe
- Extremely haughty
- Use a straw
- Free from confinement
- Synthetic rubber used in waterproof products
- Recovered the use of
- Copper
- .000001 joule
- An organism requiring oxygen to live
- More conceited
- Becomes fixed into a surrounding mass
- Electric dart shooter
- When it's broken, that's good
- Clear, as a disk
- 1/500 of the Indianapolis 500
- "Guilty," e.g.
- Cabernet, e.g.
- "Dig in!"

Sudoku

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

Sudoku answers from last week

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

Crossword answers from last week

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104
105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117
118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156
157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169
170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182
183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195
196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208
209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221
222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234
235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247
248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260
261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273
274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286
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313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325
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339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351
352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364
365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377
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391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403
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443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455
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469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481
482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494
495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507
508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520
521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533
534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546
547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559
560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572
573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585
586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598
599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611
612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624
625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637
638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650
651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663
664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676
677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689
690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702
703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715
716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728
729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741
742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754
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781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793
794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806
807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819
820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832
833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841</				

Opening this weekend

'Prisoners' stars Jackman, Gyllenhaal; 'Wizard of Oz' celebrates 75th anniversary

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Prisoners'

Genre: Thriller
Cast: Hugh Jackman, Jake Gyllenhaal, Maria Bello, Terrance Howard, Viola Davis, Melissa Leo and Paul Dano

Director: Denis Villeneuve
Rated: R
How far would you go to protect your family?

Keller Dover (Hugh Jackman) is facing every parent's worst nightmare. His 6-year-old daughter, Anna, is missing, together with her young friend, Joy, and as minutes turn to hours, panic sets in. The only lead is a dilapidated RV that had earlier been parked on their street. Heading the investigation, Detective Loki (Jake Gyllenhaal) arrests its driver, Alex Jones (Paul Dano), but a lack of evidence forces his release.

As the police pursue multiple leads and pressure mounts, knowing his child's life is at stake the frantic Dover decides he has no choice but to take matters into his own hands. But just how far will this desperate father go to protect his family?

'The Wizard of Oz IMAX 3D'

Genre: Family and fantasy
Cast: Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, Jack Haley, Billie Burke and Margaret Hamilton

Director: Victor Fleming
Not rated
Marking the 75th anniversary of "The Wizard of Oz," Warner Bros. has produced a 3D remastered version of the film, which will launch a comprehensive, cross-divisional campaign encompassing theatrical, home entertainment, consumer products and a number of promotional partnerships.

Kicking off the celebration, "The Wizard of Oz 3D" will be presented in the immersive IMAX 3D format and return to the big screen for an exclusive one-week engagement in IMAX theaters across North America beginning Sept. 20.

Adapted from L. Frank Baum's



Photo by WILSON WEBB
Hugh Jackman, left, stars as Keller Dover and Paul Dano as Alex Jones in Alcon Entertainment's dramatic thriller "Prisoners," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

timeless children's tale about a Kansas girl's journey over the rainbow. "The Wizard of Oz" opened at Grauman's Chinese Theater on Aug. 15, 1939. The film was directed by Victor Fleming (who that same year directed "Gone with the Wind"), produced by Mervyn LeRoy, and scored by Herbert Stothart, with music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg. Dorothy was portrayed by a 16-year-old girl who quickly earned her reputation as "the world's greatest entertainer" - the incomparable Judy Garland. Ray Bolger appeared as the Scarecrow; Bert Lahr as the Cowardly Lion, Jack Haley as the Tin Man. Frank Morgan was seen in six different roles, including that of the wonderful "Wizard of Oz" himself.

'Battle of the Year 3D'

Genre: Drama and musical
Cast: Josh Holloway, Laz Alonso, Josh Peck, Caitly Lotz and Chris Brown
Director: Benson Lee
Rated: PG-13

"Battle of the Year" is an international dance crew tournament that attracts all the best teams from around the world, but the Americans haven't won in 15 years.

Los Angeles Hip Hop mogul Dante (Alonso) wants to put the

country that started the Sport back on top. He enlists his hard-luck friend Blake (Holloway), who was a championship basketball coach, to coach his team. Armed with the theory that the right coach can make any team champions, they assemble a dream team of all the best dancers across the country.

