

# Unemployment continues to fall

Pinellas County's rate dropped to 6.2 percent in October ... Page 7A.

# LARGO LEADER

## Disney's animated film 'Frozen' hits theaters this week

Also, the Chinese Golden Acrobats come to Largo Cultural Center Dec. 1 ... Page 1B.



Volume XXXVI, No. 19

www.TBNweekly.com

November 28, 2013

### LARGO



## Largo dance group takes top score

Largo's Dance Central took top honors for highest overall score for a junior dance group at the recent Dancemaker Regional Competition in Daytona Beach November 15-17.

The dancers, ages 8 to 11 years old, performed "Take Off With Us" from Bob Fosse's "All That Jazz," qualifying for nationals in June. ... Page 3A.

### COUNTY

## 2014 legislative program adopted

Top of the legislative program is unfunded mandates that "negatively impact local government budgets and control." Unfunded mandates by the state are usually imposed without discussion or consensus from local governments about the impacts they might have on available resources. ... Page 5A.

### COMMUNITY

## Share the Spirit

The holiday spirit burns bright in Tampa Bay. Share the Spirit serves as a clearinghouse of information received from businesses, churches and organizations who are working to make the holidays a good time for all. ... Page 13A.

### OUTDOORS



## Dolphins' wild ride

An unforgettable brightness recently pierced a thickly overcast day the way Christmas lights infuse a dusky snowfall with cheer. And, as dolphins do so well, their bright escapade raised questions about what actually goes on at sea. ... Page 16A.

### VIEWPOINTS

## Tom Germond

Store's sign makes the stop worthwhile. ... Page 10A.



### Features

Business	7-9A
Classifieds	5-7B
Community	13A
County	5-6A
Crime report	.6A
Entertainment	1-4, 8B
Faith & family	15A
Health	12A
Just for fun	2B
Largo	3-4A
Outdoors	16A
Sports	14A
Viewpoints	10A

Call 397-5563  
For News & Advertising

# Hearing for PSTA referendum set

## County hashes out ballot language to change transportation funding

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – What should come first – the levy of the tax or the purpose for the levy?

Pinellas County Commissioners spent a portion of their Nov. 19 meeting working on the ballot language for a Nov. 4, 2014 referendum. The county's legal team and attorney for Pinellas County Transit Authority have been negotiating for weeks on how best to ask voters to approve a change in the funding source for transportation needs.

Plans call for changing the funding method from an ad valorem tax to a 1 percent sales surtax. The additional money would be used to improve the county's transportation system, including the addition of rail service.

County Attorney Jim Bennett prefers ballot language based on what has been used in the past for Penny for Pinellas referendums. PSTA prefers language closer to what has been used in Hillsborough County.

The ballot title, which is restricted by state statute to 16 words, is close in both versions.

The county's states, "Levy of one-percent sales surtax to fund Greenlight Pinellas Plan for countywide-public transit."

PSTA's reads, "Levy of countywide one-percent sales

surtax to fund Greenlight Pinellas Plan for public transit."

The words as well as the order of words between the two versions differs more in the summary, which also must adhere to a state-set 36-word count.

The county's preferred wording is "Shall Pinellas County levy a countywide one-percent sales tax from Jan. 1, 2016, until repealed or reduced by county ordinance to plan, develop, construct, operate, maintain and finance public transit countywide with regional connections, including expanded bus service, bus rapid

See REFERENDUM, page 4A

# Largo dancers perform in Thanksgiving parade

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – The eight girls from Tutterow Dance Academy have danced in Disneyland Paris, for American troops stationed in Germany and are scheduled to dance on a cruise ship in March, but this week they'll have a chance at an undeniably iconic experience.

"We're dancing in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade," dancer Amanda Vaughan told the camera as she was interviewed for a local story on the ABC show The List.

The academy submitted a video of the girls dancing to Spirit of American Productions, which organizes the trip and choreography for dancers around the country to participate in the 87th annual parade. The Tutterow dancers, which are based in the Largo Community Center, were selected for the trip.

"We have really good stage presence," Vaughan explained. "Our technique is really solid."

Vaughan, 16, of Seminole will be joined by her fellow dancers including: Brielle Kennedy, 15, of Largo; Emily Paul, 14, of Clearwater; Emily Schulz, 15, of Largo; Shannon Flaharty, 14, of Belleair; Katie Verrastro, 18, of Largo; Landon McFee, 16, of Largo and Madison Aho, 14, of Seminole.

Tutterow director Debbie Kennedy said she was excited to offer the experience to her students because it is so iconic.

"These kids will be watching it one day with their children or grandchildren and be able to say, 'I was in that! I danced in that parade,'" she said.

Seven of the eight girls will be dancing in the same group, though Aho was selected for the second group.

"We think it's because she's so tall," Kennedy said.

Along with the parade experience itself, the trip includes a Statue of Liberty Harbor Cruise, admission to the Empire State Building and tickets to see the Broadway musical "Newsies" and the Rockettes in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular.

"For five of the eight of them, it will be their very first trip to New York City. What a way to experience it," Kennedy said.

The girls have been fundraising to afford the trip since finding out they were accepted in April. The routine itself took only a weekend to learn, they said, but the trip will include more rehearsals and more dance numbers.

"We're excited. I mean, I've never seen snow, and

See PARADE, page 4A



Above, the Tutterow dancers performing in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade this year are, front row, from left, Brielle Kennedy, 15, of Largo; Emily Paul, 14, Clearwater; Emily Schulz, 15, of Largo and Shannon Flaharty, 14, of Belleair; back row: Katie Verrastro, 18, of Largo; Landon McFee, 16, of Largo; Madison Aho, 14, of Seminole and Amanda Vaughan, 16, of Seminole. At left, from left, Landon, Emily and Shannon perform the number they will be dancing in New York City from their home dance studio in Largo Community Center Nov. 20.

Photos by JULIANA A. TORRES

## On to the semifinals



Indian Rocks Christian sophomore running back Theo Anderson (4) shoots past First Baptist Academy defenders Nick Ariztizabal (43) and Zach Williams (36) for a third-quarter touchdown in the Nov. 22 home game against Naples First Baptist Academy. The Golden Eagles rolled to a 28-14 victory in the Class 2A regional finals game, advancing their win streak to nine games. IRCS hosts Hialeah Champagnat Catholic Friday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m., in the state semifinals. The game marks the first time the Golden Eagles have advanced to the state semifinals. See page 14A.

Photo by BRAD RICHARDSON

# Mother, daughter win Hunger Games sweepstakes in NYC

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – Brianna McGowan was smiling but played it cool as she walked to the front of the set for LIVE with Kelly and Michael and had her picture taken with Hunger Games heartthrob Josh Hutcherson Nov. 19.

The 12-year-old from Largo and her mother, Stephanie McGowan, knew they were flying to New York City only four days before that moment, which was captured on the show's Instagram account in a video liked by more than 1,700 people. McGowan was the winner of LIVE's "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" Special Access Sweepstakes, which included not only the four-day trip to New York,

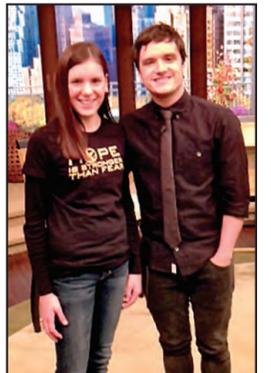


Photo courtesy of STEPHANIE MCGOWAN  
Brianna McGowan of Largo poses with Hunger Games star Josh Hutcherson on the set of LIVE with Kelly and Michael.

See SWEEPSTAKES, page 4A

**asis**  
SALON STUDIO & SPA  
12000 INDIAN ROCKS ROAD ... 727-595-9999  
HAIR • NAIL • SKIN • MASSAGE

SPA MANICURE & PEDICURE W/SHELLAC 39 SHAMPOO/CUT/STYLE 25  
25% OFF NEW NAILS CLIENTS CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. BROW TINT & WAX 19

**AUTO ACCIDENT INJURY?**

Diagnosis • Treatment • Rehab  
Attorney and Specialist Referrals

Greg Hollstrom II, DC, Brian Rebori, DC  
11444 Seminole Blvd., Largo  
727-393-6100 • dregrehollstrom.com

**V.O. NAILS & SPA**

12046 Indian Rocks Road, Largo  
727-595-1222 • www.VONailsAndSpa.com  
FACIALS • SPA THERAPY • WAXING • NAILS AND MORE

20% OFF All Services for New Clients. Basic Pedicure & Manicure w/ Shellac \$42. FULL SET \$5 OFF. SWEET PEDICURE \$3 OFF.

**AMERICAN OWNED. AMERICAN OPERATED.**

# AUDIBEL®

**BUILT ON THE SAME IDEALS THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG**

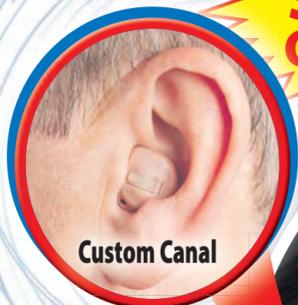
**FREE HEARING TEST**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27th - TUESDAY, DEC. 3rd**  
**No Cost • No Pressure • No Obligation**

**THE ALL NEW**

## ARIES®

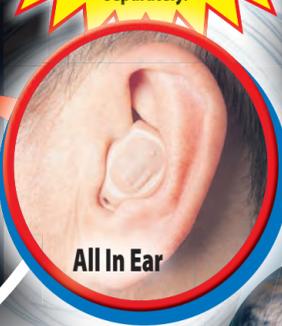
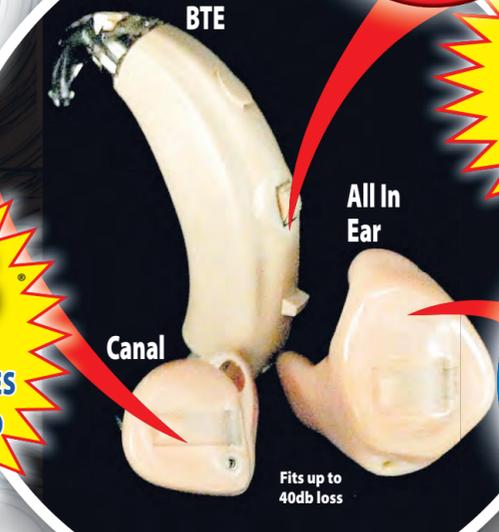
**100% DIGITAL AND COMPUTER PROGRAMMABLE**

**All Audibel Models**  
**30-50% OFF MSRP**



**INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL**  
**50% OFF**

Exclusively on ARIES BTE. Custom ear mold sold separately.



### ARIES

**AVAILABLE IN THREE POPULAR STYLES**  
**ALL CUSTOM MOLDED TO YOUR EAR**

### Why Do People Delay Addressing Hearing Loss?

Most patients that visit Audibel for a free hearing test leave hearing better and did not need to purchase a new hearing aid. Fact is, hearing aids are not always the answer. Haven't you waited long enough?

**STOP ignoring the WARNING SIGNS**

**Did you know it could just be ear wax build-up OR one of a number of simple solutions that does not require a hearing aid?**



**FREE Ear Inspection And Ear Wax Removal Assistance With Your FREE HEARING TEST**

### FREE EAR INSPECTION

**If it is ear wax blockage, we don't just tell you, WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT FOR YOU!**



**AUDIBEL**  
**STOCK CANAL AID**

This offer expires 12/03/13

**NOW \$499**

### FREE

**HEARING AID TUNE UP & MOISTURE CHECK**

Does your hearing aid struggle to give you the amplification you need?

**FREE IN OFFICE REPAIRS**

**ALL MAKES. ALL MODELS**  
 Bring in your damaged hearing aid. If we can fix it in our lab, we will, at no charge!  
 Hearing test necessary for all hearing aid repairs.



**DON'T PANIC!**

### AUDIBEL A2

The Carefree way to connect to your world

**FOR THE 1ST TIME EVER, THE MOST ADVANCED HEARING AID EVER, IS SMALLER**

- Reduce listening effort in noisy environments.
- Improve listening to music and TV
- Enhance phone calls
- Virtually eliminates whistling and buzzing
- Fit comfortably, customized for your ears



### A2 Invisible

SAVE TODAY

**\$1500**

OFF MSRP Limited time offer.



### AUDIBEL

All Sizes for All Hearing Aid Brands.

**HEARING AID BATTERIES!**

**99¢** per pack

Limit 2 packs per patient. Exp. 12/03/13

Audibel also offers

**FREE**

**In Home Hearing tests.**  
 An Audibel professional will come to you at anytime convenient to you.

#### PINELLAS

#### Seminole

7501 Seminole Blvd.  
 1/2 Block North of Park Blvd.  
 next to SunTrust  
 (727) 391-6642

#### Largo Mall

10500 Ulmerton Rd., Ste. 740  
 Near Albertsons  
 Facing Ulmerton Rd.  
 (727) 586-5553

#### S. Pasadena

1155 Pasadena Ave.  
 Next to Horse & Jockey British Pub  
 Across from Blockbuster Video  
 (727) 347-2938

#### Palm Harbor

35208 U.S. 19 N.  
 Alderman Plaza  
 Corner of Alderman Rd. & U.S. 19  
 (727) 787-1866

#### Clearwater

1932 Drew Street  
 Professional Plaza  
 1 1/2 blocks West of Hercules  
 (727) 441-3591

#### St Petersburg

1598 62nd Ave. N.  
 SE corner of 16th St. & 62nd Ave. N.  
 (727) 522-3692



**1-888-532-HEAR(4327)** [www.floridahearing.com](http://www.floridahearing.com)

Ad was funded by the manufacturer - Audibel, Minneapolis, MN

## Group takes top score at dance competition

LARGO – Largo's Dance Central took top honors for highest overall score for a junior dance group at the recent Dancemaker Regional Competition in Daytona Beach November 15-17.

The dancers, ages 8 to 11 years old, performed "Take Off With Us" from Bob Fosse's "All That Jazz," qualifying for nationals in June.

Kelley King, owner of Dance Central in Largo, choreographed the routine. Dance Central also brought home two first-place and two second-place trophies from the competition.

"Children can accomplish anything as long as they have proper training and fundamentals," King stated in a press release about the awards.

After working nationally as a choreographer as well as touring in Broadway shows, King came home to Seminole to start her own studio. She started Dance Central in 2011, taking over the former Company B Ballet studio.

"I'm really excited about the talent potential that I see in Pinellas," she said. "I'm very blessed to be working with so many talented and passionate kids."

The Seminole High School alumna also choreographs for the high school. She's readying their drama department for their upcoming district competitions and this year's musical production of "Annie, Get Your Gun."



Photo courtesy of KELLEY KING

A group from Largo's Dance Central took top honors at the Dancemaker Regional Competition in Daytona Beach November 15-17, including, from left to right, front row: Debbie Henrion, Chloe Visnage and Jennifer Henry; back row: Marie Gladyszak, Gabrielle Bahr, Shelby Winkler, Alexis Benz and Tyler Kaufman. Not pictured with the group is Sofia Mendoza.

## Around town

### Christmas parade held in Largo

LARGO – The third annual Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade will be held Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 to 4 p.m., through Largo's Old Northwest neighborhood.

Last year, more than 2,000 people came out to watch more than 60 floats in the parade. The Largo High School marching band will participate this year.

Participation in the parade is \$50 per decorated float. All proceeds go to the Suncoast Voices for Children Foundation. Sponsorship costs \$250 and includes a business logo on the parade banner at the front of the parade.

The parade is scheduled before

the Holiday Stroll in Largo Central Park.

For more information and to register, visit [discoverlargo.com](http://discoverlargo.com).

### Ulmer Park festival held

LARGO – The Ulmer Park Market and Community Festival will be held second Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 301 W. Bay Drive.

The community festival, organized by the Downtown Largo Merchants Association, will feature live music, food trucks, gourmet coffee, arts and crafts, games, face painting and raffle prizes.

Join the community and support local businesses. Vendor booths are available as well as sponsorship opportunities. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Youth Fire Explorers in honor of Fire Safety Month.

For information, call Tanya Pistillo at 465-8558.

## Fundraiser Nov. 30 to benefit typhoon victims

LARGO – New Life International Church and 4Ever40 Sisterhood Association joins together to host Hope for The Philippines fundraising event on Saturday, Nov. 30, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the church, 1000 110th Ave. N. in Largo.

The event will feature live music from Tampa Bay area bands, starting at noon; a car wash and yard sale, which both will start at 9 a.m.

4Ever40Sisterhood board officer Connie Solano decided to partner with the church to host the event after she heard that typhoon had damaged the Haiyan-Yolanda area, a place that she once called home.

"After the typhoon hit, I called my family, and my heart not only went to my family but for the entire island which consist of four townships," Solano said. "The entire island is in need of food, shelter, and medical supplies."

For more information, contact Connie Salano 813-335-0927 or [coniebsolano@gmail.com](mailto:coniebsolano@gmail.com).

### Lights in the Gardens open

LARGO – The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation's Holiday Lights in the Gardens will be open from Friday, Nov. 29, to Wednesday, Jan. 1, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Stroll through this year's display of more than 750,000 twinkling lights and holiday decorations. A donation of \$2 per person (13 years and older) is recommended. Events scheduled during the Holiday Lights include a Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation gift and plant sale on Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a dog parade on Sunday, Dec. 29, starting at 1 p.m.

The Florida Botanical Gardens is located at 12520 Ulmerton Road in Largo, with an alternate entrance at 12211 Walsingham Road. The gardens remain open from 7 a.m. until dusk every day, with free admission during daylight hours. For more information, visit [www.fbg.org](http://www.fbg.org) or call 582-2100.

### Women's club hosts Christmas party

LARGO – The Largo Woman's Club members invite local woman to their annual Christmas party on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 11:30 a.m., at the

## A 95-year-old's wish



Photo courtesy of RONALD KAUFMANN JR.

Three generations of Kaufmanns took a plunge at Busch Gardens Nov. 5, fulfilling the wish of Ronald Kaufmann Sr. of Largo, pictured in the back, who turned 95 Oct. 25 and requested to ride the Stanley Falls Flume for his birthday. Pictured with him are his son, Ronald Kaufmann Jr., in the front, and his granddaughter, Tracy Smith.

Royal Palms, 300 Lake Ave., in Largo.

Lunch is \$12. Bring a pre-wrapped gift valued between \$5 and \$10 for the gift exchange. The party will include a program and entertainment. Meet some new friends and neighbors and have a good time.

The club meets first Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m., at the Royal Palms. Lunch is \$8. Call Alice 581-3137 or Ellen 584-8314.



# NEW TEETH IN ONE DAY

FINANCING AVAILABLE!

NO MORE REMOVABLE DENTURES!

✓ Fast Recovery ✓ Normal Eating ✓ All in ONE DAY!

IT'S JUST LIKE HAVING YOUR NATURAL TEETH AGAIN!

Our Highly Trained Team of Experienced Professionals

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em; color: red;">FREE</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">CONSULTATION &amp; OPINION</p> <p style="font-style: italic; font-size: 0.8em;">Any procedure or treatment plan</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Not valid with other offers or prior service. Non-insurance patient.</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">NEW PATIENT SPECIAL</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">FREE EXAM &amp; X-RAYS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Valid w/Paid \$89 Cleaning (D1110, D0150, D0274, D210)</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">New Patients Only. Not valid with other offers or prior services.</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em; color: red;">2 FOR 1</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">DENTURES OR PARTIALS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">(FROM \$1,195.00)</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Not valid with other offers.</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



Dental Emergency? CALL 7 DAYS A WEEK 727-475-7866

NuSmile Dental

Where your NuSmile changes your life!  
Nadia O'Neal D.D.S.

www.NuSmile.net 727-475-7866

3 Locations To Serve You!

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.7em;">Pasco</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">4122 Rowan Road</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">New Port Richey, FL 34653</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.7em;">Hillsborough</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">3814 West Bay Vista Ave.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Tampa, FL 33611</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.7em;">Pinellas</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">13611 Park Blvd., Suite G</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Seminole, FL 33776</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The patient or any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other services, examinations or treatment which is performed as a result of & within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free, discounted or reduced fee service, examination or treatment. Fees quoted are minimum fees only. Not valid with insurance. One per family. \*Extra fee for same day services & for implants. Additional services may be required at regular fees. Endodontist, Orthodontist, Prosthodontist & Periodontist are licensed Florida associates. Free consultation, General Dentist only.

101013

### Correction

Due to incorrect information received, the Largo Leader misspelled the name of the first-place winner of the Largo Lions Club's Peace Poster Contest Nov. 21. The winner was Elizabeth Babb.

K&D

Your EXCEPTIONAL Barbershop

\$5 OFF

Hair Design

LB Coupon Exp. 12-28-13



\$10

Hair Cuts New Client

Good Tues. & Weds. Only

LB Coupon Exp. 12-28-13

727-400-6993

3690 East Bay Drive, Suite D, Largo  
Mon.-Fri. 10am-7pm • Sat. 6am-7pm

## Time Care Inc.

Rik Dietel CW21

All types of clock repair.