With only three months until Battle of the Year, Blake has to use every tactic he knows to get twelve talented individuals to come together as a team if they're going to bring the Trophy back to America where it started. The story is inspired by an actual competition in France.

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

'Enough Said'

Genre: Comedy
Cast: Julia Louis-Dreyfus, James Gandolfini, Catherine Keener, Toni Collette, Ben Falcone, Eve Hewson, Tavi Gevinson and Tracey Fairaway
Director: Nicole Holofcener
Rated: PG-13

A divorced and single parent, Eva (Julia Louis Dreyfus) spends her days enjoying work as a masseuse but dreading her

daughter's impending departure for college.

She meets Albert (James Gandolfini) - a sweet, funny and like-minded man also facing an empty nest. As their romance quickly blossoms, Eva befriends Marianne (Catherine Keener), her new massage client. Marianne is a beautiful poet who seems "almost perfect" except for one prominent quality: she rags on her ex-husband way too much. Suddenly, Eva finds herself doubting her own relationship with Albert as she learns the truth about Marianne's ex. "Enough Said" is a sharp, insightful comedy that humorously explores the mess that often comes with getting involved again.

'A Single Shot'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Sam Rockwell, William H. Macy, Jeffery Wright, Jason Isaacs and Kelly Reilly
Director: David M. Rosenthal
Rated: R

David M. Rosenthal's neo-noir thriller starts with a bang: a single shot, aimed at a lone deer that hits and kills a young woman.

The hunter, John Moon (Sam Rockwell), watches her die before discovering a box of money near her body. In a desperate panic, he takes the cash - hiring a low-rent lawyer (William H. Macy) to fight his wife's (Kelly Reilly) divorce suit - and attempts to cover up the killing.

But when he discovers that the money belonged to a group of hardened criminals, the hunter

becomes the hunted in this tense cat-and-mouse struggle in the backwoods of West Virginia.

'The Colony'

Genre: Horror, science fiction and thriller

Cast: Laurence Fishburne, Kevin Zegers and Bill Paxton
Director: Jeff Renfroe
Not rated
Laurence Fishburne, Bill Paxton

See OPENING, page 4B

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Local band's van stolen in Chicago

By TIFFANY RAZZANO

CHICAGO – A San Francisco band with Pinellas County roots ran into some bad luck while on tour in Chicago last week when their van and all of their equipment was stolen.

After performing at Moe's Tavern on Sept. 9, the members of FayRoy parked their van – a 1997 maroon Chevy conversion van – outside their friend's mother's home, where they were staying, near Wicker Park. The next night, they took a cab to meet some friends downtown around midnight, and when they returned after 4 a.m. the van was gone.

"We saw the van before we left to meet our friends. We double checked that all the doors were locked," said Kyle Fournier, originally from Seminole. "All of our stuff was in there. So we're always trying to be as careful as we can with it."

He added, "It was quite a shock. We literally thought the cab had dropped us off on the wrong block."

Initially, the band thought the van had been towed, but police told them it likely had been stolen.

Last year, another band, Portugal the Man, had their band equipment stolen while they were in town playing Lollapalooza. Their van was eventually recovered, though the equipment was gone.

In addition to the van, FayRoy lost all of their musical equipment and personal belongings, because they had gotten rid of their apartments before going on tour. Items lost include: two electric guitars – a Fender Telecaster and a Fender Jazzmaster – a bass guitar, two synthesizers, three amplifiers, a drum set, microphones and cables, a DSLR camera, film, a hard drive with photographs from the past 10



years, surfboards and clothing.

The band is hopeful they'll eventually find their van, at the very least, Fournier said. In the meantime, they've taken to social media to spread awareness of their situation and collect donations. For friends, family and fans back home in Pinellas, the best way they can assist the band is by buying their new self-titled album that was released in June, Fournier said. Fans are encouraged to visit fayroy.bandcamp.com and pay what they can for the album.

"We're trying to make our way back to San Francisco," Fournier said. Though, if they're able to, they might borrow gear from musician friends



Photos courtesy of FAYROY

At left, San Francisco-based FayRoy is originally from Pinellas County. The band had its van, equipment and personal belongings stolen while on tour in Chicago earlier this month. Above, the 1997 maroon Chevy conversion van and some of the equipment stolen from FayRoy.

and continue the tour, he added. People offer to lend us some gear.