Howard Miller Service Center

The Watch Repair Expert!



215-8870

[www.timecareinc.com](http://www.timecareinc.com)

# Get in the Holiday Spirit at LARGO CENTRAL PARK

Join us for a fun weekend  
Sat. Nov. 30 from 10am-9pm  
& Sun. Dec. 1 from 10am-5pm

- **Talented Crafters & Artists** offering original & unique items
- **Festival Foods & Desserts** like hot apple cider & fresh fudge
- **Live Holiday Music** featuring the Largo High School Madrigal Singers

## HOLIDAY LIGHT KICK-OFF

Largo Central Park • Saturday, November 30th at 6 p.m.

With more than one million spectacular lights to brighten your holiday season

Santa & his Elves at noon on both days



For Additional Show & Parking Info contact us at [www.loganjadepromotions.com](http://www.loganjadepromotions.com)

LJP LOGANJADE PROMOTIONS

Arts & Craft Shows

## City calendar

### 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 and Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive. For information about events, call 587-6740, ext. 5014 or visit LargoEvents.com.

#### Come see the holiday lights

LARGO – Families can enjoy an amazing light display of over a million lights in Largo Central Park starting Thanksgiving evening, Nov. 28, to Friday, Jan. 3.

It's free to stroll through the park and see the dazzling displays of trains, toy bears, carolers, toy soldiers and many more. Starting Friday, Nov. 29, there will be a campfire each night to enjoy after strolling through the park.

Call the Largo parks department at 586-7415 or visit LargoParks.com.

#### The holidays come to Largo Park

LARGO – Celebrate the holidays with a weekend of talented crafters and artists offering original and unique items Saturday, Nov. 30, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Largo Central Park.

The weekend will include specialty food vendors, Christmas carolers and spectacular holiday lights in the park. Santa Claus will visit, so bring the kids.

There will be giveaways and raffles for cash gift cards and grand prizes. Free drawings are held three times per day. Grand prizes are at end of each day.

Visit loganjadepromotions.com or call 321-300-4509.

#### Death by Chocolate returns to Largo

LARGO – The Rotary Club of Largo will present the 18th annual Death by Chocolate fundraiser – bringing hundreds of people with a love for chocolate together in the name of charity – Friday, Dec. 6, 7 to 9 p.m., at Largo Cultural Center.

The event will feature thousands of all-you-can-eat delectable, mouth watering chocolate creations by the local restaurants that will satisfy any sweet tooth. Enjoy complimentary champagne, a silent auction and entertainment encompassed by the holiday lights illuminating Largo Central Park.

Visit www.largorotary.com.

#### Library Friends to sell gift baskets

LARGO – The Friends of the Largo Library will host a Holiday Gift Basket Sale on Saturday, Dec. 7 through Saturday, Dec. 21, in the lobby and the library bookstore.

The baskets, featuring various themes, will be on display in the library. All proceeds benefit the library.

For more information, call the bookstore at 586-7392.

#### Free holiday movie shown in the park

LARGO – Gather the family, grab a blanket and catch a movie on the big screen Friday, Dec. 20.

Themed activities for children will take place one hour prior to sunset and the movie will begin at dusk. On-site parking and concessions will be available. No alcohol is permitted.

Upcoming movie dates are Feb. 14 and April 11. For a complete listing of movie titles, visit LargoEvents.com or call 587-6755.

#### Create at the library's monthly crafting event

LARGO – Attend a free evening of crafting while taking inspiration from non-fiction books at the Largo Public Library on second Wednesdays, 6 p.m., in the Jenkins Community Wing of the library.

Use a variety of materials to create a fun and unique project during this adult program. Families are welcome.

No registration is required. All materials will be provided. Call 587-6715.

### Largo Community Center

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

#### Center presents adult talent show

LARGO – Watch fellow residents show off their talent and strut their stuff at the Largo Community Center's annual Adult and Senior Talent Show Thursday, Dec. 5, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., 400 Alt. Keene Road.

Tickets for the show are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Visit LargoCommunityCenter.com or call 518-3131.

#### Holiday showcase scheduled

LARGO – Enjoy an afternoon of dancing and singing Largo's Holiday Showcase Sunday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m., at the Largo Community Center.

The Tutterow Dancers, The Mcmillans, The Bates, The Indian Rocks Christian School Student Choir and the Strolling Carolers all will perform in the grand ballroom. Tickets are \$14 and can be purchased at the Largo Community Center.

#### Weekly events

- **Bridge games:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 4 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.

- **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.

- **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.

## Chief speaks to Kiwanis

LARGO – Largo's new Police Chief Jeff Undestad was the featured speaker at the Nov. 22 meeting of Kiwanis Club of Largo/Mid-Pinellas.

Undestad, originally from Minnesota, has spent his entire career with the Largo police, rising through its ranks to his appointment as chief this year. As a former K-9 officer, he thanked the Kiwanis Club for purchasing "Officer Murphy" for the department, the latest of the four dogs serving with Largo police.

Largo Kiwanis hosted a prayer breakfast for the Kiwanis clubs in Division 12 Nov. 27. On Nov. 30, members of the club will be joined by members of Key Club at Largo High School to ring bells for The Salvation Army outside the Largo Walmart on Missouri Avenue. The two clubs also will partner for a float in Largo's Christmas parade Dec. 7, which is in part sponsored by the Largo Kiwanis.

Kiwanis is a worldwide service organization of volunteers serving children in their local community. The Largo club meets for breakfast Fridays, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., at The Royal Palms, 200 Lake Ave. NE. Membership is open to anyone who wants to help make a difference in the community.

For more information, call Bruce Blazej at 536-0412.



Photo courtesy of the LARGO KIWANIS  
Largo Kiwanis Club President Bruce Blazej presents a certificate of appreciation to Largo Police Chief Jeff Undestad, center, and Deputy Chief Brian Browne Nov. 22.

- **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 a recreation card.

### REFERENDUM, from page 1A

transit and future passenger rail service?"

PSTA's version says, "Shall the improvement, operation, maintenance and financing of public transit benefitting Pinellas County, including an expanded bus system with bus rapid transit, increased frequency and extended hours, local passenger rail and regional connections be funded by levying a one-percent sales surtax from Jan. 1, 2016, until repealed, with the proceeds initially deposited in a dedicated trust fund?"

The county prefers adding the words "the 1 percent sales tax" after the yes or no choice so voters are clear on the meaning. PSTA had no problem making that change.

Commissioner Karen Seel requested that PSTA add the word build or construct to PSTA language, which was agreeable.

PSTA's attorney Alan Zimmet objected to the county's section that says "until repealed or reduced by ordinance," because it poses a risk and could cause problems with the ability to secure bonds for transportation projects.

PSTA prefers that no method for repeal be specified and prefers that any changes in the future be by referendum. An ordinance that accompanies the ballot language also referred to the ability to repeal or reduce the tax by ordinance.

"PSTA is pursuing removal of the taxing authority for ad valorem in favor of sales tax, but that's a risk if the sales tax can be reduced or repealed by a county ordinance," he said.



Alan Zimmet



Brad Miller

Zimmet also said it was PSTA's opinion that by state statute, the ballot language had to include "with the proceeds initially deposited in a dedicated trust fund," which will be deposited with the Clerk of the Court.

The commission agreed to both changes for the ballot language and the accompanying ordinance.

Commissioner Norm Roche pointed out that the final ballot language did not have to be decided until August 2014 to make the deadline by the Supervisor of Elections. He presented his own proposed ballot language.

Roche's version removes "Greenlight Pinellas Plan" and replaces it with "transit plan." He prefers using 1 cent instead of 1 percent for the levy and including words that make it clear that it is another penny added to the existing 7-cent sales tax.

He also wants to tie the levy of the sales tax to the repeal of the ad valorem tax. He proposes a levy of a half cent until federal grant money is secured for future projects and then increasing the levy to 1 cent. Roche says that the county commission is the "liable taxing authority" and should approve bonds instead of the PSTA.

"An overriding concern is there is no plan B," he said.

Welch said he disagreed with Roche's approach. He pointed out that a plan B did exist, a "draconian plan B."

In the end, the commission voted, 5-1, to accept PSTA's ballot language with the addition of the word construct and the explanation after the yes and no. Roche voted no. Commissioner John Morroni was out sick.

"It's an honor and a pleasure to be involved in this," Latvala said after the vote. "This is a legacy issue for our county. ... It's really exciting."

Commissioner Janet Long agreed.

"I'm so proud to be sitting here today, to be moving this forward on behalf of our citizens," she said.

The county will hear what citizens think during a public hearing Tuesday, Dec. 10, 6 p.m., in the fifth floor assembly room of the Clearwater Courthouse, 315 Court St. For more information, visit www.pinellascounty.org.

### PARADE, from page 1A

it's supposed to be cold," Vaughan said. "I think we're all a little nervous, but I think our excitement outweighs our nerves."

One of the girls, 14-year-old Shannon Flaharty, was literally speechless as the girls chatted among themselves, teasing Vaughan for her advanced on-screen diction that included excitement "to see city in its entirety." Even after the girls had raised money for the trip, they were concerned that Flaharty wouldn't be able to go. Earlier in the month, she blacked out and fell on her face, breaking her jaw in three places. As a result, her jaw was wired shut, forcing her on a liquid diet.

"We didn't know if she would be able to make the trip, so we're really excited," Kennedy said. "We think she's very fortunate."

The girls, all in Tutterow's senior A or senior B class, have all been dancing for at least eight years, some more than a dozen.

"We're like adopted sisters," Aho said of the group.

Kennedy had a group of seven dancers participate in the Macy's parade five years ago. She said that while the girls do enter some competitions, she emphasizes unique opportunities. For example, in March, Tutterow dancers will perform on Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas.

"I just think competition is a great thing, a great learning tool ... But our kids get so many different performance opportunities and dance for the community and do things that they would have no other way of doing," Kennedy said. "How many get to say they get to dance on the world's largest cruise ship?"

And, after getting up before 5 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, the girls will begin their parade experience, dancing in front of thousands on the streets of New York City and millions watching from their televisions at home – an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Visit tutterowdancers.com.



Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES  
The Tutterow dancers, from left, Brielle Kennedy, Katie Verrastro, Madison Aho, Emily Schulz, Amanda Vaughan, Landon McFee, Shannon Flaharty and Emily Paul, practice the number they will dance in New York City as part of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

### SWEEPSTAKES, from page 1A

but an advanced screening of the movie Nov. 18 and three days worth of VIP seating in the audience while the hosts interviewed the movie's stars.

"The best part about it was honestly being able to spend that kind of time in the city with my daughter at something she loved," McGowan said. "I can't say enough about that. Just the time one-on-one with my daughter was amazing."

McGowan, who works as a local substitute teacher, entered the contest on a whim, she said. The contest was only open for about a week starting Nov. 7. McGowan was in a car line, killing time on her phone as she waited to pick up Brianna and her 10-year-old sister, Brooke, from their schools. As a longtime fan of LIVE, she followed the show's Facebook page, and the contest showed up on her news feed.

"I (thought), 'Oh my gosh, my daughter would absolutely die. Oh, I'll enter,' not thinking that people really win these things," McGowan said. "I had completely forgotten that I entered until I got this call on Friday."

Brianna had no idea the treat she was in for. She had read all three books in the Hunger Games series as they came out and insisted on having the hardback copies, her mother said. She recently had re-read "Catching Fire," the second book in the series, in anticipation of the movie, which opened only Nov. 22.

"I entered solely on her behalf," her mother said, admitting that she hadn't read the books herself.

McGowan said she saw how the fantasy books were a part of the culture of her daughter's age group. And she thought the cliffhanger at the end of "Catching Fire" played a big part in keeping young audiences intrigued.

"Having seen the movie, now I get it – that's why you want to see the next one," she said. "Maybe I should just read the book."

The trip was Brianna's first to New York City. She and her mother hit several highlights: Times Square, Rockefeller Plaza, China Town and Little Italy. The experience of absorbing the culture of the big city was worth missing a bit of school, McGowan said. At Brianna's request, they even went to Hoboken, N.J. to visit the Carlo's Bakery, the setting of the reality TV show "Cake Boss."

McGowan has been a fan of LIVE even before Kelly Ripa became its



Photos courtesy of STEPHANIE MCGOWAN  
Left, Stephanie McGowan, right, and 12-year old Brianna snap a picture from the audience of the LIVE with Kelly and Michael. The Largo mother and daughter won LIVE's "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" Special Access Sweepstakes, earning them a trip to New York City, an advance screening of the movie and a week's worth of tickets to watch the show hosts interview "Hunger Games" stars. Right, the McGowans pose with show hosts Michael Strahan and Kelly Ripa.

host. She was glad to discover that Ripa was just hilarious and real in person as on screen, she said, adding that watching her longtime show from the audience would change the viewing experience from home.

"Just to know that you were there and to think where you sat and what you saw and how it all works, even down to them recording promos after the show – to be able to see all that was really cool," she said.

McGowan said her daughter didn't freak out when she got a chance to

snap a picture with Hutcherson, but gushed a bit after the experience.

"She was kind of overwhelmed by the whole thing, and was like, 'What is happening?'" McGowan said. "It was just so much fun for her."

The entire trip will be an "absolutely amazing" experience both mother and daughter will remember for years to come, she said.

To see the video of Brianna's celebrity photo, visit instagram .com/p/g6IAM\_uLIM.

# County adopts 2014 legislative program

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Wendy Nero, intergovernmental relations manager, started her fourth week on the job with a presentation to Pinellas County Commissioners on the 2014 State Legislative Program.

Nero admitted during the Nov. 19 meeting that much of the work on next year's list of priority items to keep an eye on during the 2014 state legislative session had already been done when she started. However, she has already talked to as many stakeholders as possible about what they thought was most important.

Pinellas County Commissioners approve a list each year of items staff and paid lobbyists are asked to monitor during the legislative session. Nero pointed out that this year's program was "not an exhaustive list" and said other issues could evolve that might require commission action.

Top of the legislative program is unfunded mandates that "negatively impact local government budgets and control." Unfunded mandates by the state are usually imposed without discussion or consensus from local governments about the impacts they might have on available resources.

Nero presented six priority items, including support of the State Housing Initiatives Partnership and State Apartment Incentive Loan Program. According to her report, documentary stamp tax on deeds was created specifically to fund the state's affordable housing trust fund. Lawmakers continue to redirect the approximately \$100 million in document stamp revenue each year to the general fund.

Second on the list was support of legislation to remove unfunded mandates for certain court-related functions. Third was support for continued funding of the Pinellas County Health Department and opposition to any legislation that would remove or eliminate primary health care services from county health departments.

The fourth priority was support for reforms to reduce the county's financial obligations for juvenile detention and to revise current billing structures and provide for more accountable juvenile justice services, while at the same time opposing any new cost obligations to the county.

No. 5 was support for an amendment that would allow the county more discretion on how it can spend future Penny for Pinellas funds. Currently, the money's use is restricted to capital improvements. No Penny money can be spent to maintain infrastructure.

The final priority item was Medicaid expansion. The commission supports efforts to expand Medicaid eligibility, which would decrease the number of uninsured county residents.

Nero presented an additional 20 "general concern" items and four more that she described as additional topics for discussion. Among the additional topics was beach nourishment. Commissioner Norm Roche suggested that beach nourishment be moved to No. 1 on the list as a top priority, which the commission unanimously approved.

Roche was unhappy that four items he had requested were missing from the list, including increasing the medical buyback for indigent care, support for a state domestic partner registry, additional changes for Penny for Pinellas and removal of the ad valorem tax for Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority.

Commission Chair Ken Welch urged Roche to put his items in



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER  
Wendy Nero, intergovernmental relations manager, presents the 2014 State Legislative Program during the Nov. 19 Pinellas County Commission meeting.

writing and bring them back to the commission for discussion and possible approval.

"I think at least two are very good," Commission Chair Justice said of Roche's list.

Welch asked that the county develop a statement about the impact of flood insurance reform and the commission unanimously agreed. Nero concurred that it was a good idea considering the action now taking place on the state level to find solutions to the problem.

"We fully expect to see some activity," she said.

The commission unanimously approved the legislative program with changes discussed and agreed to hear Roche's items at an upcoming meeting.

Commissioner Janet Long asked why the county didn't have a federal legislative program for items pertinent to Pinellas County and Tampa Bay.

"We used to," said Commissioner Karen Seel, who explained that budget constraints caused the commission to discontinue paying for lobbyist at the federal level.

Long pointed out that there could be federal legislation pertinent to Pinellas County worthy of discussion.

Welch said another reason the commission had stopped funding federal lobbyist was the "personal relationship with Congressman Young."

"Now that's changed," he said.

Young died Oct. 18, 2013, after serving Pinellas County in the House of Representatives for 42 years. A special election is scheduled on March 11, 2014 to fill the vacant position.

County Administrator Bob LaSala agreed to ask staff to look at a federal legislative program.

# Karen Seel picked to lead commission

By SUZETTE PORTER



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER  
Pinellas County Commission Vice-Chair Karen Seel talks about the job done by Ken Welch as Commission Chair for 2013. Commissioners unanimously agreed Nov. 19 that Seel should serve as next year's chair.

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County Commission Chair Ken Welch will relinquish his gavel Dec. 31. By unanimous vote Nov. 19, Vice-chair Karen Seel got the nod to lead the commission during the next calendar year.

Commissioner Susan Latvala won the vice-chair's position, 5-1. Commission Norm Roche voted no. Commissioner John Morrone was absent. Roche said he was voting no on principle not because he thought Latvala was incapable of carrying out the duties of vice-chair.

Seel last served as chair in 2010. Latvala served as chair in 2011. Morrone was chair in 2012. Roche was elected to the commission in 2010.

Seel thanked her fellow commissioners and said she was "very much looking forward to working with you next year." Welch thanked Seel for her support during his year as chair. In turn, Seel thanked Welch, especially for the job he did communicating with the public on behalf of the commission.

"Your emails were always on point," she said. "Very nicely done."

## County administrator's contract

The commission also voted unanimously to amend County Administrator Bob LaSala's contract.

The amendment, effective Nov. 19, adds 120 hours of annual leave to LaSala's "leave bank." It changes the way the administrator earns leave to match the method in place for exempt employees with 20 years of service. The change ups his annual leave from 29 days to 32 days – an increase of three days.

LaSala began work as the county's administrator Oct. 12, 2008.

The amended contract reduces LaSala's severance pay from six months to 20 weeks of salary and benefits.

According to a memo from Welch, the amended contract with the additional three days of leave will "facilitate greater work/life balance" and would "allow for cushions for any catastrophic circumstances that might result in the county administrator needing to draw on accumulated leave."

In return for the extra leave, the administrator would receive one month less in salary and benefits in his severance package.

When LaSala was hired in 2008, his salary was \$225,000 plus a \$750 a month car allowance. His predecessor Steve Spratt, who resigned after a grand jury investigation of a land deal between the county and former property appraiser Jim Smith, made \$223,476. Former county administrator Fred Marquis, who served as interim administrator while the county searched for Spratt's replacement, made \$200,000 a year.

LaSala has prior experience with Pinellas County government, having served as chief assistant county administrator and assistant county administrator from 1979 to 1989.

**SO ENROLLMENT NO DUES TILL JAN. 14th 2014**  
 This location only!  
**Call about our Holiday Gift Cards**  
 ANYTIME FITNESS  
 1595 S. Highland Ave., Clearwater  
 Call For Details 727-330-7664

Tired of the Same Old Delivery Food?  
**Delicious Cuban & American Meals from \$5.99**  
 WITH FREE DELIVERY (4-8PM)  
 Havana Harry's Cafe & Market  
 13932 Walsingham Rd. (Next to CVS) Largo • 727-596-5141

**\$799** Seminole Hair & Nails  
 1250 Seminole Blvd., Largo  
 727-582-9979  
**Haircut\* WALK-INS ONLY**  
 \*Men's & Senior Haircut. Women's Cut \*2 Extra. Must present coupon. Expires 11-10-13LL

**Welcome Seasonal Visitors**

## When we asked about physicians we could trust, our friends overwhelmingly recommended the doctors at Diagnostic Clinic.

They raved about Diagnostic Clinic's unique patient centered approach to care offering same day appointments, extended hours, onsite specialists, and extensive testing combined with great service. These benefits became obvious the day my husband became ill.

Our Diagnostic Clinic primary care physician saw us right away, arranging for immediate testing and consultation with a specialist ALL onsite and on the same day!

Their friendly professional staff did everything with teamwork and efficiency, allowing him to be diagnosed and start treatment right away. Anywhere else and we would have been forced to drive from place to place or worse yet, go to the hospital ER.

**Diagnostic Clinic is now our one stop medical home! We wouldn't go anywhere else!**

- No more driving elsewhere for lab and imaging tests
- No more waiting and then driving to see various specialists
- No more concern about medical records being forwarded.
- No more wondering if all your doctors and specialists are on the same page.

**SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS**  
**727-584-7706**

**LARGO**  
 • Monday thru Friday 7:30 AM till 10:00 PM  
 • Saturday & Sunday 10:00 AM till 10:00 PM

**COUNTRYSIDE**  
 • Monday thru Friday 7:30 AM till 8:00 PM  
 • Saturday & Sunday 10:00 AM till 8:00 PM

**DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC**  
*Your One-Stop Medical Home!*

**3 Convenient Locations to Serve You**

**LARGO** 1301 2nd Ave. SW • Largo, FL 33770

**COUNTRYSIDE** 3131 N. McMullen Booth Rd. • Clearwater, FL 33761

**PALM HARBOR** 3820 Tampa Rd. • Ste 101 • Palm Harbor, FL 34684

**We accept most major insurance plans.**

**WWW.DC-FL.COM**

# Crime report

## Detention deputies arrested

CLEARWATER - Two Pinellas County Sheriff's Office detention deputies are facing criminal charges for felony official misconduct in connection with an altercation with an inmate Oct. 3 at the jail.

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri announced the results of an internal affairs investigation Nov. 19 that resulted in charges for Klaus Reinert, 40, and Mark Capanna, 44. Reinert, who also was charged with misdemeanor battery, had worked for the sheriff's office since 2001. Capanna worked at PCSO since May 1990.

Gualtieri said the internal affairs investigation found that the deputies had falsified official jail reports after Reinert had punched an inmate without provocation. Both detention deputies ultimately resigned while under investigation.

According to investigators, Reinert became engaged in a verbal altercation with inmate Casio Burton, 28, of St. Petersburg, which escalated to a physical altercation. Investigators said Casio, who was about to be transferred to the Pasco County Jail to face pending charges, had requested that Capanna

provide him with information regarding his visitation list.

As the inmate stood outside the control room, waiting to be transferred, he raised his hands in the air in an attempt to ask Capanna, who was inside the control room, if he had checked his visitation list. Deputy Reinert, who also was in the control room, exited and used profanity to ask the inmate what he wanted, detectives said. Following the exchange, Reinert returned to the control room. The inmate continued to try to get the attention of Capanna.

Investigators said Reinert then became agitated, came out of the control room once again, and became involved in a verbal argument with the inmate that included profane remarks. The verbal argument escalated to a physical one, when Reinert punched Burton in the face.

According to investigators, Burton then struck the



Klaus Reinert



Mark Capanna

deputy. Reinert fell to the ground. Detectives said that when Reinert stood, he continued the physical altercation with Burton. Capanna then pulled the two apart.

Detectives said neither detention deputy reported the incident or documented the use of force as per policy. Detectives began investigating the matter after several inmates who witnessed the physical altercation reported it to jail staff. An Internal Affairs investigation was launched as well.

Detectives said after the investigation began and the detention deputies were asked about the incident, they fabricated a report in which they stated there was no physical altercation. They said Reinert had slipped and fallen on wet floor when the inmate approached him in an aggressive manner.

Detectives said Capanna later admitted that the physical altercation happened. The two turned themselves in at the Pinellas County Jail on Nov. 19.

## One dead after neighborhood fight

LEALMAN - A St. Petersburg man died after his neighbor stabbed him during an altercation about 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20, at the Sunshine Mobile Home Park, 7430 46th Ave. N., in unincorporated St. Petersburg.

According to a report from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, a verbal argument began between Jerold Lester Jr., 55, and James Ellul, 63, escalated and became physical. At some point, Ellul grabbed a large knife and stabbed Lester multiple times in his side. Lester's girlfriend, Kimberly Bordner, 46, attempted to break up the fight and was also stabbed in the arm by Ellul.

Lester was transported to a local hospital where he died. Bordner and Ellul were also transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

According to detectives, Lester and Ellul have had an ongoing dispute over the noise coming from Lester's motorcycle being driven inside the mobile home park. Ellul was charged with murder in the second degree.

BOOK ONLINE SUPERSHUTTLE.COM

BOOK ONLINE AND RECEIVE **\$2 OFF PER RIDE** Need a lift? USE DISCOUNT CODE K7FYJ

**HOME & HOTEL AIRPORT RIDE**  
24 HR SERVICE 1-800-Blue Van

**YOUR PRIVATE RIDE**

To or from the airport. Private charters and VIP transfers. Visit ExecuCar.com or call 1-800-410-4444

**\$5 off** when booking online Use discount code: K7FYJ

**consumer business guide** | Telling our readers about local business since 1977. Phone Don Minie at 727-409-5252 or email minie408@gmail.com

**LIFE OF RILEY SALON SUPPLY makes living the good life easy & pleasant**

Life of Riley Beauty Supply Company believes that locally owned and family operated distributors will faithfully service salons and stylists. Committed to Product Brands they offer innovative products that are readily available when needed. They want to earn the right to be your distributor of choice and want to be responsible for improving this industry for the next generation. We recommend them and like their core principles: 1) They treat customers and employees right ... Like Family, 2) Competitive pricing with a great variety of products, 3) Inventory stock levels "above" industry average, 4) They realize success comes when they help salons become successful, 5) When there is a problem **THEY FIX IT**. Questions? Just phone 727-865-4145. Visit [www.lifeofrileys.com](http://www.lifeofrileys.com) to see all the name brands and services available. Open M-F 8:30-6:30, Sat. 8:30-2:30 at 12821 Starkey Road Suite 4900 in Largo. Excellent opportunities for entrepreneurs. For information on classes Mondays; Nov. 11, & Dec. 2, 10am-1pm. Phone: 727-865-4145.

**Don't spend time waiting in long lines. Bay Life Pharmacy fills Prescriptions fast!**

Bay Life Pharmacies are locally owned and operated. Unlike chain pharmacies that focus on profitability, Bay Life's focus is to provide familiarity and security to the individual. We recommend Bay Life Pharmacies because they do so much more than fill prescriptions. They provide Senior Services and you will always speak to a real person, not an automated machine. You will get FREE pick-up and delivery in Pinellas & Pasco, FREE Pill Box Packaging weekly to manage your medications, FREE Counseling & Consulting Services and FREE Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar Testing. Bay Life Pharmacy is open M-F, 9am - 6 pm, and Sat. 9am-1pm. **This Bay Life Pharmacy is located at 3350 East Bay Drive in Largo, Phone 727-614-9933** or go on-line [www.baylife-pharmacy.com](http://www.baylife-pharmacy.com) to find the Bay Life Pharmacy in your location. You'll find the staff extremely helpful and prescriptions can be delivered to your door the SAME DAY!

Co-owner, John Watkins, opens the 3rd Bay Life Pharmacy in Largo

**Shutter & Blind Manufacturing Company**

SHUTTERS - VERTICALS - FAUX WOOD & WOOD HORIZONTAL BLINDS  
CELLULAR SHADES - WOVEN WOODS - SUNSCREEN SHADES - PRIVACY SHADINGS - MORE

**PLANTATION SHUTTERS**

**\$1395** Sq. Ft. Measured & Installed

**LIFETIME WARRANTY**

**MADE IN AMERICA**

EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES  
24" W X 36" H \$84 Inst.  
36" W X 50" H \$175 Inst.  
48" W X 48" H \$224 Inst.  
48" W X 60" H \$280 Inst.  
72" W X 62" H \$434 Inst.

**2" FAUX BLINDS**

Our blinds are built with a **STEEL HEADRAIL**. Unlike the flimsy plastic headrail like the Home Depot's

**INSTALLED FREE!**

EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES  
36" W X 48" H \$39 Inst.  
52" W X 62" H \$68 Inst.  
60" W X 62" H \$75 Inst.  
72" W X 72" H \$93 Inst.

**VERTICALS**

**INSTALLED FREE!**

EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES  
36" W X 48" H \$39 Inst.  
52" W X 48" H \$49 Inst.  
60" W X 48" H \$69 Inst.  
72" W X 72" H \$86 Inst.

**SAVE ENERGY**  
EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES FOR SUN SCREENS  
24" W X 36" H \$49 Inst.  
36" W X 48" H \$62 Inst.  
52" W X 48" H \$93 Inst.  
72" W X 60" H \$131 Inst.

**Pinellas**  
**727-343-2666**  
Hillsborough/Pasco/Polk  
**813-634-8310**

**For a FREE in-home estimate, call us today!**

**A Thanksgiving Greeting From Our Family to Yours**

**HOBSON'S**  
Auto Repair  
Automobiles are what moves us!

**727-437-0577**  
9660 Seminole Blvd, Ste B • Seminole, FL 33772  
Next to Pinch-A-Penny & Snyders Transmission

**The Facts about ...**  
**COLDWELL BANKER SUN VISTA REALTY**

- **\$90,000,000 SOLD THRU OCTOBER 2013**
- **RANKED #15 NATIONALLY WITH COLDWELL BANKER**
- **MANAGES OVER 200 RENTAL PROPERTIES**
- **TAMPA BAY'S COASTAL CONNECTION SINCE 1980**
- **THE ONLY LOCALLY OWNED COLDWELL BANKER IN PINELLAS COUNTY**

SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO ROGER L. HOGAN, ASSOCIATE 727-460-4329  
"SOLD 25 MILLION IN 2013"  
#3 AGENT IN FLORIDA  
COLDWELL BANKER AFFILIATES

David P. Grieco, CCIM  
President/Owner  
727-458-5872

Michael A. Lynch, CCIM  
Broker/Owner  
727-458-3945

Rick L. Hendrickson  
Associate  
727-480-5641

Gary W. Havener, CCIM  
Broker/Associate  
727-420-4242

Sandra G. Stinchfield  
Associate  
727-560-1026

Mike D. Perez  
Associate  
727-422-6943

Joe L. Costa  
Associate  
727-488-5528

Larry Williams  
Associate  
727-420-8680

Gloria F. Dolor  
Associate  
727-260-3565

Rich M. Rippetoe, MBA  
Associate  
727-902-1437

Kim A. Howell  
Associate  
727-519-3311

Maryann Turner  
Office Administrator  
727-595-1604

Jocelyn A. Pedalino  
Rental Manager  
727-744-1022

Isabel Abello  
Accountant  
727-595-1605

Sandy A. Sipes  
Leasing Agent  
727-458-2074

Mark A. Zubeck  
Leasing Agent  
727-656-2651

Anna Azmitia  
Vacation Rentals  
910-382-6021

Dawn M. Wilson  
Receptionist  
727-595-1605

**"33 AND GOING STRONG"**

CBSVR.COM      RENTSVR.COM      BEACHSVR.COM

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

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

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

**FREE Medicaid Seminars**

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

**Palm Harbor Library**  
Tuesday December 3, 2013 at 2 pm  
2330 Nebraska Avenue, Palm Harbor  
(One block West of 19 North)

**New Port Richey Main Library**  
Wednesday December 4, 2013 at 2 pm  
5939 Main Street, New Port Richey  
Located near City Hall

**Arbor Oaks Assisted Living**  
Thursday December 5, 2013 at 2pm  
1701 68th Street North, St. Petersburg  
(Near Tyrone Mall behind Chili's)

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

**Regency Park Library**  
Tuesday December 17, 2013 at 2pm  
9701 Little Road, Port Richey, Florida.  
(727) 861-3049

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

**Sean W. Scott**  
Elder Law Attorney  
3233 East Bay Drive • Largo • Florida • 33771  
727 • 539 • 0181  
Visit [FLMedicaid.com](http://FLMedicaid.com)

**To register and for more information about this free program, please call Law Offices at 727-539-0181**

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience. Also visit us at [FLMedicaid.com](http://FLMedicaid.com).

# Unemployment continues downward trend

By SUZETTE PORTER

TALLAHASSEE – Pinellas County's unemployment rate dropped to 6.2 percent in October, according to the report released Nov. 22 by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

October's rate was down from 6.5 reported in September and 8.0 in October 2012. Pinellas County's unemployment is lower than the state rate at 6.6 percent and national rate at 7 percent.

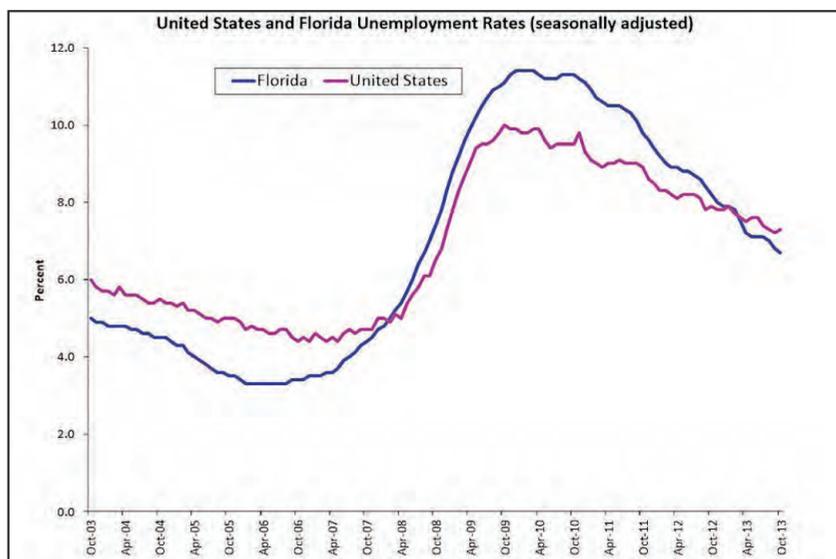
Pinellas also reported a decrease in its labor force in October, down to 448,902 from 453,116 in September and 445,237 last year. The report shows that 27,842 were unemployed, down from 29,360 last month and 35,435 in October of 2012.

Compared to other counties around the state, Pinellas was in a three-way tie with Gilchrist and Hillsborough for the No. 37 position in the ranking list of 67 counties. Hendry ranked No. 1 with 12 percent unemployment and Monroe ranked No. 67 with unemployment of only 3.8 percent.

Job growth continues on an upward trend throughout much of the state. October marked the 39th consecutive month of annual job growth. Florida's annual job rate has equaled or exceeded the national rate since March 2012. Job growth in October was the fastest since June 2006.

Twenty of 22 metropolitan statistical areas contributed to the state's job growth. The Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA had the highest over the year job creation than any metro area in the state, reporting a gain of 39,800 new jobs. The local MSA includes Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties.

Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford



Graph courtesy of FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Florida's unemployment rate, shown in blue, continues at a steady downward trend, as opposed to the national rate.

came in second with 29,100 new jobs and Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach was third with 18,900 new jobs.

The unemployment rate for the MSA for October was 6.4 percent, down from 6.7 percent in September and 8.2 percent in October 2012. Out of a labor force of 1,346,568, the number unemployed was 86,307 in October. The county with the highest unemployment in the local MSA was Hernando at 7.8 percent. Pasco was second highest with 7.2 percent.

The local MSA added more than 9,600 jobs in the education and health services industry; 9,400 jobs in professional and business services; 8,100 in trade,

transportation and utilities; 6,400 in construction; and 1,100 in manufacturing.

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA also led the way in online job demand. It was first in

the state in demand for STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) jobs.

The report for November's unemployment is scheduled for release Dec. 20.V

### PRO council earns distinction

CLEARWATER – The Pinellas Realtor Organization's Pinellas International Council was recently named a Gold Council for 2013 by the National Association of Realtors' Global Achievement Program for the third year in a row.

Among the nearly 100 global business councils operating nationwide, only 13 other Realtor associations have been named a Gold Council. Councils are evaluated in five focus areas, including communication, community outreach, membership value creation, education, and media outreach/social media. This honor was given in part by the dedication that PRO and PIC have put forth in an effort to raising members' awareness of global business opportunities in the Tampa Bay area.

# PRO summarizes real estate statistics

The Pinellas Realtor Organization recently released its report on Pinellas County Real Estate Statistics for October 2013.

According to the report, for the combined townhomes/condos and single family home numbers, the percent change year over year for closed sales, paid in cash, new pending sales, new listings and active inventory are all down compared to October 2012. Also, closed sales for townhomes/condos dropped for the third month in a row, but it is only a 1.7 percent drop year over year from October 2012. Closed sales for single family homes dropped for the second month in a row but it is only a 2.3 percent decrease year over year from October 2012.

Cash sales for both townhomes/condos and single family homes decreased in September and October. This is a 3.4 percent decrease year over year for townhomes/condos and a 15.5 percent drop year over year for single family homes.

The report indicates that October historically tends to see a slight increase in new pending sales for both townhomes/condos and single family homes. This year single family homes increased by a mere 14 sales from September but overall is a 19.9 decrease year over year from October 2012. Townhomes/condos increased slightly from September by 21 sales but is an overall 14.8 percent decrease year over year from October 2012.

July and August saw increases in new listings for both townhomes/condos and single family homes. Both types of property saw a drop in new listings in September. The numbers from

September to October have only changed by two to four sales, according to PRO. New listings for

townhomes/condos have a year over year decrease of 10.1 percent and single family homes have seen a year over year change of 5.2 percent.

The median sales price for townhomes/condos is down \$2,500 from last month to \$98,000. This is a 0 percent change year over year from October 2012. This is the lowest the median sales price has been since February of this year for townhomes/condos. The median sales price for single family homes is down \$5,000 from last month and is a 16.5 percent change year over year.

This is the lowest the median sales price for single family homes has been since April of this year.

According to the report, closed sales by sale price for both townhomes/condos and single family show the following trends:

- 53.8 percent drop in townhomes/condos year over year for the \$600,000 to \$999,999 price range
- 33.3 percent drop in townhomes/condos year over year for the \$1 million or more price range
- An increase of 39.1 percent year over year for the \$250,000 to \$299,000 price range for townhomes/condos
- 10 percent drop in single family homes priced \$1 million or more
- An increase of 41.4 percent year over year for the \$200,000 to \$249,999 price range for single family homes.

**Low Cost VACCINATION CLINIC**

Every Thursday 8am-Noon Walk-Ins Welcome

- AAHA Accredited
- Surgical Therapy & Laser Therapy Center

**062213**

**062213**

**062213**

**Animal Hospital of Largo**

Compassionate Care when your Pet needs it most.

**13902 Walsingham Road, Largo**

**727-595-2287**

Mon.-Fri. 8am-5:30pm • Sat. 8am-3pm

House Calls Available, Pet Pickup and Delivery Service

Senior Discount Wed. & Fri.

Teacher/Sheriff/Military Discounts Available (See website for details)

**Michael R. Banull, D.V.M.**

**Stephanie Jourdenais, D.V.M.**

[www.AHLargo.com](http://www.AHLargo.com)

**We Handle ALL Your INSURANCE Needs!**

**Medicare Plans**

**Affordable Health Care**

**CALL FOR SEMINAR DATES!**

**Homeowners • Auto**

**Flood • Cycle • Boat • RV**

**Umbrella • Commercial**

Joe Barkley

**East Bay Insurance & Financial Services, LLC**

**727.342.7501**

**3690 East Bay Dr. Suite V, Largo**

(In Outback Steakhouse Plaza)

Mary Lou Ambrose

**110713**

**Portobello Nails & Spa**

Best Pedicure in Seminole!

**Pink & White Full Set \$35.00**

13061 Park Blvd., Seminole

In Portobello Square - Across from Jolo's

**727-392-0402**

Monday-Friday 9:30am-7:00pm • Saturday 9:00am-6:00pm • Sunday 11:00am-4:00pm

**Coupon Required**

**Basic Pedicure & Manicure with Shellac \$45.00**

Not valid with any other offer, discount or French Shellac. Exp. 12/30/13

**FILLS \$15.00** | **FULL SET \$22.00**

Long nails extra. Not valid with luxurious manicure or any other offer or discount. Present coupon before service.

Expires 12/30/13

**Coupon Required**

**BASIC MANICURE & PEDICURE \$27.00**

Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon before service.

Expires 12/30/13

**Coupon Required**

**SPA PEDICURE \$30.00 OFF**

Not valid with luxurious manicure or hot stone pedicure or any other offer or discount. Present coupon before service.

Expires 12/30/13

**\$2 OFF Any Waxing With Purchase of \$10 or More**

Excluding Tinting. Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon before service.

**Eyebrow Tinting**

**Our Family Doctors**

*Quality healthcare from the heart!*

Mention this Ad, and get a **Free Gift** AT YOUR FIRST VISIT

Our purpose is to provide the highest quality, compassionate, progressive health care; to promote healthful lifestyles to informed patients; and to encourage the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of our patients.

Our offices provide the following services:

- Preventative Care
- Physical Exams
- Disease Management
- Minor Dermatological Services

- Diabetic Teaching
- Blood Draws
- Pulmonary Function Testing
- Electrocardiograms/EKG

- Osteopathic Manipulation
- Injections
- Minor Office Surgeries
- TB Testing

We accept Humana and Medicare as well as most commercial insurances!

Same day appointments for urgent care and 24 hour on-call availability

Allen Finkelstein, D.O.

James Kinney, Sr., D.O.

Joel Roberts, D.O.

Mary King, D.O.

John Malone, D.O.

Kim Gordon, PA-C

Tom Williams, PA-C

Deanna Weilbacher, PA-C

Eric Smith, PA-C

Call a location close to you to make an appointment today!