In addition to Fournier, a Seminole High School graduate, on keys and vocals, the band consists of Zack Hoag, guitar and lead vocals, from Indian Rocks Beach; Alex Gerhard, drums, from Largo; and Ryan Bambery, bass guitar, from Clearwater.

The band, which takes its name from a historical beach cottage on Indian Rocks Beach, moved to San Francisco three years ago.

FayRoy was recently in town, playing at New World Brewery on Aug. 3 as part of their tour.

For more information about the band, visit www.fayroy.com.

OPENING, from page 3B

and Kevin Zegers headline an all-star cast in this savage and unrelenting thriller about mankind's greatest enemy: himself.

As an endless winter engulfs Earth, humans struggle to survive in remote underground outposts. When Colony 7 receives a distress call from a nearby settlement, Sam (Zegers) and Briggs (Fishburne) race through the snow on a dangerous rescue mission. What they find at the desolate base could mean mankind's salvation—or its total annihilation. Terrifying discoveries will unfold that will change the rules of survival forever.

'Haute Cuisine'

Genre: Drama

Cast: Catherine Frot, Arthur Dupont, Jean d'Ormesson, Hippolyte Girardot, Jean-Marc Roulot and Philippe Uchan
Director: Christian Vincent
Rated: PG-13

Hortense Laborie (Catherine Frot), a renowned chef from Perigord, is astonished when the President of the Republic (Jean d'Ormesson) appoints her his personal cook, responsible for creating all his meals at the Elysée Palace.

Despite jealous resentment from the other kitchen staff, Hortense quickly establishes herself, thanks to her indomitable spirit. The authenticity of her cooking soon seduces the President, but the corridors of power are littered with traps.



Photo by THIBAUT GRABHERR

Above, Catherine Frot and Jean d'Ormesson star in "Haute Cuisine" from the Weinstein Brothers. At right, Mark Ruffalo and Gwyneth Paltrow star in "Thanks for Sharing," directed by Stuart Blumberg.

'Thanks for Sharing'

Genre: Comedy and drama

Cast: Mark Ruffalo, Tim Robbins, Gwyneth Paltrow, Joely Richardson, Patrick Fugit, Josh Gad and Alecia Moore
Director: Stuart Blumberg
Rated: R

From Academy Award-nominated screenwriter and first-time director Stuart Blumberg, "Thanks for Sharing" is a sharply comic and deeply moving look at a new kind of modern family, as a group of friends in recovery learns to face life together with heart, humor and humility.

Academy Award-nominee Mark Ruffalo, Academy Award-winner Tim Robbins and Broadway star Josh Gad anchor a stellar ensemble that includes Academy Award-winner Gwyneth Paltrow, Joely Richardson,



Photo by ANNE JOYCE

son, Patrick Fugit and pop star Alecia Moore in her first film role.

On the surface Adam (Ruffalo), an over-achieving environmental consultant, Mike (Robbins), a long-married small-business owner, and Neil (Gad), a wisecracking emergency-room doctor, have little in common. But all are in different stages of dealing with addiction. Confident and successful in his career, Adam is afraid to allow love back into his life, even if that means losing a chance to start over with smart, beautiful and accomplished Phoebe (Paltrow); Mike's efforts to control his wife, Katie (Richardson), and son, Danny (Fugit), as tightly as he does his impulses are tearing the family apart; and Neil is still deeply in denial when befriended by Dede (Moore), who has just begun to take her own small steps back to health. As they navigate the rocky shores of recovery, Adam, Mike and Neil become a family that encourages, infuriates and applauds each other on the journey toward a new life.

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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706 Sunset Cove, Madeira Beach.
Gorgeous Waterfront - 4BR/2BA
Pool home. GREAT VIEW. New
Kitchen. \$479,000.
RE/MAX ACR Elite Group Dorita
Mayeux & Tony Clouse.
727-410-4680

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4
200 15th Ave N, Largo.
2BR/1BA, Garage, \$167,500. BRAND
NEW ROOF. Large Family Room,
Screened Porch. RE/MAX ACR Elite.
Dorita Mayeux & Nancy Knorr.
727-204-7736

Dorita Mayeux
RE/MAX ACR Elite
727-421-9600

DUNEDIN BARRINGTON HILLS
Custom Built 3BR/BA/2CG
2,133SF, Big Yard, Room for Pool.
Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton
(727)644-0400

LARGO POOL HOME
2BR/1BA Completely Updated.
Large Fenced Yard. Must See!
\$114,900. Call for details.
Future Home Realty (727)481-8891

CLEARWATER
Charming 2BR/1CG Home. Just
North of Clearwater Country Club.
\$114,000. John Doran Realty
(727)447-9579.