James R. Kinney, Sr. D.O. • John Malone, D.O.  
Kim Gordon, PA-C • Deanna Weilbacher, PA-C

2780 East Bay Drive  
Largo, Florida 33771  
(727) 535-3489

Mary J. King, D.O.

10225 Ulmertown Rd, #1-A  
Largo, Florida 33771  
(727) 585-7408

Allen Finkelstein, D.O.  
Eric Smith, PA-C

9021 Oakhurst Rd, #H  
Seminole, Florida 33776  
(727) 596-2066

Joel Roberts, D.O. • Tom Williams, PA-C  
Deanna Weilbacher, PA-C

2 North Belcher Rd.  
Clearwater, Florida 33765  
(727) 449-2224

www.ofdpractice.com

Briefcase

Largo Clinic and Med Spa opens

The Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce celebrates the grand opening of Largo Clinic and Med Spa with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Largo Clinic and Med Spa is a physician-owned private medical practice at 10500 Ulmerton Road in Largo Mall.

Vacation Village RV partners with RV Training Center

LARGO - Vacation Village RV Resort in Largo, an Equity Lifestyle Property, recently partnered with the RV Training Center Inc. to assist with accommodations for students that come to the area to become certified RV technicians.

The RV Training Center Inc. opened in 2006. Owner Sam Alsop has developed a 10-week class that offers on-site RVs for hands-on training. Vacation Village RV Resort has rental units along with RV sites available for the students who have their own RVs.

Mead becomes Tastefully Simple consultant

ST. PETERSBURG - Dawn Mead of St. Petersburg recently became an independent consultant with Tastefully Simple Inc., a national direct sales company featuring more than 60 easy-to-prepare foods.

As an independent business owner, Mead offers delicious food samples at home taste-testing parties, along with easy ideas for everyday meals, recipes, serving suggestions and fun. All of Tastefully Simple's products are open-and-enjoy or can be prepared by adding only one or two ingredients.

Chamber supports Small Business Saturday

The Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce recently announced its participation in American Express Shop Small campaign.

For the second year the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce is an Ambassador to the American Express Small Business Saturday event. Shoppers who shop small between Nov. 26 and 30 can take home a \$25 gift card courtesy of the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce and American Express.

Shoppers must bring their receipt to the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber headquarters, 5500 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach, on Saturday, Nov. 30, 9 to 11 a.m. for an opportunity to redeem a gift card.

Limited quantities of gift cards are available. There is a limit of one card per person.

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

Halterman joins NorthStar Bank

BELLEAIR BLUFFS - NorthStar Bank recently named Jake Halterman as vice president, market manager for its new office in Belleair Bluffs.

Halterman is a long time resident of Pinellas County and has more than 15 years of banking experience. He came to NorthStar Bank from TD Bank where he was most recently assistant vice president, banking center manager.

Halterman earned a bachelor's degree in business management from Eckerd College and an associate's degree in business administration and management from St. Petersburg College. He currently serves on the Professional Partners Council of Suncoast Hospice Florida, is an ambassador of the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce and will be an active member of the Central Pinellas Chamber Commerce.

In Halterman's role as market manager, he will be responsible for developing new relationships and developing and marketing NorthStar Bank's presence in the Belleair Bluffs market. NorthStar Bank's second office opened on Oct. 15, at 715 Indian Rocks Road N., Belleair Bluffs. This is its first office in Pinellas County.



Jake Halterman

Beach Fyre BBQ Grille opens

CLEARWATER - Beach Fyre BBQ Grille recently opened its doors at 608 Mandalay Ave., Clearwater Beach.

Beach Fyre BBQ Grille boasts open pit-style barbecue and a wood-fired grille featuring slow cooked ribs, beef, pork and chicken. The establishment also offers fresh seafood, chargrilled fish, chicken, burgers and wings. All food is cooked fresh to order with homemade sauces and fresh ingredients. Live music is presented Fridays and Saturdays starting at 9 p.m. Sunday music runs from 5 to 8 p.m.

Business hours are Monday through Wednesday, noon to 9 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 a.m.; and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Visit [Beachfyre.com](http://Beachfyre.com).

Tropical Smoothie Café opens

CLEARWATER - Tropical Smoothie Café, known for its healthy food with a tropical twist, opened its doors Oct. 22 on the boardwalk in Countryside Centre, home to Dick's Sporting Goods and Boardwalk Pizza.

A family-friendly grand opening celebration took place Nov. 23. Prior to the grand opening, owners announced a partnership with a

Open house raises \$1,800



Photo courtesy of JULIE PAPALARDO

Julie's Cottage at Provence and Periwinkles at the Cottage raised more than \$1,800 for the Greater Tampa Bay Blue Star Mothers Organization through its Holiday Open House Nov. 7-9. Pictured are from left, George Byrd from Blue Star Mothers, Julie Papalardo of Julie's Cottage at Provence and Keo Souphithavong of the Chase Bank branch at 13883 Walsingham Road. The open house also gathered enough donations for 150 stockings to be sent to soldiers serving overseas. Largo businesses Art of Hair, Beans About Cooking and the Chase branch contributed to the donations.

local charity Mr. Strong Foundation to help raise funds for special needs children. A portion of the proceeds from the grand opening will be donated to this foundation.

"We are thrilled to open our hearts to such a wonderful cause in our community and look forward to working with Mr. Strong on other fundraising events throughout the year," said co-owner Andy Tess in a press release.

Tropical Smoothie Café has taken the smoothie concept to the next level by offering diners a healthy alternative to typical fast food with a variety of fruit smoothies, specialty wraps, grilled flatbread and gourmet sandwiches and salads. Tropical Smoothie Café includes dine-in, take-out and catering menu options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.



When you need help after an accident.

Paul R. Cavinis, Esq.

Injury Law | Wrongful Death  
Auto & Motorcycle Accident

Call for a free consultation.  
**(727) 209-HURT (4878)**  
8640 Seminole Blvd. Seminole, FL

When you need help.



DeLoach+Hofstra, PA  
[helpforthehurt.com](http://helpforthehurt.com)

011713



Gene Cipriano

Master Pianist

Sunday, December 1 at 3pm

Gene tickles the ivories in a fantastic one hour concert. Gene's repertoire includes classical, folk and modern music. This is one concert you certainly do not want to miss!

For more information please call 727-410-4121

Friendship Community Church  
4321 Duhme Road • Madeira Beach

112113

Buy 1 Get 1 FREE!  
Send Double  
Florida  
Sunshine  
\$29.99\*  
Item #BNGN



8112

Order one gift tray of Navels and receive another FREE!  
9.5 lbs. of Navels in each tray!

Feel good about sending a healthy gift this holiday season. Sweet, seedless Florida Navel Oranges are tree-ripened and picked at the peak of perfection. Shipped fresh and ready to enjoy. Satisfaction guaranteed. Both trays will be shipped in one carton to one address. \* Plus standard shipping.

ORANGE BLOSSOM  
Indian River Citrus  
Gifts of Florida's Finest Fruit  
More Delicious and Healthy Citrus Gifts from \$19.99\*

[www.orange-blossom.com/B1G1](http://www.orange-blossom.com/B1G1) 1-800-624-8835

112813



Comfort Keepers

Alzheimer's Disease:

Dealing with Difficult Behavior

November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month and in acknowledgement of this disease, Comfort Keepers® would like to both recognize and thank all of its caregivers - including your family members and our Comfort Keepers® - for all they do for loved ones who suffer from Alzheimer's disease. The disease is perhaps one of the most unpleasant for all concerned. There is no cure but rather, a steady progression of debilitating symptoms which include erratic and difficult behavior that can be hard to manage for even the most seasoned professional.

In order to learn how to deal with difficult behavior that presents in seniors suffering Alzheimer's disease you must first know and understand the disease. Additionally, learning the different types of behaviors indicative to Alzheimer's is crucial so caregiving can be administered safely and comfortably for all concerned.

According to the Alzheimer's Association® the following are symptoms or behaviors that sufferers can exhibit:

- Aggression and anger that can appear suddenly with little or no obvious cause.
- Anxiety or agitation in facing or comprehending either new or confusing situations.
- Memory loss and confusion present in the early stages of the disease that worsen with time. Late-stage sufferers may be unable to remember family, friends, or even familiar places. They forget words, become lost within a conversation due to lack of comprehension, and may forget how to use common items such as a brush or eating utensils.
- Depression that can be hard to detect, due to the challenge of understanding and communicating with those who have Alzheimer's disease.
- Hallucinations and delusions which can occur and are difficult to diagnose, as these are also symptoms of other mental disorders. Hallucinations involve the senses such as seeing or smelling something that is not there. Delusions entail thoughts and beliefs of things that are not real, which can cause those with Alzheimer's to be suspicious of family, friends and others. Seek professional help for proper diagnosis and treatment of these symptoms.
- Changes in sleep patterns. Some sufferers of Alzheimer's experience "sundowning," a term used for those who become agitated and restless during the later hours of the day.
- Repetition of words and questions due to brain deterioration as Alzheimer's progresses, making it even harder for sufferers to comprehend the world around them.
- Wandering and getting lost. The problem can become serious since many with Alzheimer's disease are unable to remember their names, addresses, or even recognize familiar places.

The most important thing caregivers should know is when Alzheimer's patients act out it is neither the patient's fault nor the caregiver's. Try not to take things personally. Instead, understand these behavioral patterns are simply a product of the disease. While there is no cure, caregivers can learn calming maneuvers that can help Alzheimer's sufferers feel safe and secure in times of need and possibly alleviate progression of difficult behavior in the moment. For each person the tactics may be different. However, with a broad understanding of the intricacies of the disease, the caregiver is better able to help Alzheimer's patients safely navigate difficult times.



112813

NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE,  
There's A Comfort Keeper Close By  
Covering All of Pinellas County  
We provide non-medical in-home care - such as light housekeeping, meal preparation, and companionship - to help people maintain quality, independent lives in the comfort of their own homes.  
11350 66th St. N., Largo • 727-538-7771  
[WWW.COMFORTKEEPERS.COM](http://WWW.COMFORTKEEPERS.COM)

Stress Less This Holiday Season With Tips From Budget Blinds



The holiday are fast approaching, bringing friends and family from near and far into our homes, ready or not! Your local Budget Blinds experts are here to save the day by offering 3 useful tips on how you can make preparing your home for the holidays more enjoyable.



**Tip 1 Shop For Your Home In Your Home**  
Decorating for the holidays can be a daunting job. With so many custom window coverings to choose from - blinds, shades, shutters, drapes and valances - it can be hard not to feel overwhelmed. That's why we recommend scheduling a free in-home consultation with your local Budget Blinds Style Consultant. Be sure to ask about matching decorative pillows and custom bedding to spice up your guest rooms.

Tip 2 Sit Back & Relax

We know your time gets limited during the busy holiday season, so our Budget Blinds Style Consultants not only help you select the perfect window coverings for your home, they also will expertly measure and professionally install your window coverings to ensure a perfect fit. All you'll have to do is sit back and enjoy the view along with your holiday guests!



Tip 3 Find Peace Of Mind

Despite our efforts to make our window coverings as durable as possible, we understand that the occasional accident can be reflective of a good time. Pets get excited, children rough-house, and parties can get rowdy. That's why Budget Blinds backs our window coverings with an exclusive No-Questions-Asked product warranty. If your window coverings get damaged for any reason, we'll replace them-no embarrassing questions asked!



Budget Blinds Has You Covered!

Call Carolyn at 727-400-6870 or 727-400-9038 (serving Clearwater, Clearwater Beach, Belleair & Belleair Beach) or Tommy at 727-724-4122 (serving Seminole, IRB, Surrounding Areas and Dunedin)

Go to [www.budgetblinds.com](http://www.budgetblinds.com) and enter your zip code to find the franchise serving your area.

Carolyn Tricoli, owner of Budget Blinds of Clearwater, and Tommy Fisher, owner of Budget Blinds of Seminole and Dunedin are ready to serve you.

111413

BUILDING PORTFOLIOS ISN'T THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WE DO.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS IS.

Planning and investing for your future, your family or your business doesn't have to be complicated. Especially when you have someone you trust, who has taken the time to get to know you and your specific situation, helping guide you along the way. We start by listening to your needs, then delivering the quality, sophisticated advice you expect and deserve. Ensuring that we deliver not just any plan, but the right plan for you. LIFE WELL PLANNED.

RAYMOND JAMES®

James S. Conlin, CFP®  
Senior Vice President, Investments  
Branch Complex Manager  
Belleair, Clearwater & Trinity

2401 West Bay Drive // Largo, FL 33770  
727-584-8615 // Toll-Free: 800-237-0153 // Fax 727-587-0196  
James.Conlin@raymondjames.com // [www.raymondjames.com/belleair-largo](http://www.raymondjames.com/belleair-largo)

©2013 Raymond James & Associates, Inc. member New York Stock Exchange/SIPC. Raymond James is a registered trade mark of Raymond James Financial, Inc. BDMKT-1098AH-RJA M13-2397 6-27-2015 090513BLB

# Small business Saturday

## Day helps businesses showcase their importance

By BRIAN GOFF

Many things go into making a community a place where people want to live. There are community action groups to help effect change, hospitals to care for us when we're sick, and schools to educate police department, a fire department and us to keep us safe. Yet, there is another community building block that improves our quality of life: small business.

Robin Sollie, the executive director of the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce, said she has no doubt how important small business is to our everyday lives.

"Generally speaking small business is vital to our community and our economy," she said. "If you took a snapshot of a community, then visualized that community with no small business, people would move out of that place. Much of what the community has to offer is what small business has to offer."

Sollie pointed out that a small business such as a hair salon is important to any community or a gas station or the corner store. She said they are what keep people in their communities and close to home.

"I can tell you the majority of businesses along the beaches are small businesses with five employees or fewer," she said. "They provide a tax base that is very vital."

In fact that is the case throughout Pinellas County. Statistics provided by the county show that there are just over 26,000 businesses in Pinellas. More than 25,000 of them have 99 or fewer employees and more than 20,000 of them have nine or fewer employees. Small business forms the overwhelming majority of business in the County.

Tom Morrisette, the executive director of the Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce, said small business has always been the backbone of business in any community.

"I've been doing chamber work for 25 years," he said. "Small business always represents about 80 percent of the activity. They are the people creating new jobs, not only here but across the country."

The Federal Small Business Administration defines a small business as one with 100 employees or fewer. Information outlined

on the SBA website support what Morrisette said regarding the creation of new jobs.

"Since 1995 small businesses have generated 64 percent of new jobs and paid 44 percent of the total United States private payroll," it said.

Then the SBA went on to outline what all that means to the local economy.

"When consumers patronize local small businesses they are essentially giving money back to their local community. A thriving local business will generate high levels of revenue which means that the business will pay higher taxes, including local taxes," it said. "This money is then used for local police and fire departments as well as schools."

Morrisette noted the people who start small businesses are people who must have confidence in what they are about to do.

"I think you have to be a visionary and you have to believe in yourself," he said. "You have to believe you have something special and it is going to sell. They are definitely visionaries."

Sollie agrees. "I was actually one of those people before I came to the chamber," she said. "Small business owners have a passion, a passion about where they live and a passion for providing something unique or something great."

Sollie said the people who own and operate a small business have to be used to a roller coaster existence.

"I think most commonly feel they have a great idea and there is a sense of freedom to work for themselves," she said. "But that freedom becomes limited when you can't afford the staff to give you that freedom. But they don't get let down; they muddle through it. They have great drive and initiative. They have to be self-starters; they can't call in sick."

For some the reward comes with success and growth. Morrisette pointed out that not all small businesses remain that way.

"Apple started in a garage by someone who had a vision and it

grew and is certainly not a small business anymore," he said.

In Pinellas County, Piper Fire Protection is an example of a small business growing beyond the definition of "small." Chris Johnson is the president and owner of the Largo company, which was started by his dad, Terry, in 1986.

"He was a one man show and when he got a job he'd hire someone to help if he couldn't handle it alone," said Johnson. "It was his dream back then to have one employee and three trucks."

Today the company has 132 employees and over 80 trucks. Terry Johnson is retired now but comes to work every day to have lunch with his son, who joined the company in 1994.

"When I started it was just him and one part time employee," said Johnson. "At the time we dealt with fire sprinklers only, but then we got into extinguishers and suppression systems. Then customers wanted us to inspect their homes so we got into inspections too."

The company is now a full service fire protection contractor. Johnson said it took some risks along the way to get to be the size they are today.

"We took on a lot of risks when we accepted some larger projects," he said. "We wanted to grow and provide opportunities but we knew we couldn't provide the level of service we wanted if we didn't control everything in-house. Today we hardly contract out any of our work. As a result we're able to react quicker to increase our market share. We recently sold our ten-thousandth-inspection account. It has been a whirlwind growth for us."

Robin Sollie said small business owners she knows are not all about getting rich.

"I've never heard a small business owner say they want to get rich, but they do have to pay their bills," she said. "They are trying to make ends meet, pay their mortgage and look after their families and their business."

Another aspect of small business is something Bill and Carol Brawner use as the cornerstone



Bill and Carol Brawner are owners of The Bronze Lady in John's Pass. They are with their dogs Bella, left, and Bailey.

Photo by BRIAN GOFF

of their business; loyalty. The Brawners' own The Bronze Lady gift shop in John's Pass, and Bronze Lady Home Furnishings on Madeira Way in Madeira Beach.

"We look at it customer by customer and try to make them happy and stand by our products," he said. "We really take a lot of pride to ensure our customers are happy and their experience has been a good one when they are in our store. That is very important."

And it pays off. Brawner says loyalty goes both ways.

"If customers have a good experience, then their loyalty will be there. They will come back and shop. We've had customers tell us that they can get an item anywhere, but they come back to us."

The word "risk" seems to pop up in any conversation about small business. Robin Sollie says risks are part of any small business right from the beginning.

"Small business owners are making a sacrifice," she said. "They left full time jobs and now they are going to work for themselves to keep businesses open and to make ends meet. In the past five years or so, with the economy the way it was, small business owners had to learn how to do more with less. Generally small business owners run and manage the store from open to close."

"I would not call them special people but I will say it takes a special person to have an idea

and take the risk and sustain it."

Morrisette said potential small business owners have to be mindful of the risks and not do anything foolish when they start out. They have to be aware of the reality.

"I think you have to be careful in starting a new business or a new idea," he said. "There are funding organizations that will help get business off the ground. They won't all make it because there is the risk in any small business."

Knowing that, Morrisette says potential owners should be careful where they get their start-up money.

"People will mortgage their house or use their 401K and could lose," he said. "Don't take your life savings; don't put those important assets on the line when you are starting a small business. There are always going to be risks, but there are some you just don't want to take."

The Small Business Administration has a program designed to help start-ups, and minimize the risks, according to Morrisette.

"It is called SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives," he said. "We can get two SCORE representatives to come to the chamber for free and help start up a business."

As well Morrisette said lately banks are beginning to again finance small business. Have a good business plan and they will support it, he said.

Small business has found a way to bring itself to the top of

consumers' mind. They have gotten together all over the country and created Small Business Saturday. It is an annual event, always on the Saturday after Black Friday. Black Friday is the day for large national retailers, Cyber Monday is for online retailers and now Small Business Saturday, this year on Nov. 30.

The intent is to have small business take ownership of the day with heavy promotional activity. It is a day when small business can showcase what makes it different; the unique items, customer service and loyalty.

Last year President Obama championed Small Business Saturday by taking his daughter shopping at an independent bookstore in Arlington, Va.

What does it all mean for future of small business? Morrisette mentioned a sector is helping make the future look bright in Pinellas County.

"We have a lot of medical device companies starting up," he said. "They are starting to grow and I think they are going to have an impact. Health care is big in Pinellas County and they provide good paying jobs. We have one new company that is making the tiny plastic tubing that hospitals use in blood transfusions."

As for the overall future of small business; Morrisette said it is as good as it has always been.

"As long as there are people who have a grain of an idea there will always be small business," he said.

## HOW TO BUILD PARKS WITH STUFFED ANIMALS

★ ★ ★

### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

NOV 30

When you shop small and local, more than half the money you spend stays in the community, helping to support all sorts of local services, like the parks department. It's part of building a stronger, more vibrant neighborhood.



ShopSmall.com

Source: American Booksellers Association Indie Impact Study, Survey of Independent, locally-owned business owners, conducted by Civic Economics, July 2012–Sept. 2013. © 2013 American Express Company.

FOUNDING PARTNER 

# Thanksgiving is more than just turkey, football

Across America, the way we celebrate Thanksgiving Day is changing.

While the traditional gathering of family and friends around the great feast of food is still center stage, and collegiate and professional sports still dominate the television schedules, holiday shopping is easing its way into the Turkey Day line-up



Margo Pope

It used to be that grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations and restaurants and, businesses that catered to visitors (like here in Tourist Mecca St. Augustine) were all that opened on Thanksgiving. That's been slowly changing the past decade as competition heats up among retailers for a successful holiday season despite economic woes.

In recent weeks, more national Big Box retailers have announced plans to open Thanksgiving afternoon and evening. In fact, it would appear that Thanksgiving is the new Black Friday, the traditional start of holiday shopping. (Your local newspaper's ads will give you a heads up on who's opening Thanksgiving Day. You see a lot of familiar names.) And if national stores are open, you can be sure many of the local ones will be, too.

In mid-November, the Florida Retail Federation held a news conference to announce the holiday shopping forecast for Florida – mostly sunny – a 3.5 percent to 4.5 percent increase in sales over last year. Given that the economy is on the upswing and Florida's tourism numbers are climbing – expected to hit 100 million visitors for 2013 – it's hard not to see this happening.

Florida Retail Federation's Rick McAllister, president and CEO, put Thanksgiving Day shopping in perspective at that news conference. "Despite some claims last year that retailers would ruin the holiday by choosing to be open for business, consumers showed that given the opportunity, they are more than happy to make shopping a part of their Thanksgiving Day activities. It is a decision ultimately driven by customer demand, and it looks like Turkey Day shopping is here to stay."

So there you have it. Consumers generally want this shopping day and retailers need it. Store managers will tell you that this holiday shopping season is cut short by six days because the fourth Thursday in November falls so late this time.

We all should want to see our retailers succeed because their success benefits all of us: Businesses in our community, our neighbors who work in them, and our communities at large. The more sales, the better the economic health of a community. And few of those sales this holiday season will be exempted from the state's general sales tax, 6 percent on the dollar. What is collected in sales tax is revenue to state and local governments, fuel for improving our infrastructure that contributes to our quality of life. Florida is paradise. We don't want to lose that quality of life.

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

# Don't be showing your underwear

I was curious what a little general store off Interstate 95 in South Carolina would have to offer.



Tom Germond

So I took the exit, glad to get a reprieve from five hours of seeing the rear ends of semi trucks, the remains of tires and advertisements for South of the Border.

The store's shelves were brimming with jars of pickles, sauces and other products you wouldn't find at a conventional convenience store. It had character, was the way I'd put it.

However, the most interesting memento was not a product; it was the sign on the front door:

"If you wear your pants below your underwear, don't come in." Made the stop worthwhile. These days, you don't find too many retail establishments willing to make policies about fashion so clear.

Politically incorrect? Maybe. Didn't have time to find out what led to the signage.

Wish more businesses would be willing to speak forcefully about their policies pertaining to their customers' dress and behavior on their properties.

If I owned a business, particularly a restaurant, I'd make it clear that I won't tolerate anybody abusing their smoking privileges on my outdoor patio. In other words, use the ashtray.

I'd post a sign that reads: "If we catch you throwing a cigarette butt on the ground, we will make you eat it."

Further south, I found another interesting sign on the bathroom door at a convenience store in a small town in south Georgia.

It read, "if the door is locked, somebody is in the bathroom." And when he comes out, I hope he won't be showing his underwear.

\*\*\*

To the five or six readers who responded to my column about "help wanted" for our trivia team, I appreciate your interest, but the piece was written tongue 'n' cheek. We're not seeking members for the team.

Not open to bribes, either. Brad keeps us supplied with cookies, which he swears goes good with beer.

Don't feel comfortable about telling you the name of the pub where we play, either, because I can easily be replaced.

The only thing I've brought to the table lately has been my appetite.

\*\*\*

Always get a kick out of attending the Great American Teach-in. During the annual event, business representatives, government officials and others visit several classrooms and talk to students.

On Nov. 21 I spoke to four classes at Frontier Elementary School, located southeast of Belcher Road.

Spent much of the time answering questions. Good to know that there are so many inquisitive students out there – who weren't showing their underwear.

They wanted to know where I got my information from – how are papers printed, what happens if we make a mistake.

In one of the classes, I told students I had to write a story about the Nov. 14 sinkhole in Dunedin. Shouldn't have went there; I was peppered with questions.

What causes sinkholes? Will there be any in Largo? Can people be rescued if they fall in a sinkhole? Can sinkholes be prevented? This went on for 30 minutes.

Who do they think I am? A geologist? Just kidding. The teacher bailed me out.

Never have been any good at science; just ask the guys on my trivia team.

I would encourage any business to participate in the Teach-in. The most challenging part of the experience for me was getting there. I got bad directions from the Internet and discovered I was in the back of the school. Thankful I was going to hear the tardy bell.

Hope to participate again next year. I much rather listen to those kids than the rantings of some members of our condo association.

I'm now officially seeking somebody to replace me on the board on the board of directors. Interested? Send me a resumé.

You should know how to operate a firearm.

Tom Germond is executive editor of Tampa Bay Newspapers. Send him an email at tgermond@tbnweekly.com.

# Of hearing aids, fall-down buttons

Now we're at Thanksgiving, and I will tell you what I'm grateful for. I'm grateful for the companies that keep telephoning me, expressing concern about (A) my hearing, and (B) the likelihood that I will fall down somewhere and not be able to get up.

It's so grand that these unselfish persons have my welfare in mind. I'm not sure how they learned that I'm getting slightly deaf, which I am. I must assume that the Dum-Dum Ear Drum Co. has access to my private files and learned that I was born just after the Second Battle of Bull Run and therefore am getting a little wobbly in my ears, knees, brain and God knows what other attachments I rely on.

Or the Dum-Dum people may have canvassed my neighborhood, asking, "Do you know of any doddering, rickety old fogies to whom we can direct harassing phone calls?"

One hearing aid company has offered me \$50 in restaurant meals if I will only attend an hour-long lecture telling me why I should spend \$3,500 or so on their newest ear-plug device, which is the size of a lima bean and will allow me to hear the sound of a Dalmatian belching at a fire station two miles from where I'm standing. Such generosity overwhelms me.

It's not my own hearing that's entirely at fault. It's also the people around me who don't speak loudly or clearly enough. On some days I can barely make out the F-bombs, oh-my-gods and "awesomes" that form about 50 percent of their utterings. I'm especially impatient with movie directors who encourage actors to speak softly, under the assumption that this will make moviegoers pay closer attention to the dialogue. It doesn't. Au con-



Driver's Seat  
Bob Driver

traire, it causes half the confused, frustrated viewing audience to fantasize the joy of strangling the director, his/her spouse and their favorite cat.

My salvation, especially as I watch British movies and TV productions, is the captions button on my remote unit, which prints the dialogue on the screen. This allows me to follow the plot, sort of, unless it's a British detective thriller. The Brits have a habit of resolving a mysterious murder plot by revealing that the dead man's widow had given birth, at age 16, to a daughter conceived with a London janitor who, in 1946, had stolen a Soviet formula for converting shepherd's pie into an explosive that caused memory loss for anyone addicted to the Benny Hill show. TV captions don't help much in figuring out story lines like that.

I'll probably buy a hearing aid some day, but it will have to wait until I buy an alarm button that I wear around my neck each time I collapse into a helpless heap and must signal for a rescue squad, a SWAT team or whoever else the vendor has promised to send. That happened a few times during my drinking days, but not recently. Even so, the alarm button sales force has learned that I walk wobbly when I'm climbing Mount Washington and other uneven surfaces. To express their

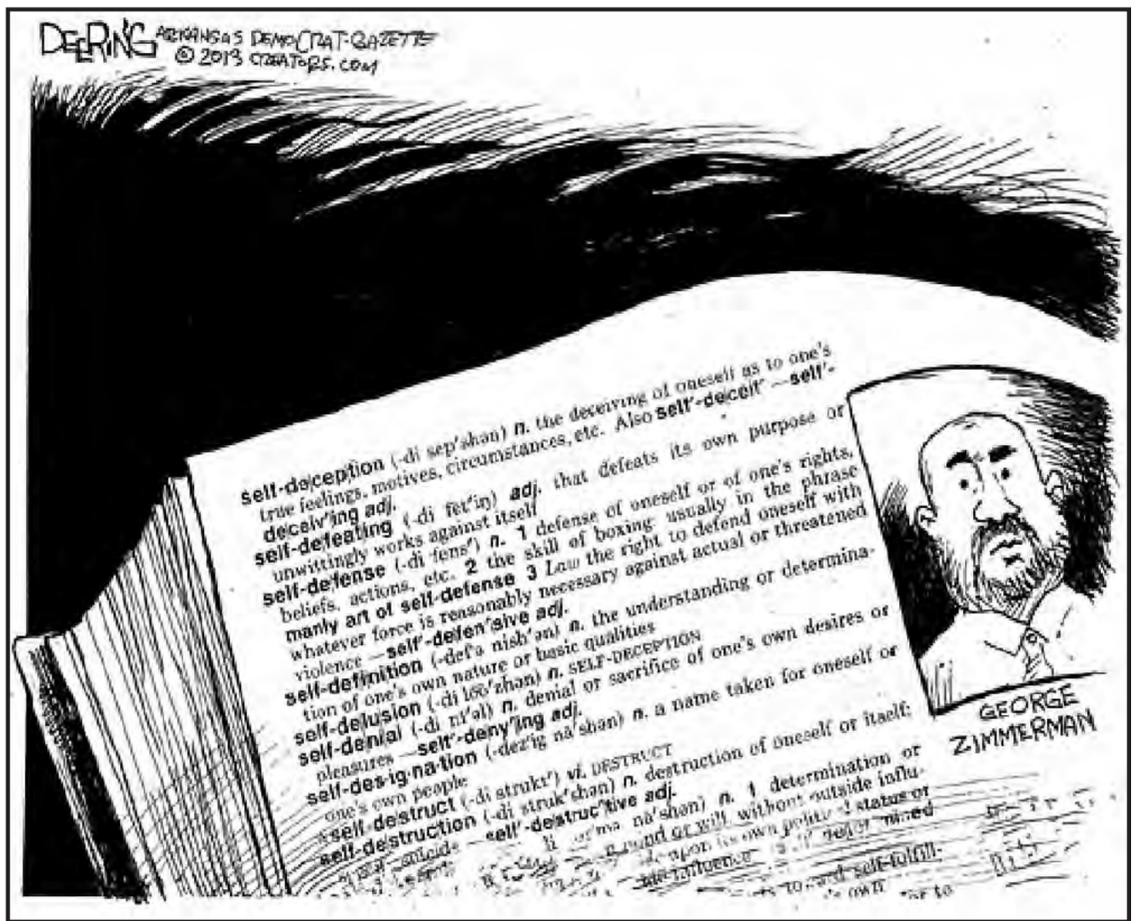
concern, the alarmists (my pet name for these tender-hearted shills) telephone me several times a week.

When I pick up the phone, a man's tape-recorded voice says, "Mr. Driver, do you know that the odds are 28 to 1 that you will slip and fall flat on your keister at least once during the next six months as you race to answer stupid phone calls such as this one? And because you are old and decrepit, you will probably lie there in agony, unable to call for help. Is this what you want? We don't think so. So we are willing to give you a magic alarm button that, when pressed, will notify your local police station or EMS squad that 'An old, decrepit and ugly man has just collapsed and needs help.' Within minutes, six burly men or women will force their way into your condominium building, find your unit number, and smash down your front door while shouting 'We're here, ugly old man! You're saved!'"

The tape continues, "The cost of this heart-warming response will be only \$95 for initial installation plus \$53 a month for the remainder of your generally useless life. If you do not wish to accept our offer at this time, we will phone you incessantly until you give up your foolish resistance."

I recently learned of a method to stop unwanted phone calls from persons (usually perverts) who don't say a word, but who just let you sit and listen to their breathing. What you do is announce, in a hoarse whisper, "It's done! But there's blood all over the place!" Then you quickly hang up. This should take care of at least a few of the phantom callers.

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



# Three Dems who kinda deserted

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi told "Meet the Press" on Sunday, "Democrats stand tall in support of the Affordable Care Act." Not in her backyard – in the nearby delta counties, some Dems are trying to distance themselves from Obamacare.

Last week, as Bay Area Democrats voted against a GOP House bill to allow insurers to sell plans that don't meet Obamacare mandates, Reps. John Garamendi, Ami Bera and Jerry McNerney joined 36 other Democrats to pass the Keep Your Health Plan Act by Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., in a 261-157 vote.

The most startling deserter is Garamendi, a former state insurance commissioner who voted for Obamacare amid much fanfare as a freshman congressman in 2010.

In a statement, Garamendi said he supported the Upton bill because every law "can be improved." While the Upton bill "has flaws," he hoped its passage in the House could lead to a good compromise bill.

Garamendi is right about the flaws. Upton's bill might provide relief to some consumers who face higher premiums when their plans run out in 2014, but only if insurers want to sell old plans. ACA supporters reject it because it would undermine Obamacare's everyone-in-the-pool mandate.

As happened with Bera and McNerney, Garamendi's staff declined my offer to talk about it. But his former aide, Democratic graybeard Darry Sragow, told me he assumes all three voted for the Upton bill because "it was the right thing to do." If you represent a district viewed as competitive, Sragow added,



Debra Saunders

Maybe Pelosi can tell her San Francisco constituents they should say good riddance to their old health plans, but such talk won't fly in Solano County, Calif.

"you want to make sure that you acknowledge the problems that have been encountered in rolling out Obamacare."

Problems? One million Californians will see their private plans canceled; many face steep premium increases as well as the loss of their doctors. Pelosi counters that those old policies were substandard. Maybe Pelosi can tell her San Francisco constituents they should say good riddance to their old health plans, but such talk won't fly in Solano County, Calif.

Republicans have been sending around a 2010 press release in which, like Obama, Garamendi boasted that the Affordable Care

Act means "that never again will your insurance run out or be taken away from you when you need it the most."

"He is more culpable than most Congress members because he was the insurance commissioner," argued GOP Assemblyman Dan Logue, who is challenging Garamendi next year. He "should have been well aware" of the litany of woes Obamacare would unleash.

Bera is a doctor. In a statement, the freshman vowed to "keep working to fix parts of the Affordable Care Act that aren't working." Three Republicans are vying in the Seventh District primary. GOP guru Rob Stutzman sees Bera as highly vulnerable.

McNerney has the least to fear next year. National Republican Congressional Committee press secretary Alleigh Marre tells me the NRCC is "still recruiting" a challenger. Yet McNerney seems the most miffed of the Delta Three.

In his statement, McNerney chided Obama for not keeping his pledge that if Americans liked their plans, they could keep them. Rather than trashing the old plans a la Pelosi, the former engineer sided with constituents who face premiums "as much as four times" their current charge for comparable coverage.

"It's more or less an admission of fear and vulnerability," said Stutzman, "that they have to buck Pelosi that strongly and rebuke the very law that they've enthusiastically supported." You might say they were for it before they were against it.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@schronicle.com

**Tampa Bay**  
**NEWSPAPERS**  
BEACON • LEADER • BEE

**Publisher/President:** Dan Autrey  
dautrey@tbnweekly.com

**Accounting Manager:** Andrea Marcarelli  
tbianody@yahoo.com

**Advertising Director:** Jay Rey  
jrey@tbnweekly.com

**Classified Advertising Manager:** Wendy Edwards  
wedwards@tbnweekly.com

**Executive Editor:** Tom Germond  
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

**Production Manager:** David Brown  
production@tbnweekly.com

**Internet Services Manager:** Suzette Porter  
webmaster@tbnweekly.com

**Beach Beacon:** Bob McClure  
bmccclure@tbnweekly.com

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

**Clearwater Beacon:** Alexandra Lundahl  
alundahl@tbnweekly.com

**Dunedin Beacon:** Tom Germond  
tgermond@tbnweekly.com

**Largo Leader:** Juliana A. Torres  
jttores@tbnweekly.com

**9911 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772**  
**727-397-5563 • Fax: 727-397-5900 • www.TBNweekly.com**

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

**Pinnellas Park Beacon:** Tiffany Razzano  
trazzano@tbnweekly.com

**Seminole Beacon:** Tiffany Razzano  
trazzano@tbnweekly.com

**General Editorial:**  
editorial@tbnweekly.com

**Circulation:** L. Shiflett  
Phone: 727-397-5563

**CPF** **PaperChain** **CIRCULATION COUNCIL**

# Healthy Living with



Edward White Hospital  
Largo Medical Center  
Northside Hospital  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
St. Petersburg General Hospital



## Solutions For Your Hip Pain

Tuesday, December 3 • 11:00 a.m.  
presented by Pat Kosiba, RN  
Florida Knee & Orthopedic Pavilion – Largo Medical Center  
Holiday Inn Express • 400 St. Petersburg Drive East, Oldsmar



## Spine Care You Can Trust!

presented by Paula Jewell  
Florida Spine & Neuro Center – Largo Medical Center  
Tuesday, December 3 • 11:00 a.m.  
The Centre Palm Harbor • 1500 16th Street Palm Harbor  
Friday, December 6 • 10:00 a.m.  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo  
Tuesday, December 17 • 11:00 a.m.  
Hampton Inn • 1200 34th Street N., St. Petersburg  
Thursday, December 19 • 11:00 a.m.  
Holiday Inn Express • 975 Broadway St. Dunedin



## Surgical Weight Loss: Getting Back To A Healthier, Happier You!

presented by Robyn Ache, DO – Bariatric & General Surgeon  
Bariatric Care Program at Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Tuesday, December 3 • 6:00 p.m.  
Hale Activity Center • 330 Douglas Ave., Dunedin



presented by Richard Gordon, MD – Bariatric & General Surgeon  
Bariatric Care Program at Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Thursday, December 5 • 6:30 p.m.  
Country Inn & Suites • 8050 US Hwy 19 North, Pinellas Park



presented by Tiffany Jessee, DO – Bariatric & General Surgeon  
Bariatric Care Program at Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Monday, December 9 • 6:00 p.m.  
presented by Bariatric Care Program at Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Howard Johnson Inn & Suites • 27988 US Hwy 19 North, Clearwater  
Tuesday, December 10 • 6:00 p.m.  
presented by Florida Bariatric Institute at Largo Medical Center  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th Street SW, Largo



presented by Ernest Rehnke, MD – Bariatric & Vascular Surgeon  
Bariatric Care Program at Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Thursday, December 12 • 6:00 p.m.  
Palm Harbor Library • 2330 Nebraska Ave., Palm Harbor  
Monday, December 16 • 6:30 p.m.  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital – Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room • 1609 Pasadena Ave. South, St. Petersburg



## Chronic Knee Pain? Our Doctor Can Help You Figure Out What's Causing It

Wednesday, December 4 • 11:30 a.m.  
presented by David Braun, MD  
Orthopedic Surgeon, Sports Medicine Specialist  
Edward White Hospital Auditorium Office Building  
2299 9th Ave. North Suite 1-G, St. Petersburg



## Chronic Sinusitis & Allergies: New Relief For Chronic Sinus & Allergy Sufferers

Thursday, December 5 • 11:30 a.m.  
presented by Patricia Gilroy, MD  
Ear, Nose, Throat & Neck Surgeon  
Edward White Hospital Auditorium Office Building  
2299 9th Ave. North Suite 1-G, St. Petersburg



## A New Solution to Everyday Freedom From Incontinence

Thursday, December 5 • 6:00 p.m.  
presented by Meenakshi Jain, MD – Gynecologist  
Presented by St. Petersburg General Hospital  
West St. Pete Community Library, Room LI 101  
at St. Petersburg College • 6700 8th Ave. N., St. Petersburg



## Diagnosing And Treating Shoulder Pain

Thursday, December 5 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Anthony Albert, MD – Orthopedic Surgeon  
Northside Hospital Auditorium • 6006 49th St. N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg  
(located in the Medical Office Plaza on the north end of campus)



## The Holidays Are Upon Us - Keep Them Happy By Learning How To Manage Your Stress

Wednesday, December 11 • 11:30 a.m.  
presented by David Hobbs, MD – Family Practitioner  
Edward White Hospital Auditorium Office Building  
2299 9th Ave. North Suite 1-G, St. Petersburg



## Spinal Stenosis

Wednesday, December 11 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Paul Pagano, MD – Orthopedic Surgeon  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room, 1609 Pasadena Avenue South, St. Petersburg



## Know Your Cerebral Aneurysm Risk

Wednesday, December 11 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Nasser Razack, MD – Interventional Neuroradiologist  
Northside Hospital Auditorium • 6006 49th St. N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg  
(located in the Medical Office Plaza on the north end of campus)



## Common Neurological Disorders In The Mature Population

Friday, December 13 • 11:30 a.m.  
presented by Alberto Vasquez, MD  
Director of the Palms of Pasadena Stroke Program  
Brentwood Senior Living Community – The Community Room  
6280 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg



## Stroke Series IV – Preventing Infection In Stroke Patients

Tuesday, December 17 • 12:00 Noon  
presented by Cassie J. Molina, BS RRT CIC - Infection Prevention Director  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital – Professional Building  
Boca Ciega Room 1609 Pasadena Ave. South, St. Petersburg



## Put Your Trust In Our Knee Care

presented by Pat Kosiba, RN  
Florida Knee & Orthopedic Pavilion – Largo Medical Center  
Wednesday, December 11 • 11:00 a.m.  
Gulf Beaches Public Library • 200 Municipal Dr. Madeira Beach  
Wednesday, December 18 • 11:00 a.m.  
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo  
Monday, December 23 • 11:00 a.m.  
The Centre Palm Harbor • 1500 16th Street Palm Harbor



All Educational Seminars are FREE.  
Reservations Required.  
Call 1-855-422-2228.  
Complimentary Refreshments Served.