OLDER SINGLE-WIDE
Mobile Home, large Florida room,
on owned land, walk to Bonnet Park,
shopping, a mile to beach. You own
the land, no park fees, quiet location.
Call (802)238-4575, no texts.
Cash \$32,500 firm.

INVESTORS SPECIAL
CLEARWATER 3BR/2BA/1CG
2 Story, Near Dunedin.
Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn
Carlton (727)644-0400.

10. Waterfront Sales

WATERFRONT CONDO
2BR/2BA, Condo on Banks of Lake
Seminole. Gated, Pool, Fireplace,
Inside Utilities, Garage, 20FT Balcony
Overlooking Lake! Waterfront From
Every Room! Asking \$115,000.
Virgil Sweet, (727)410-1205.
Charles Rutenberg Realty

15. Beach Property

DAN'S ISLAND
2BR/2BA, Direct Gulf Front Corner
Unit. Small Pets OK. 1,610SF.
Equity Pro Realty, Rosalyn Carlton
(727)644-0400

NORTH CLEARWATER BEACH!
3BR/2BA/2.5CG, Split-Floor Plan,
Block/Stucco, Eat-in Kitchen, Large
Pantry, Flooded w/Light!
Ann Marie Kresinski, Coldwell Banker
Resendola, (727)254-2568.

20. Condo Sales

SEMINOLE GARDENS!
Sales & Rentals
Robert G. Castles, PA, Broker
(727)319-8229
www.seminolegardens.com

SEMINOLE GARDENS
BUY WHILE PRICES ARE AT
AN ALL-TIME LOW!
BEAUTIFUL 56-ACRE
COMPLEX

2BR/1BA 1,012 sq. ft.
Laminate Floors,
Water View
\$39,900

1BR/1BA, 1,012 sq. ft.
Corner Unit, Nicely
Furnished, 55+, GREAT VIEW
\$39,900

Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.
Cassius L. Peacock, Realtor
Your ON-SITE Specialist
(727)397-2534
MySeminoleGardens.com

BELLEAIR GARDENS, BELLEAIR
Bluffs. Large 1BR/1BA, Model Type
Condo. 750SF. Over \$30k In Upscale
Upgrades. New, Custom Kitchen
Cabinets, Appliances, Tile, Bath,
Lanai. Move-In Ready. Covered
Parking. No Age Restrictions. Photos
Are Available. \$62K. Can Be Sold
Furnished. Call (908)358-3950.

You Can Fax Your Ad:

399-2042
Include: Name, Address
and Phone Number
We Accept
VISA M/C DISCOVER

20. Condo Sales

SEMINOLE LAKE COUNTRY CLUB AREA
Newly Remodeled. 2BR/2BA, 55+
Attached Garage, Large Lanai w/ 2
Person Spa. Beautifully Landscaped
Including Palms and Fountain.
Appliances Included.
1,350SF Under Air. \$150,000.
Shown By Appointment.
(727)492-5732

IMPERIAL POINT
Waterfront Unit 2BR/2BA,
Enclosed Lanai, in Over 55+
Building. Covered Parking,
Activities.
\$154,900
Lots of Updates in this
1BR/1.5BA, 900+SF Condo.
Not Over 55.
Move in Ready
\$79,950

Maureen Stilwell
Charles Rutenberg
Realty
(727)458-2246
(727)596-2965

CLEARWATER, SEVILLE, 55+
1BR/1BA, carport, no pets,
completely updated, new A/C,
stainless steel appliances. \$80K
(727)286-8080

35. Mobile Home Sales

SEMINOLE. CLEAN? QUIET?
CONVENIENT? EASY TO OWN?
YES! Several Homes To Choose
From. Starting At \$2,000. Background
Check Required. \$60.
Call Now! (727)393-0151

TWELVE OAKS MHP
Great Deals On Prewowned
Mobile Homes. Priced To Sell!
Located in the Heart of Beautiful
Seminole. Close To Beaches &
Shopping. All Residents 55+. No
Pets. No Rentals. Call Mon-Fri,
9AM-4PM. (727)391-6268.

Affordable 55+ Living
GLENNWOOD ESTATES:
5 Star, Land Owned.
All 2-3BR/2BA/2CP, Furnished
\$175/Mo. Maint.
12501 Ulmerton Rd., Largo.
Brochures Available At Clubhouse.

#5 - 2/2/2, Lake View,
\$65,888.

#25 - Lg 2/2/2, \$89,888.

#85 - 2/2/2, \$65,888.

#109 - 2/2/2 Completely
Refurbished, \$89,888.

#129 - 2/2/1 w/Extra Drive,
\$52,888.

For Viewing Call
Impp Realty Group
John Doles, 727-510-3331

HIGHPOINT VILLAGE
2001 24x40, Newly Painted, Carpet &
Tile Floors. 3BR/2BA, A/C. \$9,500.
Call (727)408-4878, (727)408-4962.

105. Lots & Acreage

LAKE PANASOFFKEE
Weekender/ Vacation
Great Fishing With Dock,
Double-Wide On Double Lot,
Great For Vacation & Weekends.
New Air Conditioner. \$55,000 Firm.
(727)667-1647.

LOOK!
NEAR BELLEAIR, BEAUTIFUL
BUILDING LOT
100' x 100'. Zoned R3. End of a
quiet street! Manufactured home OK.
\$30,000. (727)773-6211

120. Out of Town Sales

NEAR BAY PINES VA & Madeira
Beach, 3BR/2BA/1CG. Includes
Trash Service, Cable and Internet.
Pets OK. \$1,075/Mo. +\$1.075 Security.
Move In For Rent +Half Price
Security (727)393-1628.

CLEARWATER, 1BR Bungalow.
616 1/2 Phoenix Ave. Completely
Fenced, Private Yard. \$500/Mo.
+\$500 Deposit. (727)253-0523.

REMODELED 2BR/1BA
Largo Duplex, \$800/Month
includes W/S/G. Off East Bay, Near
Shopping. 3571 Dahlia Place.
(727)637-6033.

155. Furnished Condos

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

160. Unfurnished Condos

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

ST. PETERSBURG'S FIVE TOWNS!
55+, 2BR/2BA, 1,360SF, End Unit
w/Balcony Overlooking Lake.
Carport, W/D In Unit! Cable, Pool,
Clubhouse. \$875/month + Security.
Annual Lease. 6188 80th Street
North, Apt 211. (727)480-0793

SEMINOLE VILLA MILAN
1BR/1BA, on West side of Lake
Seminole, Pool, Dock, No Pets.
\$595/Month Annual.
Guetzlaff Realty
(727)204-0829, (727)392-233

A RARE 3BR/2BA/1CG
Unit, \$1,400/Month
www.ShipwatchRealty.com
Shipwatch Realty, (727)596-6508.

160. Unfurnished Condos

Belleair Bluffs: 2525 West Bay
Nice, Quiet, Modern, 1BR, First Floor,
Pool, Blocks To Beach. \$650/Mo.
(727)455-1325.

IMPERIAL POINT:
1BR/1BA CONDO
Sunny Close to Pool and
Activities. Unfurnished,
No Smoking. Annual Lease
\$725/Month.
Maureen Stilwell,
Charles Rutenberg Realty
(727)458-2246
(727)596-2965

SHADOW LAKES: 2BR/2BA,
1st Floor. Dishwasher, W/D, Large
Walk-In Closet/ Bath Combo,
Enclosed Lanai, Pool. New Carpet/
Paint. \$850/Mo. (727)420-5257,
(719)641-6663.

BARDOOR LARGO / SEMINOLE
Greenery 1BR/1BA Condo
2nd Floor, Laundry Facility
\$690/Month
Cordova Greens 1BR/1BA
Condo 3rd Floor, W/D Hook-up
\$690/Month

Chateaux #5 1BR/1BA Condo
2nd Floor, W/D.
\$700/Month
Cordova Greens 1BR/1BA
Condo 3rd Floor, W/D
\$725/Month

Jeff Glass
(727)393-5997
glasshouse@prody.net
Coldwell Banker

170. Furnished Apts.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
for OEF/OIF Veterans. No Pets
Space is limited. Contact Michelle
Patrick (727)442-9041, Ext. 161.
michellep@ethop.org

MADERA BEACH: 1BRs
& Efficiency. Fully Equipped.
Weekly. No Pets.
Includes Utilities. (727)397-4130.