# Dissolving device could replace metal stents in the heart

By ALEXANDRA LUNDAHL

CLEARWATER – People with clogged arteries who require a stent may have the opportunity to participate in a clinical research trial through Morton Plant Mease Hospital. This study could result in a fully functioning artery without having to have a permanent piece of metal remaining in the artery.

The trial is called ABSORB III and is testing the part, Absorb, an investigational bioresorbable vascular scaffold that is manufactured by the global health care company, Abbott.

Doctors Patrick Cambier and Bernardo Stein are the principal investigators of this trial at Morton Plant and are able to explain the study and initial problem in layman's terms.

Cambier is an interventional cardiologist at Morton Plant. To start at the beginning, he said that everyone knows that blocked arteries are a problem, and they cause people to experience the risk of chest pain, heart damage and the loss of productivity. When there is a blockage, the heart can not receive enough blood supply in order to do all the work that is required of it, so therefore it sends out a signal and results in shortage of breath or chest pain, Cambier said. This puts the person at risk for further complications, such as heart damage.

Over the years, the way doctors have treated this problem has evolved.

"We've traditionally treated these conditions with medicines, and subsequently, 20 years ago, started putting small balloons inside the arteries and stretching them open with angioplasty," Cambier said. "Angioplasty opens the blockage, allows better blood supply to flow in and relieve many of the systems."

The plaque in the heart is a soft, kind of cheesy material, Cambier said, that has the ability to be compressed. This flattens it against the wall of the vessel so the artery wall can ultimately absorb it.

However, the body's natural response in the healing process would often be to form scar tissue, which would once again block the arteries no differently than they were before the surgery to fix the blockage of cholesterol of plaque, he said. This would result in the same symptoms of chest pain and shortness of breath.

"About 15 years ago, people came up with the brilliant idea of putting devices inside the vessels to prop them open and allow the vessel to heal with a larger channel, so if scar tissue did form, the vessel would remain open enough to relieve chest pain once the healing process had completed," Cambier said. "And that would be the stent."

Cambier describes the stents as looking like a spring in an ink pen, and they do a better job than the balloon alone in helping to solve the problem. However, about 1 in 5 people still would develop enough scar tissue so that the artery would become blocked again, he said.

"So somewhere around eight to 10 years ago, we started putting medicine on the stents that were derivatives of chemotherapy drugs, which inhibited cells to grow, much like we treat cancer cells, and by putting small amounts of these drugs on the stent strut, it prevented this healing (scar) tissue to grow at all, leading to an even better main-

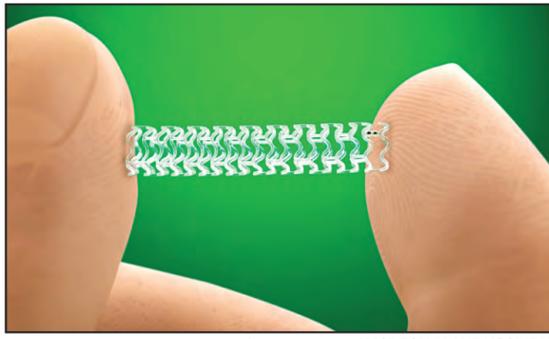


Image courtesy of MORTON PLANT HOSPITAL

**This Absorb scaffold is being used in a study instead of traditional metal stents to prop open arteries during the healing process after a blockage has been cleared. Unlike the stents, which remain in the body forever, this Absorb scaffold dissolves over time, and in about a year, the patient will be left with a normally functioning artery like it was before the blockage.**

tenance of the channel, and so patients had better durability and relief of their symptoms," Cambier said.

With the balloon opening the artery and squishing the plaque into the artery walls, the stent propping the artery open, and the medicine preventing the scar tissue from forming, it would seem that the problem has been solved, Cambier said. Now, less than one in 10 patients come back for re-treatment.

"But we still have one problem," Cambier said. "And that is that we're leaving a foreign body inside this delicate little artery. And that foreign body is made out of metal, which will stay there forever. And so people have been concerned that putting the metal corset inside the artery might alter the ability of the vessel to expand and contract the way a normal vessel works, and in doing so, potentially leading to an open artery but still with symptoms like shortness of breath as if they still had some impairment."

Cambier said some doctors suspect that with some patients, particularly when they exert themselves such as while exercising, that this inability for the artery to expand and contract like normal because of the metal stent causes similar symptoms as before, such as shortness of breath and pain.

However, Dr. Stein, interventional cardiologist with Clearwater Cardiovascular Consultants and Medical Director of the Catheterization Laboratory at Morton Plant Hospital, is not sold on this theory. He said that there is not enough evidence to prove that the metal stents cause these symptoms during exertion. However, there are other proven disadvantages to having permanent metal parts in one's heart.

"The main concern would be especially for patients who require multiple stents," Stein said. "The artery does not regain its normal function like an artery never requiring a stent. And if the patient requires bypass surgery later, it could be more difficult to find a place for a bypass graft because there are more stents in the body."

Whether one or both of those results from metal stents are correct, both doctors agree that it would be best to find a way to return the artery to a healthy, natural state so it can be most like the heart he or she was born with.

"So if we could design a way to deliver the drug that prevents the re-narrowing but on a platform that wasn't made out of metal, that would be very attractive because if that platform dissolved when we no longer needed to have anything in that artery at all because the opening of the blockage healed, we might have an artery that looks pretty normal about a year after that initial treatment," Cambier said.

The new Absorb contraption – now called a scaffold instead of a stent – functions exactly like a metal stent, only it dissolves over a period of time.

"The advantage of the new device, the scaffolding, is that it is absorbed by the body," Stein said. "It is made of a special substance called polyLactide, is a sugar-like product that the body is able to gradually absorb and convert into lactic acid. Lactic acid is a byproduct of

the metabolism, which the body can easily metabolize and get rid of."

By six months after placing the scaffolding, it is already partially dissolved, Cambier said. By a year, it should be almost completely dissolved. Conveniently, the healing process takes about six months to a year, so therefore the scaffolding will prop open the artery during the critical time but then be gone once it is no longer needed. It has propped it open and delivered the drug to prevent scar tissue, and now doctors want it to go away, he said.

"By using a dissolvable platform to deliver the same drug, we can not only deliver the same up-front benefits (as a stent), the healing of the artery, and the prevention of scar tissue forming, but also leave the artery with no residual metal stent in to allow the artery to function normally for the rest of the patient's life," Cambier said.

Risk factors that can lead to the initial blockages of arteries include high blood pressure and cholesterol, diabetes, smoking, and having a family history of vascular disease, Stein said.

"So control of risk factors are extremely important," Stein said. "Of course, smokers should abstain from smoking. For people with high blood pressure, strict control of high blood pressure with a low-salt diet (should be taken) and (they should) exercise, and even take medication."

For those with diabetes, they should control their weight, watch their diet, exercise, and take insulin if necessary to not only control the diabetes but also to reduce its risk of causing heart problems, Stein said.

However, patients who are already experiencing symptoms of coronary disease should see their doctor to have a stress test done, Stein said. This often shows a lack of blood supply to a certain area of the heart. If it is significant enough, then heart catheterization would be recommended, he said. The patient can ask their physician about the Morton Plant study, and the physician can refer them for the study.

The current study began just a few months ago, so there is still plenty of room for patients to join, Stein said. There are about 13 patients currently in the Morton Plant branch of the study.

It is a blind study, Cambier said, so therefore patients will not know if they get the new dissolvable scaffolding or the metal stent until the entire study is complete, but the placement of both types of devices are exactly the same, he said.

In either procedure, the patient is given local anesthesia, and a cardiologist places a small tube inside the artery called a sheath, Stein said. The cardiologist then advances a catheter over a flexible wire into the origin of the coronary artery, and after an iodine solution is injected, doctors can see on an X-ray where the blockage is precisely.

"Then, with a thin, coronary wire (goes to the right location) and then a balloon expands the blockages, and at that point, the patient is randomized to a drug-eluting stent or a bio-absorbable scaffolding," Stein said. "When I say randomized, the patient could go one way or another. We do not dictate whether they receive a stent or the scaffold. ... Once the stent or the scaffolding is deployed, the blockage is completely eliminated, and everything (all the tubes and wires) are removed out of the body and the patient recovers in a recovery area or a cardiac floor."

Often the patient can go home that day or the next day if there are no complications, and they can resume a normal life within a few days after the procedure, Stein said. Often, patients even go to work the next day.

Studies have many phases, depending on how far along they are in testing.

"This is what is called a pivotal trial in the United States," Cambier said. "The device is already being used in Europe, so this is a pivotal trial that the FDA uses before giving its final blessing. So it's something like what you'd call a Phase III study, but technically, much of the efficacy and safety has already been worked out, and we're simply looking at an American population, treated by American-trained physicians and their American-style treatment and ensure that the data that's been seen worldwide can be duplicated here."

Between 500,000 and 750,000 people have stents put in their arteries each year, Cambier said, and many of those people will have more than one stent in their lifetime. Therefore, this study could prove to have a large impact on many people, he said.

People should talk to their doctors to find out more about if they would qualify to participate in this study.

## What's Selling in Pinellas County

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



Executive home on Seminole Lake CC 6th fairway. Updated with modern kitchen featuring granite counters, furniture quality cabinets. Hardwood floors throughout. Hurricane windows in the entire house.

**Tom Cato**  
Realty Executives • Adamo & Associates

**St. Petersburg** **\$29,000**  
1BR/1BA



Corner ground floor unit. Updated kitchen and dining room has tile and newer lighting plus ceiling fans.

**Caroleanne Vorac**  
Realty Executives • Adamo & Associates

**Treasure Island** **\$220,000**  
2BR/2BA



Turnkey waterfront condo. Many upgrades throughout. New tile, new fixtures and vanities in bathrooms. Updated kitchen has granite counter tops, solid wood cabinets and more. New balcony overlooks the Intracoastal and fishing dock. Great investment, rental or full time home.

**Sandy Hartmann**  
Realty Executives • Adamo & Associates

**Seminole** **\$128,000**  
3BR/2BA



Great three bedroom home located in the heart of Seminole. Large open floor plan with the most incredible, lush backyard you will see!

**Justin Helmus**  
Homes and Estates Realty

## Industry news

### Largo Medical Center names new COO

LARGO – Largo Medical Center recently announced Mark Miller, MBA, MHA, has been appointed as new chief operating officer.

Miller comes to Largo Medical Center from Northside Hospital, in St. Petersburg, where he is the chief operating officer. Prior to that, Miller was an associate administrator with HCA's CJW Medical Center in Richmond, Va. He was also an administrative fellow at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

"Largo Medical Center is lucky to have the caliber in an administrative professional like that in Mark joining our team, our hospital family and our community," said Anthony Degina, CEO at Largo Medical Center, in a press

release. "His leadership and healthcare experience will help strengthen our hospital's programs, and assist us in improving the way we continue to put every patient's care first."

Miller received his undergraduate degree from Middle Tennessee University, and his MBA and MHA from the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University, where he was awarded the R.J. Nobel Scholarship for academic achievement by the faculty.

Miller's first day at Largo Medical Center will be Monday, Dec. 2.

### DOH-Pinellas offering free flu vaccines

LARGO – Protect yourself from the seasonal flu with a vaccine at no cost during the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas Flu Vaccine Clinic Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Mid-County Health Department, 8751 Ulmerton Road.

Flu vaccines will be provided from 5:30 to 8 p.m. while supplies last. They will be administered inside the health

department or outside at a "drive-through" that will allow visitors to complete the registration and vaccination without getting out of their vehicles. The evening clinic hours were designed to make it easier for families to come after work or after picking up children from after-school activities.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cases of influenza will increase into the winter season and will traditionally peak during January and February. It takes about two weeks to develop immunity after receiving a flu vaccine, so the Dec. 11 clinic will arrive in time for protection during holiday events and during the peak of flu season.

To learn more about the seasonal flu vaccine, go to [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov), which also has a search tool listing the nearest flu vaccine location. Flu vaccines are available at your doctor's office and at many clinics in each community.

For specific information on the location of the Mid-County Health Department, call 524-4410. For information about

DOH-Pinellas, visit [www.PinellasHealth.com](http://www.PinellasHealth.com).

### Shoulder pain seminar set

ST. PETERSBURG – A community seminar on shoulder pain will be presented Thursday, Dec. 5, noon to 1 p.m., at the Heart and Vascular Institute, 6006 49th St. N., Suite 230.

The seminar will be facilitated by Anthony Albert, M.D., orthopedic surgeon. Albert will discuss various options for diagnosis and treatment of shoulder pain.

To register, call 888-598-9586.

### St. Anthony's receives certification

ST. PETERSBURG – St. Anthony's Hospital recently was recognized by the Joint Commission as being certified in Advanced Inpatient Diabetes Care.

St. Anthony's is currently one of only four hospitals in Florida and one of about 70 hospitals in the nation to receive this designation.

"With more than 26 million adults and children suffering with diabetes in the United States, it is so important to have an action plan in place to provide the best care," said endocrinologist Dr. Venkata Budharaju in a press release. Budharaju is the medical director for St. Anthony's inpatient diabetes program. "This certification is a voluntary process and our team worked hard to meet this challenge to show that they are dedicated to provide excellent health care to our hospital patients with diabetes."

A team approach to diabetes often leads to the best outcomes for patients, studies show. The certified diabetes educators who oversee St. Anthony's inpatient and outpatient programs work with the patient and the primary health care provider to help patients with diabetes understand and manage their disease.

The inpatient diabetes certification program is based on the American Diabetes Association Clinical Practice Recommendations. The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies more than 20,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States.

Joint Commission accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

**PRIVATE LENDING**

Our lenders base mortgage loans on the value of your property ONLY!  
No credit reports  
No income verification  
No bank statements  
Minimum paperwork  
FAST closings  
Purchase or Refi  
Commercial.

**Call Mike today for more details.**  
(305) 923-4153

**STC Seminole Title Company**

**392-5906**

- Short Sales
- Residential/Commercial Closings
- 1031 Exchanges
- Reverse Mortgages
- For Sale By Owner Packages Available

8640 Seminole Blvd., Seminole, FL 33772

**COLDWELL BANKER**

**Rich Rippetoe's Recent Solds! Call Rich to Sell your home!**

**Sun Vista Realty**  
(727) 902-1437

**Exclusive Harbor View Subdivision**  
Custom built 5BR/5BA/5CG waterfront home on 4 acres in Seminole! This estate is tucked away in exclusive Harbor View subdivision.  
Asking \$1,759,000

**Sand Key Condo South Beach**  
Gulf side 2BR/2BA with over 1,300 Sq. Ft. Views of the Gulf and Intracoastal  
Lowest priced GulfFront condo at \$399,900

**Gulf Front Condo 1RB Gulf front condo**  
Spectacular 2/2 in a quaint 24 unit building built in 1993. Great investment property with 7 day minimum rental.  
Asking \$329,900

Sold & Closed over \$10 Million this year and still going strong!

**Rich Rippetoe, MBA, CRS, GRI, E-Pro**

**Call 727-902-1437**  
[www.BeachRealEstatePro.com](http://www.BeachRealEstatePro.com)

# Pinellas County comes together to share the holiday spirit

By SUZETTE PORTER

Every day there are people who go hungry in Pinellas. The sick, the lonely and the desperate need someone to care. Holidays are an especially difficult time for the poorest of the poor.

Fortunately, the holiday spirit burns bright in Tampa Bay. People from all lifestyles come together year after year to bring joy and hope to those in need.

Share the Spirit serves as a clearinghouse of information received from businesses, churches and organizations who are working to make the holidays a good time for all. To add to this list, send an email to [webmaster@tbweekly.com](mailto:webmaster@tbweekly.com).

## Food drive

### • Holiday food drive

**NORTH REDINGTON BEACH** – The town of North Redington Beach is hosting its third annual holiday food drive to benefit the Beach Community Food Pantry at Calvary Episcopal Church in Indian Rocks Beach. The food bank's wish list includes powdered milk, instant potatoes, flour, coffee, butter/margarine, oil and vinegar. Other possibilities are canned vegetables, fruit, tomato sauce, tuna, ham, sardines, spaghetti sauce, beans, soups, cereal, pasta and rice. Call 391-4848.

### • Food drive volunteers

St. Petersburg Salvation Army needs volunteers for the Pinellas County Schools Food Drive. The need is for donated trucks, drivers and loaders to pick up and unload food from schools. Pick-ups are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 2-6. For more information, call Gail Stark at 550-8080, ext. 332, email [Gail\\_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Gail_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org) or visit [www.sastpete.org](http://www.sastpete.org).

### • Holiday food drive

**ST. PETERSBURG** – Pasadena Presbyterian is having a holiday food drive in November and December to benefit the food distribution center that serves more than 120 families twice a month with groceries. Donations of non-perishable food such as canned or boxed foods and grocery store gift cards for turkeys are being accepted at a collection unit on church property at 100 Pasadena Ave. N., St. Petersburg, weekdays from 3 to 7 p.m. Call 388-4339 or visit [www.pasadenapc.com](http://www.pasadenapc.com). Suggested donations include soup, chili, stew, macaroni and cheese, ravioli, canned beans, pasta, rice, noodles, canned tuna, chicken or salmon, canned tomatoes, canned vegetables, canned fruit, mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, salad dressing, peanut butter and jelly. Donations of seasonal foods also are needed, including cranberry sauce, stuffing, cake mix, frosting, instant potatoes or gravy mix. Grocery gift certificates are appreciated.

### • Food for Fines

**CLEARWATER** – All Clearwater Public Library branches are offering an amnesty period for overdue materials in exchange for donation of non-perishable foods. The offer is valid through close of business Friday, Dec. 20. Last year the program netted literally tons of food and goods for the Religious Community Services Food Bank. Anyone who has fines due may bring canned goods or non-perishable food items to any Clearwater library branch and present them at the circulation desk with the overdue materials if available. Staff will waive any fines due and the donated food will go toward a holiday charity food drive. For more information, call 562-4970 or visit [www.my-clearwater.com/cpl](http://www.my-clearwater.com/cpl).

## Toy drives

### • Toy drives volunteers

**CLEARWATER** – The Marine Corps League's Morris F. Dixon Detachment 54 seeks volunteers to help with its Toys for Tots program. Those who want to help may call Ron Ashley at 517-6508.

### • Toys for Tykes

**SEMINOLE** – 10th annual Toys for Tykes children's benefit, Sunday, Dec. 8, 1 to 7 p.m., at Screwie Louie's Porpoise Pub, 8701 Seminole Blvd. Call 393-7616. Hosted by John Sullivan, TJ Sutton and Lou Falco. Three live bands, Diamond Gray, Sammy Davis Jr. and a special VIP guest appearance. Activities include raffles, games and auctions.

### • Holiday happy hour toy drive

**INDIAN ROCKS BEACH** – A holiday toy drive and happy hour, hosted by Century 21 and the Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association, is Wednesday, Dec. 11, 6 to 9 p.m., at Century 21 Beggins, 1511 Gulf Blvd. Toys for all ages are needed. Anyone unable to attend the happy hour may drop toys off at Century 21 Beggins or call Kathy Mac at 430-8974 and arrangements will be made to pick the gifts up.

### • Suncoast Brotherhood Toy Run

**DUNEDIN** – The 33rd annual Suncoast Brotherhood Toy Run is Sunday, Dec. 15. The run leaves with a police escort at noon from the Kmart parking lot, 26996 U.S. 19 N., and travels through the city of Dunedin. Proceeds will benefit Pinellas County Foster & Adoptive Parents Association. Everyone is asked to bring a \$5 donation and a new unwrapped toy. The gift giving celebration is at American Legion Post 275, 360 Wilson St. Enjoy live music by the Jenna Stone Band and vendors. For more information, call Chuckles at 736-4664 or Tony at 678-1876.

### • Toys for Tots collection site

**SEMINOLE** – The Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate

Bayou/Bardmoor office is an official drop site for Toys for Tots as announced by Manager Scott Humphries. The office is currently accepting donations. New, unwrapped toys may be brought to the office and placed in the Toys for Tots collection bin now through Monday, Dec. 16. The Bayou/Bardmoor office is located at 10801 Starkey Road, Suite 21, in the Bardmoor Plaza (next to the Dollar Tree Store) at the corner of Starkey and Bryan Dairy roads.

### • Toys for Tots collection site

**SEMINOLE** – Bellezza Tan & Spa, 8460 Seminole Blvd., is a drop-off location for the Toys for Tots program sponsored by The Marine Corps Reserve.

### • Toy drive

**DUNEDIN** – Back N' Balance, 1059 Broadway, Suite C, will host a toy drive Dec. 16-20. Patients who bring a new, unwrapped toy to an appointment at Back N' Balance between Dec. 16 and 20 will receive an adjustment for \$25. For information, call 733-6501.