MOVE-IN TODAY
Studio apartments starting
\$179/week. Open 24/7. No credit
check. No security deposit. Free
local phone calls. Wifi.
Pets OK. (727)446-6560.
precisionpropertymanagement.net

175. Unfurnished Apts.

DUNEDIN EFFICIENCY \$180/Wkly,
Rooms \$80/Wkly.
CLEARWATER EFFICIENCY, \$425/Mo.
LARGO EFFICIENCY, \$145/Wkly.
Most Utilities FREE. Call Or Click
586-2412.com

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.
Res. Mgr. #1 (727)483-4853.

LARGO
AUTUMN CHASE
1 & 2 Bedroom
Apartment Homes
Starting From \$575
One Month Free with a
14-Month Lease.

Minutes From Beach
(727)586-1473

BELLEAIR GREENS APTS.
2BR/2BA units on Biltmore Golf
Course. Newly renovated.
Across from police, rec center.
(727)365-6821.

S.W. LARGO: LG, 2BR/1BA,
\$540/Month. Quiet. Laundry on
Premises. Petless. \$400 security.
Yearly lease. (727)595-2228.
Last Month FREE!

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

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

FURNISHED/ UNFURNISHED
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.

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

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

Your Best Buys
Can Be Found In
the Classifieds!!

185. Beach Rentals

TERRIFIC GULF VIEWS
Redington Shores, Large 2BR/2.5BA,
W/D, Patio, Newer Tile, Carpet, Paint
Throughout. \$1,250/Mo. 18131 Gulf
Blvd. Jeff, (727)391-1203.

CLEARWATER/ SAND KEY
Landmark-1, Gulf-front 2BR/2BA,
Intracoastal Views, Nicely
Furnished, 24/7 Security, All
Amenities. No Pets. Available
Short/ Long Term. Available Now.
Owner. (813)431-9381,
(813)407-1020.

ST. PETE BEACH
Motel/ Apartments. 1BR/1BA &
Efficiencies. \$250/Wkly Includes
Everything, Drug Free.
(727)410-6599 (727)804-4039.

CLEARWATER BEACH
Sand Key Ultimate II. 12th Floor,
Gorgeous View! Furnished
1BR/2BA, Murphy Bed in Living
Room. (813)431-9381,
(813)407-1020.

190. Waterfront Rentals

ISLAND ESTATES 2BR/2BA
Condo, Fantastic Water Views,
Many Amenities. \$1,400/Month,
Annual Rental
Vangie (727)501-3268,
Pappas Realty & Mgmt

TREASURE ISLAND: 1BR/1BA
Updated Condo. Unfurnished.
\$800/Month, No Pets.
Boat Slip Available
Best Beach Rentals.
(727)398-1200.

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.

200. Vacation Rentals

VACATION RENTAL
CLEARWATER BEACH/
BELLEAIR BEACH
2700 Gulf Blvd. Gulf Front
1BR/1BA, 2nd Floor, Corner,
Overlooks Pool. Beautifully
Furnished, King & Pull Out Couch.
Weekly/ Monthly, \$500/ \$1,800.
Mark, (727)449-9292 (Office).

225. Duplex/Triplex Rentals

CLEARWATER: EAST OF
Bayside Bridge. Unfurnished,
1BR/1BA/1CG. No Pets.
\$750/Month. 1st/Last/Security.
Annual. Best Beach Rentals.
(727)398-1200.

LARGO, BY BEACH
3BR/2BA, 1,400+SF, Workshop,
\$1,150/Mo. 2BR/1BA \$850/Mo.
Fenced, Carport, W/S/G, Lawn
Included. (727)542-7571.

WALK TO BEACH, SHOPPING.
2BR/1BA, W/D, Water, Lawn Care
Included. Patio. Available Now!
\$750/Mo. (727)596-2291.

245. Room For Rent

SEEKING FEMALE
Room, Bath, Privileges. Nonsmoker.
Largo Area. Must Have Car/ Job. Ref-
erences. \$400/Mo. (727)544-0826.

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

SEMINOLE, SUS Peace Maker Inn
Licensed. Quiet, Furnished, Share
House, Pool, B Cable, W/D,
All Included. \$150/Week
and Up. B.G.C. (727)288-1090.

SEMINOLE, OFF PARK BLVD
Nicely furnished, w/private bath,
microwave, small refrigerator, cable.
\$140/week + security.
(727)398-0763

255. Accom. To Share

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH COTTAGE
57 year old Christian, RN. Females
Only. No Smoking/ Drinking/ Drugs in
House. References and Background
Check. Call Martha (727)265-6607

260. Want To Rent

MOBILE HOME OR HOUSE
for 2-3/Months this Winter,
Furnished, Possibly Buy.
Reasonable. (309)801-1059 Home,
(309)231-1914 Cell.

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 \$483 Per Month.
Ample Parking. Madeira Beach.
(727)641-6465.

MISCELLANEOUS

300. Notices

FUNRAISER
Please pray for our 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/mariaerandazzo

SELL YOUR HOME IN THE

CLASSIFIEDS. SPECIAL
BY-OWNER RATES.

CALL 397-5563 TODAY!

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300. Notices

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

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT
DR. JAMES P. CAMPBELL, D/B/A
FLORIDA CARDIOVASCULAR
SURGEONS, IS CLOSING HIS
OFFICE.
All patients are being referred to Dr.
Hadi Hakkî, 10333 Seminole Blvd.,
Suite 8, Largo, FL 33778.

301. Clinical Study

IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME
(IBS)
Are Diarrhea and Abdominal
Discomfort putting a cramp in your
lifestyle? Diarrhea, abdominal
discomfort and bloating may be signs
of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). If
you have IBS, you may be eligible for
a research study enrolling now. If
you qualify for this study, you may
receive at no cost: Investigational
medication for IBS; study related care
from a local doctor; compensation for
time and travel. Contact **Joann at:**
Florida Center for
Gastroenterology
(727)544-1600 or email
clinicalstudies@tampabayfl.com
for more information. 8250 Bryan
Dairy Road, Suite 200, Largo

345. Lost & Found

GREY TABBY CAT FOUND
Previously had Collar w/ Walter on it.
Sunset Beach Area. (727)743-8331

AT YOUR SERVICE

885. Autos Wanted

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

WE BUY CARS
Any Condition, New, Old or Junk.
No Title & Liens OK!
(813)418-7927 or (727)493-5302

885. Autos Wanted

Core Support
AUTOMOTIVE RECYCLING

**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**

**(727)
286-3209**

www.WBCFast.com

885. Autos Wanted

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

ALL AUTOS WANTED
With or without title. Any
condition, make, year or model.
We pay up to \$20,000. Free
towing. (813)516-0847.

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

BOATS/MARINE

910. Boat Slips

WET SLIPS FOR RENT
From 25'-55'. Sail Or Power. Easy
Access To Gulf, Madeira Beach.
Ample Parking **\$7.55/Foot**
(727)641-6465.

**Great Deals Are In
The Classifieds!!**

970. Estate Sales

BELLEAIR BEACH
Large Oriental rug; Large authentic
rattan living room set; high-end formal
dining room set; 200-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

MASSIVE ESTATE SALE
Tools, Christmas, Kitchen, Books,
Frames, Dolls, Old Chairs, Type-
writer, Cameras, Old Records, Paper
Goods, Collectables. Over 1,000
Items! September 20-21 from 9AM-
2PM, Garage Only! 2055 Oakadia
Drive, Off Nursery Road.

975. Garage-Yard Sales

CHAPEL TREASURES!
An Unusual Thrift Shop Full Of
Fine Things. Friday & Saturday,
8AM-12PM, 12601 Park Blvd.
Seminole. (727)391-2919.
We Accept Donations And Drop
Offs As Well. coth@coth.org

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET
Kenneth City Social Club, Saturday,
9/21, 8am-3pm. Vendors Inside &
Out. 4600 58th St. N, Kenneth City.

**LARGO, BIG SALE 8:00AM-7
Friday-Saturday, 12806 Kimberly
Oaks Circle. Lots of girls clothes size
NB-4T. Little bit of everything.**

975. Garage-Yard Sales

MULTI-FAMILY SALE
Furniture, Auto Repair Tools and
Equipment. Saturday September 21,
8AM-4PM, 4040 54th Ave North,
St. Petersburg, 33714

SATURDAY SEPT 21, 8AM-4PM
706 Knollwood Drive, Largo, 33770.
Furniture, Household Items,
Kids Clothes and Toys, Books.
NO Early Birds!