### • Christmas Toys for Kids

**DUNEDIN** – Sound Mind Ministries of Dunedin is sponsoring the third annual Christmas Toys for Kids program to provide for 20 families. The goal is to help 80 children from birth to age 16 through the Christmas Room where parents, grandparents or guardians can choose up to two or three stocking stuffers and gifts per child. The Christmas Room will be open Friday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Dunedin office, 1130 Pinehurst Road. Sound Mind Ministries is a nonprofit 501-C3 organization. Donations for the Christmas Room are tax deductible. Call 329-6463.

### • Ride & Run with the Stars

**TIERRA VERDE** – Twentieth annual Ride & Run with the Stars, fundraiser for the Pinellas County Sheriff's Christmas Sharing Project, Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 a.m. to noon, at Fort De Soto Park. Registration is \$35. Call 582-5959 or register online at [www.rideandrunwiththestars.com](http://www.rideandrunwiththestars.com). Registration forms also are available at the Sheriff's Office, 10750 Ulmerton Road. Main events include a 25-mile bike ride, 10K Family Fun Run, 1-mile Family Fun Run/Walk and a new 5K chip-timed for fast and accurate results. Other activities include silent auction, climbing wall, prizes, food for participants and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus who arrive in a Sheriff's helicopter. Proceeds pay to provide holiday toys and food for families in need. Visit [www.facebook.com/RRWTS](http://www.facebook.com/RRWTS).

## Other ways to help

• **Christmas tree auction**  
Saturday, Dec. 7, JD's Restau-



nteers at the Citadel Corps, 3800 Ninth Ave. N., St. Petersburg for the following activities. For more information, call Gail Stark at 550-8080, ext. 332, email [Gail\\_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Gail_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org) or visit [www.sastpete.org](http://www.sastpete.org).

### • Christmas Food Sorting: Dec. 2-6

Volunteers will sort food collected from the fall school food drives and prepare bags for needy families. Hours are flexible from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lifting required.

### • Christmas Toy Sorting: Dec. 9-13

Volunteers will assist staff in sorting and packaging toys for needy children in the community. Hours are flexible from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Ten volunteers are needed each day.

### • Christmas Distribution: Dec. 17-19

Forty volunteers are needed each day to help with distribution of food, toys and other assistance to families from the community. Volunteers will work as escorts, runners, loaders, checkers, toy movers and carolers. Relational volunteers are needed. Flexible hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Clean-up in afternoon.

### • Joy Center Toyland Distribution

Clearwater and Upper Pinellas County Salvation Army needs volunteers for its The Joy Center Toyland Distribution Thursday, Dec. 19, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Help families with their toy selection, distribute food baskets, and assist the families in getting their items to their vehicles. Visit [www.salvationarmyflorida.org/clearwater/volunteer](http://www.salvationarmyflorida.org/clearwater/volunteer).

## Christmas meals, toy distributions

### • Family Christmas giveaway

Here We Grow Foundation Inc. is accepting sponsorships through Nov. 29. The organization will distribute the family Christmas packages Dec. 9-13.

Donations can be taken to 1171 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. Ideas include one gift that the whole family can share; one gift per adult, one to two toys per child, and food items for a Christmas meal. Call 1-888-958-2788 or email [herewegrowfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:herewegrowfoundation@gmail.com).

### • Free Christmas buffet

The People That Love Church and Mission, 817 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg, is offering a free Christmas buffet on Dec. 21, 3:30 p.m. The mission offers its free toys for kids' day on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 11 a.m. All children accompanied by a parent or guardian will receive a new toy and other goodies. The Christmas Eve buffet begins at 8 p.m., offering a free evening of food and joy for homeless guests and lonely neighbors. The mission ends the holiday season with a New Year's Eve Buffet on Dec. 31, 8 p.m.

### • St. Petersburg Christmas Eve community dinner

The Salvation Army needs 40 volunteers for the Christmas Eve Community Dinner on Dec. 24. Come help prepare, serve and clean up after the Community Christmas Dinner and sit down to enjoy a holiday meal with others. Meal times are from 2 to 4 p.m. for residents and the community. For more information, call Gail Stark at 550-8080, ext. 332, email [Gail\\_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Gail_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org) or visit [www.sastpete.org](http://www.sastpete.org).

## After Christmas

### • After Christmas assistance, Jan. 6-31

The St. Petersburg Salvation Army needs volunteers from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to check dates and stock food donated to the Social Services Department in the pantry at 340 14th Ave. S., St. Petersburg. For more information, call Gail Stark at 550-8080, ext. 332, email [Gail\\_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Gail_Stark@uss.salvationarmy.org) or visit [www.sastpete.org](http://www.sastpete.org).

**Celebrating 30 Years of Professional Lawn Spraying**

Mac Perry, author and past Pinellas Horticulture Agent controls over 40 different **Lawn Insects**, plus **Diseases**, plus **Weeds**, plus your **Shrubs and Trees** sprayed all for \$57 up to 5,000 sq. ft. Includes Fertilization.

- No Contract Required
- Free Analysis
- Call Janice 345-2875

**Household Pests Just \$30**  
**Flea Special \$34**

**The Original Mac Perry's Lawn-Guard, Inc**

Mac Perry was awarded the Conservation Metal from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for his "Dedication to the preservation of the natural resources of our country."

**THE EYECARE PROFESSIONALS**  
Eyecare ... Personal ... Professional

**CATARACT SURGERY**  
COURTESY TRANSPORTATION FROM & TO HOME ON THE DAY OF SURGERY  
**Complete Eye Exams • Glaucoma Care**  
(Most Insurances Accepted)

D. Heather Heath, M.D. • G. William Lazenby, M.D. • Frank J. Seidl, M.D.

2770 East Bay Drive, Largo • 727-530-1425  
1109 US 19N., Holiday • 727-934-5705  
[www.lazenbyeyecare.com](http://www.lazenbyeyecare.com)

**Erectile Dysfunction Drugs May Be Dangerous To Your Health**

**FREE book by doctor reveals what the drug companies don't want you to know!**

Dr. Kevin Hornsby, MD will mail the first 37 men that respond to this ad a free copy of his new thirty dollar book "A Doctor's Guide to Erectile Dysfunction." He's so sure this book will change your life he will even pay the postage and handling. If the popular pills don't work for you, regardless of your age or medical history (including diabetes and prostate cancer) you owe it to yourself and your lady to read this book.

Call Toll Free (800) 960-4255

**AUCTION**

**Waterfront Property in Suwannee, FL**  
5 1/2 acres—Offered in 7 parcels  
Minutes from the Gulf of Mexico

Auction conducted on-site Dec. 4th, 11am

For bidders packet: [www.BenCampen.com](http://www.BenCampen.com)  
Ben Campen, Lic. Real Estate Broker & Certified Auctioneer  
352-262-5348 or [Ben@BenCampenAuctioneers.com](mailto:Ben@BenCampenAuctioneers.com)

**All Annual Vaccines \$20 EACH with this ad**

**FREE Rabies Shots with annual exam.**  
NEW Clients Only. Must bring this ad.

**No appointment necessary**

**INDIAN ROCKS BEACH ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
727-596-9156  
12712 Indian Rocks Rd., Largo, FL 33774

Matt Facarazzo, D.V.M.  
NEW LOCATION

**CUSTOM HAIR**  
HAIR REPLACEMENT FOR WOMEN

**Thin Hair??**

- Human & Synthetic Hair Wigs & Additions
- Permanent, Non-Surgical Options
- Chemotherapy & Alopecia Specialists
- Largest selection in Tampa Bay, Orlando & Sarasota

**Not a Wig!**

**SERVING TAMPA BAY SINCE 1969**  
[www.CustomHairTampaBay.com](http://www.CustomHairTampaBay.com)

**CLEARWATER MALL**  
(Next to Costco & Behind David's Bridal)  
2643 Gulf to Bay Blvd. • 727-725-1052

**HOURS:**  
Tues.-Fri. 10am-5pm  
Sat. 10am-4pm

**e-Editions**

**Get The News ALL FOR FREE!**

**Sign Up Today!**  
[www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com)

**Get the Look of a \$20,000.00 Pair of Diamond Earrings... FREE\***

To show you the amazing sparkle and shine of our exclusive NovaBright DiamondExcels, Lindenwold Fine Jewelers will send you a dazzling pair of NovaBright DiamondExcel stud earrings, 4 ct. t.w., FREE - \*you pay only \$4.95 for shipping, handling and insurance.

The NovaBright DiamondExcel is the ONLY diamond simulant cut with an amazing 106 facets; other simulants and even mined diamonds are cut with only 58 facets.

In special light testing, the DiamondExcel emitted 72% more sparkling light than a high-grade mined diamond.

See for yourself - the 106-facet, 4ct. t.w. Diamond-Excel earrings will outshine any jewelry you own.

Call Now 1-800-613-7231, only for the next 72 hours. One pair per household.

**Offer Code: K1730**

**SG & ASSOCIATES**  
THE LAW OFFICES OF **Steven J. Glaros & Associates**

**Marital & Family Law**  
• Divorce  
• Child Support  
• Custody  
• Paternity

**Personal Injury Law**  
• Auto Accident  
• Slip and Fall  
• Wrongful Death  
• Dog Bite

**Criminal Law**  
• DUI Defense  
• Drug Offense  
• Traffic Violations  
• Expungement / Sealing of Records

**FREE CONSULTATION!**

[www.glaroslaw.com](http://www.glaroslaw.com) • Se Habla Español

**PINELLAS PARK**  
5315 Park Blvd. N. Suite 3  
727.545.8633  
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

**TAMPA / OLDSMAR**  
13513 Prestige Place, Suite 101  
813.854.1234  
Tampa, FL 33635

**NEW PORT RICHEY**  
6232 Madison St.,  
727.938.2900  
New Port Richey, FL 34652

Steven Glaros • Attorney

# Discussion targets Florida's 'weirdness'

SEMINOLE – What is it that makes Florida seem like the capital of weirdness? Why does it seem as if all of the world's misfits, eccentrics and scammers wind up in the Sunshine State? And, more significantly, what can we do to preserve the real Florida – the unique qualities that motivated so many of us to migrate here in the first place?

Those are some of the questions that a respected Florida historian and storyteller will tackle at the next Village Square dinner at St. Petersburg College on Thursday, Dec. 5. The dinner will feature history professor and author Gary Mormino in a program titled "Oh, Florida: Capital of Weirdness." The moderator will be Earl Fratus, associate professor of political science and history at SPC. The dinner and program will be from 6 to 8:15 p.m. at the Campus Conference Center of SPC Seminole, 9200 113th St. N. Advance registration is required.

The program represents a change of pace in the Village Square's typical menu of hot-button state and national issue debates. Recent programs have focused on immigration reform, gun control, FCAT/Common Core, and climate change/sea level rise. "Oh Florida" will be a somewhat whimsical but candid discussion of the challenges the state faces to preserve the last vestiges of Old Florida by a writer and teacher who has spent much of his career in that effort.

Mormino, professor emeritus of Florida history at USF St. Petersburg, has written extensively about how Florida has changed in the decades since World War II. His seminal book, "Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams: A Social History of Modern Florida," is a comprehensive social history of the Sunshine State as it evolved from the rural, backwoods culture portrayed in the books of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings to become the mega-state that it is today – fourth largest in population, soon to become third.

The Village Square is a forum for nonpartisan debate of key state and national issues that operates under the Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions at SPC. The Institute serves as a resource for academic enrichment, a nonpartisan venue for civil debate and civic engagement.

Media co-sponsors of the Village Square are the Tampa Bay Times and WEDU.

Registration for Village Square members is \$25; for guests, \$30, and for educators and students, \$20. They can be made online at [spcollege.edu/solutions](http://spcollege.edu/solutions), click on the Village Square tab. By mail, send checks to Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions, P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733.

For more information, call 394-6251.

## To victory!



Photo by BRAD RICHARDSON

Indian Rocks Christian senior wide receiver Robbie Wendel (7) and the rest of the Golden Eagles take the field at the start of their Class 2A regional finals game Nov. 22 at home against Naples First Baptist Academy. The Golden Eagles claimed a 28-14 victory, sending them to the state semifinals for the first time in school history. The game will be Friday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m. at Indian Rocks Christian School.

## Rays players to co-chair Ties & Tennis Shoes Gala

ST. PETERSBURG – Three members of the Tampa Bay Rays – Matt Joyce, Brandon Gomes and Jake McGee – will serve as honorary co-chairs for the Pinellas Education Foundation's Ties and Tennis Shoes Gala at Tropicana Field on Dec. 6.

Proceeds from the event will increase the number of scholarships available to help deserving Pinellas students attend college or technical school through the Foundation's Take Stock in Children Scholarship program.

This whimsical evening, where women dress in cocktail attire but complete their look with tennis shoes, will feature dinner, a "Ties the Season Shoppes" where a variety of vendors will sell gifts of all kinds, a silent auction, craft beer tables (with drink ticket purchase), as well as an inflatable obstacle course, jousting, table tennis, battle bots, slap shot hockey, baseball, basketball and more.

General admission tickets are \$35 with entrance to the event at 7 p.m. VIP tickets are \$125 with entrance at 6 p.m.

There will be no tickets sold at the door. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.tiesandtennissshoes.com](http://www.tiesandtennissshoes.com)

After the Friday night fun, enjoy a Saturday morning run at Tropicana Field. Take part in the Foundation's Ties and Tennis Shoes 5K Run/Walk, one-mile fun run or kids dash. Registration is at 6:30 a.m. on Dec. 7 with the run at 7:30 a.m. Participants will cross the finish line on the field on Rays Vision.

Cost is \$30 to register until Dec. 1 and \$35 after with proceeds going to the Foundation's Take Stock in Children Scholarship program. Join or create a team by visiting [www.tiesandtennissshoes.com](http://www.tiesandtennissshoes.com).

After the race, participants can enjoy the Santa Parade and head down to the City of St. Petersburg's Snowfest in Straub Park.

The Tampa Bay Rays Baseball Foundation, Raymond James, the Helios Education Foundation, St. Pete's Promise, The Tampa Bay Times, Bright House Networks, Clear Channel Outdoor, City of St. Pete and others, sponsor these events.

## Erectile Dysfunction Drugs May Be Dangerous To Your Health

**FREE book by doctor reveals what the drug companies don't want you to know!**

Dr. Kevin Hornsby, MD will mail the first 37 men that respond to this ad a free copy of his new thirty dollar book "A Doctor's Guide to Erectile Dysfunction." He's so sure this book will change your life he will even pay the postage and handling. If the popular pills don't work for you, regardless of your age or medical history (including diabetes and prostate cancer) you owe it to yourself and your lady to read this book. Call Toll Free (800) 960-4255

## Toenail Fungus? Laser Solution!

Call 727-586-3668

F.D.A. Cleared

Laser Nail Fungus Treatment kills the fungus that lives in and under the toenail. The laser light passes through the toenail without causing damage to the nail or the surrounding skin. There is a warming sensation and some patients may feel a pinprick. Just walk in and walk out. The laser nail fungus procedure only takes 15-20 minutes. Shoes and nail polish can be worn immediately after the treatment.



Largo Foot and Ankle Center  
1680 West Bay Drive, Largo, FL  
727-586-3668

Dr. Dale R. Monast  
Podiatric Physician & Surgeon

Board Certified in Foot and Ankle Surgery  
Diplomate of the American Board of Podiatric Surgeons

## Notebook

### Breakfast with Santa set

LARGO – The 22nd annual Breakfast with Santa will be Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 to 11 a.m., at St. Jerome Early Childhood Center, 10895 Hamlin Blvd.

Advance tickets are \$6 each or \$30 for a family of five or more. Tickets at the door are \$7 each or \$35 for a family.

The event is open to the entire community. Tickets include breakfast, face painting, kiddie-crafts, and a visit with Santa. Pictures with Santa, a raffle and a gift shop are available at additional costs.

For information, call 596-9491 or visit [stjeromeearlychildhoodcenter.org](http://stjeromeearlychildhoodcenter.org).

### Three CCC seniors sign national letters

CLEARWATER – Clearwater Central Catholic High School seniors David Paul of Tarpon Springs, Brenden Overton and Derek Gibree, both of Largo, recently signed national letters of intent to play college athletics.

Paul committed to Palm Beach Atlantic University to play baseball. Paul, a pitcher for the CCC Marauder baseball team, ended his junior year with a 1.32 ERA,



Photo courtesy of CLEARWATER CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Pictured are, from left, David Paul, Brenden Overton, Clearwater Central Catholic High School head coach Todd Vaughan, Derek Gibree and assistant coach Bob Gibree.

92 strike-outs and an 11-1 record. At the plate he hit over .400. In his sophomore and junior years he was named Most Valuable Player and was named Suncoast Region Pitcher of the Year as a junior.

Overton committed to play baseball for St. Leo University. As a junior for the CCC Marauder baseball team he hit for a .370 average and led both the team and county in home runs. Last year, he was selected to the Second Team All-County and First Team All-Suncoast. He has also played for the 16U USA team.

Gibree has committed to play baseball for St. Leo University. He led the CCC Marauder baseball team in batting with a .425 average. As a junior, Gibree was

named Defensive Player of the Year and was selected to the Pinellas All-County Team and the All Suncoast Team.

### Countryside swimmer signs with Cincinnati

CLEARWATER – Ryan Peters, a senior swimmer at Countryside High School, recently signed a national letter of intent with the University of Cincinnati.

Peters is the Class 4A state champion in the 200-meter freestyle and the runner-up in the 100 backstroke. His relay team came in first in the 200 free relay and third in the 400 free relay.

Peters plans to study industrial design at UC. He will join his TBAY teammate Dean Waite who is a freshman at UC this year.



Ryan Peters

### Staples awards grant to Blossom Montessori

CLEARWATER – Staples Foundation, the private charitable arm of Staples Inc., recently awarded \$1,000 to Blossom Montessori School for the Deaf under a program that lets Staples associates direct donations.

The grants are part of a philanthropic initiative created by Staples Foundation which allows Staples associates around the world to direct funding to non-profit organizations that are focused on education or job skills. The program encourages local community engagement by awarding larger grants to organizations where associates are highly engaged in volunteering or fundraising – up to \$25,000 per organization.

The program, called 2 Million and Change, will award funds to organizations around the world, reaching more than \$2 million in grants by the end of the year. In 2012, associates globally directed more than \$2.1 million of Staples Foundation grants to 470 non-profit organizations.

"Staples Foundation is committed to making a positive impact in the communities where our associates live and work," said Katy Dobbs in a press release. Dobbs is director of global community and giving for Staples Inc. "Through our program, we are pleased to support our associates and the local non-profit organizations that matter to them most."

**U.S. BASEBALL ACADEMY**

Get a jump on the competition with six weeks of hitting, pitching, catcher, and fielding/baserunning lessons as low as \$99. Hosted at:

**Clearwater Christian College**  
**January 26 – March 2**

★ Sessions for Grades 1-12	★ Early Sign up discounts
★ Top area coaches	★ Space is limited
★ 6:1 ratio	★ Register now. Pay later.

Don't fall behind the competition! Phone (866) 622-4487 or visit [www.USBBaseballAcademy.com](http://www.USBBaseballAcademy.com)

**Clinical study for Irritable Bowel Syndrome**

**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 your time and travel

**Florida Center For Gastroenterology**  
Dr. Arthur Berman, Dr. Michael Schulman, Dr. Steven Beljic, Dr. Marc Kudelko, Dr. Justin Nudell, Dr. James Barthel

Please contact Joann at 727-544-1600 or [clinicalstudiesfcfg@yahoo.com](mailto:clinicalstudiesfcfg@yahoo.com)  
8250 Bryan Dairy Road • Suite 200 • Largo, FL 33777

## FAMILY PRACTICE & INTERNAL MEDICINE

Todd Clarkson, D.O.

Donald Collins, D.O.

Dr.'s Todd Clarkson and Donald Collins remain committed to maintaining the standards and traditions of excellence their patients expect and deserve.

**F**our physicians and three Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners work out of 2 office locations. Our East Bay Medical Center offers visits during "Lunchtime" hours to better meet your scheduling needs.

**2 Convenient Locations to Better Serve You.**

**Oakhurst Medical Clinic**  
13020 Park Blvd., Seminole, FL 33776 • 727-393-3404  
[oakhurstmedicalclinic.com](http://oakhurstmedicalclinic.com)

**East Bay Medical Center**  
3800 East Bay Drive, Largo, FL 33771 • 727-539-0505  
[eastbaymedicalcenter.com](http://eastbaymedicalcenter.com)

[www.oakmed.com](http://www.oakmed.com)  
Medicare, Humana Medicare Advantage Plan, and most other insurance plans accepted.

Roger Schwartzberg, D.O., F.A.A.I.M.

Betsy Parker, A.R.N.P.

Gail Quail, MSN, A.R.N.P.C.

John Jarboe, A.R.N.P.