**ASK ABOUT
OUR
EYE STOPPER
LOGOS**

**(727)
286-3209**

www.WBCFast.com

885. Autos Wanted

**Got a Car You
Wanna Sell**

**The Good, The Bad
The Ugly**

**Call
Now 727-400-1910**

975. Garage-Yard Sales

**UNBEATABLE
PRICES!
FAST RESULTS!**
Sell Your Home In
The Classifieds!
CALL TODAY! 397-5563

975. Garage-Yard Sales

**UNBEATABLE
PRICES!
FAST RESULTS!**
Sell Your Home In
The Classifieds!
CALL TODAY! 397-5563

980. Moving Sales

MOVING MUST SELL!
ELLIPTICAL, REEBOK 900RL,
Commercial Size. \$99. LARGE
SHED well built w/Double Doors,
Window w/Screen, \$1,000. Small
Kitchen Table. \$25. (727)251-2511.

**CLASSIFIEDS
ROCK!**

CHECK YOUR ADS THE FIRST DAY

In the event of error in any advertising, this publication will not be financially responsible beyond the cost of the advertisement in which the error appears. For advertisement scheduled to run more than one time, this publication will not issue credit for errors beyond the first publication week.

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Your Ad Here
For
\$40 Per Week**

**PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES**

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Call 397-5563 Fax 399-2042
24 Hour Classifieds
www.tbnweekly.com**

**Deadlines:
Display, Friday-5 p.m.
Line Ads, Monday-Noon**

AC & Heating

**VELOCITY
AIR CONDITIONING**

**\$35 A/C
TUNE-UP SPECIAL!**
Same Day Service!
Credit Cards Accepted!

Licensed/Insured CAC1817421
(727)768-7882

velocityairconditioning.com

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**CROWN & TRIM
Design**

30/ Yrs. Finish Carpenter
Specializing in Crown Molding,
Coffered Ceilings, Mantles,
Bookcases, Wainscoting, Beadboard,
Columns/ Doorways, Kitchen
Cabinetry, Door Replacements.
Vince Mantegna Lic#C10576.
Insured. (727)289-6999
www.CROWNandTRIMbyDESIGN.com

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Bowes Expert Ceramic Tile
WE TILE EVERYTHING!
Discounts Available Now On
Bath/ Kitchen Remodeling!
Free Estimates. Insured.
Lic#C-6341 (727)410-7281

Ceramic Life-Style, Inc.
HUSBAND & WIFE TEAM
Low, Low Prices! Repairs,
New Installations. #C5760.
WHY WAIT? Visa/MC.
(727)399-0770

WT TILE SPECIALIZING IN
Bathroom Rnovations, Custom
Showers, Floor Tile, Quality
Workmanship, Affordable, Reliable,
Clean. (727)433-4988. Lic#6368.

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SwissTouchCleaning.com
Accountable & Trusted!
Serving Pinellas 14 Years.
Swiss Touch Cleaning,
(727) 536-7673

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MARK EVANS COMPUTERS
50+ New & Used Laptops &
Desktop Computers in Stock with
Warranty, Repairs & Custom
builds. 14/Years in Business,
Thousands of Happy Customers!
Expert service and quick
turnaround time.
No problem we can't fix!
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Concrete

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

According to Teri James Bellis, PhD, in her landmark book on Auditory Processing Disorder, When the Brain Can't Hear, "As sound travels through an imperfect auditory pathway, words spoken to the afflicted listener may become jumbled, distorting original meaning and rendering the words unintelligible."

When you think about a conversation with all the sounds, the inflections and tempo changes, it makes communication extremely complicated. When a hearing loss has been present and untreated, the ability to follow the conversation can become extremely difficult. Without receiving the appropriate stimuli, the brain stops processing sounds like background noise and can no longer filter speech clearly. You may answer a question incorrectly, withdraw, smile and pretend you understood the conversation. This can be particularly troublesome when you are visiting the doctor, and important information is being relayed. In some cases, people have been "misdiagnosed" with Alzheimer's disease because they were unable to follow the conversation.

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

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

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

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

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

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