Marianne Fisher, CEO

# Thank people who go above and beyond

As a mom of two little girls, I try to set a good example of helping others and serving others. I think it's important to teach our kids that everything is not just about them.

It's hard. We are in the "me" generation, and people feel they are entitled to things. This entitlement mentality can be costly and have a negative impact on society. That's why when people exceed others' expectations it can really have a positive impact on everyone around them and can truly make a difference in their lives.



**Mom 2 Mom**  
Kadi Hendricks  
Tubbs

My family was on a road trip recently, and we were in line to pay the toll. When we got to the tollbooth operator, he told us someone ahead of us had paid for us. It wasn't something we were expecting, and all we could do was smile and say, "Wow!" We felt special, and it made our day. We even told others about what happened to us that day. One person's thoughtfulness and dollar touched all four of us in the car.

I am fortunate to work for a person who likes to go above and beyond for her employees and her clients. She enjoys "delighting" people and giving people "white glove" service or what we call at our company "white dove" service. We want to make our clients feel extra special.

The funny thing is, it not only makes them feel special, but we also feel good because we know we are doing our best for them.

We decided to start something new this past month to recognize our co-workers who we see going above and beyond the call of duty. We started giving out "White Dove" service awards. These awards are in recognition of our employees who exceed "white dove" service to our clients or to others in our office. An example would be an employee working on a project even after work hours to get something done for a client or maybe helping out with something that isn't exactly in their job description.

These awards are very encouraging to our employees because they get recognized for their good deeds, and it's also fun because our boss has a drawing at the end of each month for those nominated, and they can win a \$50 gift card.

Because my boss likes to encourage this positive behavior, she thought we should start recognizing people in the community who go above and beyond in serving others. To highlight people in the community, we are using social media and Facebook. When you see someone go above and beyond the call of service, you can recognize them and nominate them for the "White Dove" service award. My boss wants to include the community in the \$50 gift card drawing at the end of the month.

I think this is the perfect time to start looking for those who give "white dove" service, especially since we are coming into the hustle and bustle of the holidays and all the holiday shopping. I am hoping there are tons of people who can be recognized for a job better than well done.

If interested in nominating someone for a "white dove" service award go to [www.facebook.com/trustbiz](http://www.facebook.com/trustbiz) and put the person's name and what they did to deserve this honor. If you want you can even include a photo of them. Come back to the Facebook page the last Friday of the month starting in December and see if your nominee won.

As we kick off the holidays, let's build community spirit. Just think if everyone took the time to help and serve others a little bit more - rather than be served - how our world would be a little bit brighter.

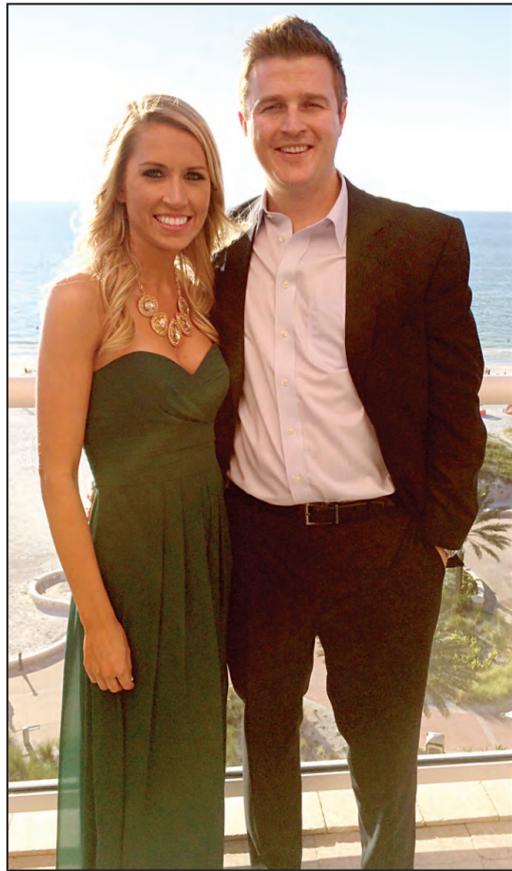
Kadi Hendricks Tubbs, mother of two girls ages 7 and 9, lives in Seminole. Visit her blog at [Mom2MomFamilyFun.blogspot.com](http://Mom2MomFamilyFun.blogspot.com).

## Fenech-Schaedel

John and Patricia Fenech of North Redington Beach, recently announced the engagement of their daughter, Meaghan Patricia Fenech, to Michael Charles Schaedel, son of Robert and Linda Schaedel of New Smyrna Beach. The wedding is planned for Oct. 25, 2014, at St. Jerome Catholic Church, Largo.

The bride elect is a 2006 graduate of Seminole High School. She attended the University of North Florida where she earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood learning in 2010. She is a teacher at Shorecrest Preparatory School in St. Petersburg.

The groom elect is a 2003 graduate of Bishop Moore Catholic High School. He attended Florida State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Economics in 2008. He is an account executive with Fidelity Investments in Tampa.



Meaghan Patricia Fenech and Michael Charles Schaedel will be married Oct. 25, 2014.

## Sydners celebrate 75th Anniversary

Robert and Beryl Sydnor celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary with about 100 friends at the November meeting of the Largo Area Historical Society Nov. 11. Honoring the couple were many relatives from out of town and about 75 members of the historical society. Society member Bonnie McGee interviewed the Sydners with many great questions.



Robert and Beryl Sydnor



## Worship calendar

### Pasadena Presbyterian

ST. PETERSBURG - A food drive is currently underway through December at Pasadena Presbyterian, 100 Pasadena Ave. N.

Donations of nonperishable food such as canned or boxed foods and "paper turkeys" (grocery store gift cards) are being accepted at a collection unit on the property. Donations may be dropped off weekdays from 3 to 7 p.m. For information, call 388-4339 or visit [www.pasadenapc.com](http://www.pasadenapc.com).

### Hope Presbyterian Church

CLEARWATER - Fall activities are well underway at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road.

The church hosts youth and younger youth groups, Wednesday Night Alive, traditional Sunday morning worship and newer alternative worship gathering every Sunday evening. Call 531-3200 or visit [www.HopeFamily.com](http://www.HopeFamily.com).

### Beth-El Shalom Messianic Congregation

ST. PETERSBURG - A Chanukah celebration will be presented Friday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m., at Beth-El Shalom Messianic Congregation, 1701 29th Ave. N.

The event will feature the lighting of the 10-foot menorah. Potato latkes will be served. Attendees will have an opportunity to sing Chanukah songs, dance and play games. Attendees may bring their own menorah and candles and join the united lighting ceremony. All are welcome and admission is free. For information, call 345-7777 or visit [www.Jewishheritage.net](http://www.Jewishheritage.net).

### Good Samaritan Church

PINELLAS PARK - An inspirational, free concert will be presented during the worship service on Sunday, Dec. 1, 10:30 a.m., at Good Samaritan Church, 60085 Park Blvd.

Marsha Stevens-Pino and Cindy Stevens-Pino will present contemporary Christian music and share information about their BALM Ministries for people from all walks of life who feel they have somehow been excluded from the good news of the Gospels. Marsha has been called the "mother of contemporary

Christian music" and has written many familiar songs including the classic "For Those Tears I Died (Come to the Water)."

All are welcome to the concert. A love offering will be taken. For additional information, visit [goodsam-church.org](http://goodsam-church.org).

### Pinellas Ladies Prayer Committee of Florida

CLEARWATER - The Pinellas Ladies Prayer Committee of Florida will host the seventh annual fundraiser to celebrate Jesus' birthday and to honor local military families on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 6 p.m., at Matheos Hall, 409 Old Coachman Road N.

The event will feature a silent auction and children's store as well as refreshments, fellowship and Christmas music performed by local Christian performers.

The Pinellas Ladies Prayer Breakfast Committee of Florida is a volunteer committee of ladies from all denominations who have joined together on the National Day of Prayer to pray for families, churches, communities, local, state and national leaders.

Attendees are asked to bring a gift card of a minimum of \$20 to support a wounded veteran and his/her family. RSVP by Dec. 2, to Jo Davis at 430-5003 or email [JoDavis41@aol.com](mailto:JoDavis41@aol.com).

### Calvary Episcopal Church

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH - An Advent Quiet Morning will be offered Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m., at Calvary Episcopal Church, 1615 First St.

Fr. Jon Roberts will be the spiritual leader for this event. This is a morning of quiet prayer and meditation and enables Christians to incorporate the good news of Advent more deeply into their lives. All are invited. Call 595-2374.

### Hope Presbyterian Church

CLEARWATER - The annual Christmas Marketplace will be presented Sunday, Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m., in Hambley Hall, at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road.

The marketplace funds the mission and ministry of Hope Church. Great gift and bake sale items will be available for purchase. The event also will feature fun, friendship and fellowship.

The entire community is encouraged to come be a part of this holiday shopping event

where unique and reasonably priced items will be available for purchase.

For information, call 531-3200 or visit [www.hopefamily.com](http://www.hopefamily.com).

### Chabad Jewish Center of Greater St. Petersburg

ST. PETERSBURG - A full course Shabbat dinner will be presented Friday, Dec. 13, at the Chabad Jewish Center of Greater St. Petersburg, 4010 Park St. N.

The event also will feature professional cantor Rabbi Levi Kaplan. Kaplan will inspire attendees with songs and stories.

The Cantorial Shabbat will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Cost for those who RSVP prior to Monday, Dec. 9, is \$18 for adults, \$10 for children and \$50 for a family. Thereafter, the cost is \$20 for adults and \$12 for children. To RSVP, call 344-4900 or visit [www.ChabadSP.com](http://www.ChabadSP.com).

With his rich baritone voice and passion for chazzanut, Kaplan began training in his early teens under the tutelage of famous cantors and voice coaches in New York. For the past 20 years he has performed at congregations and venues across the U.S. and abroad.

Additionally, for the past 13 years Kaplan, a dynamic educator and animated teacher, has directed the Ivy League Torah Study Experience, an exclusive summer learning retreat in the Catskills for promising young Jewish leaders of the next generation.

Kaplan is also the director of TorahCafe.com, the online division of the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) which features thousands of lectures on Jewish topics across the spectrum, given by some of the most sought after speakers in the Jewish world today.

Kaplan also will lead Shabbat morning services on Saturday, Dec. 14. All are invited to participate free of charge. A special Kiddush will follow services.



Rabbi Levi Kaplan

## Obituaries

### Carl Groover HAYES

age 80, passed away at McCall Hospice House in Simpsonville, S.C., November 19, 2013. For a full obituary, please visit [www.thomasmcafee.com](http://www.thomasmcafee.com). Thomas McAfee Funeral Home, Southeast.

## Handel's THE MESSIAH Part 1

### The Pinellas Lutheran Choir

Director - Robert Drick  
Soloists • Instrumentalists

Sunday, December 8, 3 p.m.

Free Will Offering • Reception Follows

Grace Lutheran Church

4301 16th St. N. • St. Petersburg, FL 33702

[www.grace-lutheran.com](http://www.grace-lutheran.com) • 727-527-1168

Co-Sponsors: Thrivent Financial for Lutherans & The Valparaiso University Guild



## Church and Temple Directory

Tell the Public About Your Services Call • 397-5563

## St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

DAILY MASS: Monday - Friday 7:00am  
Monday & Wednesday 12:10 • Saturday 8:00 am

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:  
Monday & Wednesday 11:40 am - Noon  
Saturday 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

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

Parish Administration Office 727-531-7721 • [www.SCOParish.org](http://www.SCOParish.org)

1955 S. Belcher Road • Clearwater

## USED UP YOUR DEDUCTIBLE? TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

"Don't let your PAID up deductible go to waste!  
Immediate appointments are available and we have  
extended our hours for your convenience on  
Tuesday, December 10 & Thursday, December 12,  
Tuesday, December 17 & Thursday, December 19  
until 7:30pm.



Accepting Most Insurance Plans



9170 Oakhurst Rd. - Suite 1 - Seminole - 727-517-3376



5200 Seminole Blvd. - Seminole, FL 33708

A Divisions of Florida Dermatology and Skin Cancer Specialist

[www.armstrongdermatology.com](http://www.armstrongdermatology.com) - [www.westfloridadermatology.com](http://www.westfloridadermatology.com)



When you need help with elder issues.

Dennis "Rep" DeLoach III  
Board Certified in Elder Law

Elder Law | Medicaid Planning  
Wills & Trusts | Probate

(727) 397-5571

8640 Seminole Blvd. Seminole, FL

When you need help.



helpforyouelder.com

# A gusty performance: dolphins' wild ride from Punta Gorda

An unforgettable brightness recently pierced a thickly overcast day the way Christmas lights infuse a dusky snowfall with cheer. And, as dolphins do so well, their bright escapade raised questions about what actually goes on at sea.



**Dolphin Watch**  
Ann Weaver

Midmorning on that dim day, in the middle of the watery route we survey for the federal government, we happened upon six bottlenose dolphins. Their pewter and silver coats blended beautifully with the grays of the day.

Two were mothers with young of the year. J is an experienced mother and kept her tiny 2-month-old solidly at her side. Stick, having a second go at motherhood, foraged some distance from her little 3-month-old. Her cavalier mothering could be excused – this time – because she had babysitters.

The other two dolphins, Stick's age-mates Bet and Slightwin, securely flanked Stick's tiny twig and gently rambled around with it.

All that changed when the broad and gleaming Ginny C, here from the community of Punta Gorda south of John's Pass, powered up modestly as it cut through the dolphins' watery patch. Her broad beam and captain's speed created the perfect waves for surfing. The dolphins headed over instantly. Stick vanished under the bow. The babysitters vanished into its foamy wake with their charge. J and her calf swept in a quarter mile ahead.

Though powered by the unhesitant dolphin opportunism, the ladies' seamless coordination argues that they had to have communicated their intentions to surf to one another across those gloomy seas.

There is little evidence that dolphin vocalizations clearly refer to something specific the way, for example, the sound of "boat" clearly refers to a vessel for navigating the waterways or "Let us surf to the Narrows!" imparts an unambiguous intention. Yet they all seemed to agree on something, for they turned and zipped over as one.

Just as flawlessly, Capt. John Heidemann seized the moment and positioned us parallel but safely to the side so that I could photograph the dolphins'

gusty performance for the record.

And performance it was! The two moms stayed next to their babies in the water, showing them how dolphins ride down the faces of rolling waves. Their breathing surfaces became cameo appearances between Bet and Slightwin's spectacular leaps.

For 10 minutes, Bet and Slightwin leapt more than 3 dozen times, alternating between individual and synchronous leaps just inches apart. They sure clipped it close! They even appeared at times to be nudging each other while airborne.

Whether leaping alone or in tandem, each dragged one fluke in the water the way an athletic dancer always knows the distance between her and the dance floor.

In my private life of dolphins, Bet and Slightwin already have celebrity status for their aerial behavior. Slightwin gave us the most magnificent display of dolphin aerial agility to date last year, when she performed or exhibited or executed or just flirted with the young bull PC in a small private cove via a brilliant series of nimble aerobatics.

Bet has always been a "jumpy" dolphin, usually jumping as a form of greeting, though she stopped this during the two years she spent with her ailing baby Ballou.

Bet has recently lost Ballou and her most frequent adult companion as well. Her "best friend" Face died in September under grisly circumstances; it is not clear that Bet knows this. But Bet's first and only calf, 2-year-old Ballou, vanished within the month of Face's death.

There is no doubt that Bet knows that the baby dolphin that had been at her side for 28 months is gone. Ever since Ballou disappeared, with a couple of exceptions, we have seen Bet surfing wildly as she did this gloomy day. It is an unmistakable change in her behavior.

Dr. Barbara Brunnick of Jupiter has studied free-ranging bottlenose dolphins, spotted dolphins and killer whales extensively for the last 40 years. Upon hearing of Bet's new found wild surfing behavior, she commented simply that Bet had "found



Photo by ANN WEAVER

These two young female bottlenose dolphins, one that has been surfing wildly like this since she lost her little calf last month, are competing for space or spurring each other on. Maybe both!

a way to cope."

I am interested in the circumstances of Bet and Slightwin's wild ride. Though in the same age-sex group (both born in 2004), Bet and Slightwin have not "grown up together." In fact, for the last five years, which is as far back in the database I looked for this story, these two age-mates have shown the uncanny tendency to appear in the study area on alternate weeks.

We have seen Bet 73 times and Slightwin 80 times in that time, but only together in the same

group 22 times (14 percent of the time).

Maybe their competition for space was spurring them on, and it just looked like fun to us.

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

## Winter trout keep anglers busy

Make no mistake about it, winter without a doubt has arrived. After what has been the best fall in recent years, it's hard to complain. A trifecta of weather systems will converge on us by mid-week producing rain and near gale-force winds, but perhaps worst of all will be the drop in water temperature. I think it's safe to say we can say goodbye to seasonal bait stocks.

This is not all doom and gloom, however. Plenty of good fishing happens around here in the winter. Lucky for us we have one of the best trout populations anywhere in the gulf and if you're like me you get pretty excited about the arrival of the gator trout to our shallows. Using an artificial lure, these large sea trout will take soft plastics and hard baits alike. For those wanting to start the day off with live bait, it's most likely time for live shrimp.

Having good weather for fishing when it's convenient for your schedule becomes much less reliable over the next two months. Fish in general receive

**Fish Tales**  
Capt. Tyson Wellerstein

less pressure and if you do make it out on an in-between cold front day it can be fantastic. However, the reality is that you're going to miss some time on the water. This is the time to get yourself ready for better days ahead. I'm

as guilty as the next one when it comes to neglecting my vessel. Anyone who owns a boat will agree there are some things that need a little TLC around what is most likely their prized possession. However you go about it, top to bottom or bow to stern, surely you'll find enough projects to keep you busy. Confidence comes with preparation and there is something to be said about knowing the inter-workings of your vessel.

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

## Gardening notes

### Garden tours to be offered

LARGO – Free vegetable, herb and tropical fruit garden tours will be offered Thursday, Dec. 12, 9 to 11 a.m., at Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Ulmerton Road.

Attendees will learn more about growing their own food as they marvel at the eye-catching array of culinary, medicinal and aromatic herbs, trees and flowers in Extension's Florida Botanical Herb Garden. Guests will wander the brick paths between the Egyptian, Mediterranean, Asian

and beverage plantings and learn how the featured plants can be used in the home. Visitors also will learn more about the tropical fruits that do well in the Florida climate including many varieties of bananas, figs, papayas, mangoes, avocados, sugar cane and citrus as well as little-known fruits that are not usually considered by the home gardener including jackfruit, carambola, Buddha's Hand and pomegranate.

The tour features a diversity of plantings includ-

ing a wide variety of ground covers, bromeliads, palms and power-line friendly trees can be used in home landscaping. These tours, recommended for adults, are limited to groups of 14 to 16 people.

Advance registration is required. Call 582-2500 or visit [www.eventbrite.com/event/6241882639/eorg](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/6241882639/eorg).

### Tree ID program set

TARPON SPRINGS – A free program on identifying trees will be presented Saturday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m. to noon, at Brooker Creek Preserve, 3940 Keystone Road.

A local natural resource agent will discuss the basics of how to identify area trees. The presentation will include a guided tree identification 0.75-mile walk. Closed-toe shoes, water and hat are recommended. The program is best for ages 6 and older.

Advance registration is required. Call 453-6800 or visit [www.brookercreekpreserve.org](http://www.brookercreekpreserve.org).

### Park to host nature hike

LARGO – A monthly nature hike will be offered Saturday, Dec. 21, 5:30 p.m., at McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th St., Largo.

Attendees will take a guided walk through the woods, seeking out animals such as birds, raccoons, owls, opossums, bats and more. Flashlights are optional. The hike is free, but donations are kindly accepted. To preregister, call 518-3047.

**SPECIALIZING IN FADES, BUSINESSMEN'S & FLAT TOPS**

**JOHNNY'S BARBER SHOP**

**NEW OWNER JOHN GLUFF**  
17 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE ~ GRADUATE OF INDIANA BARBER COLLEGE

**Tuesday - Friday, 8:00 - 5:00 • Saturday, 8:00 - 2:00**

**PLAZA 100 SHOPS ~ 100 INDIAN ROCKS ROAD  
BELLEAIR BLUFFS ~ 727-584-8181**

**CLIP N' SAVE**

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE!**

Largo Lions Club Spotlight Series  
17th Anniversary Special Holiday Performance & More!

**Tony Kenny's Christmas Time in Ireland**

Tony Kenny, Ireland's Premier Entertainer, and his all-star cast will take your breath away during this amazing holiday performance with youthful dancers and arousing sing alongs of favorite Christmas songs.  
Monday, December 9, 2013

	Monday Monday A Mama's & Papa's Tribute Monday, January 13, 2014		The New Odyssey Monday, March 10, 2014
	Alter Eagles - The Definitive Eagles Tribute Band Monday, February 10, 2014		Yesterdayze Monday, April 7, 2014

ALL SHOWS ARE 2 PM AND 7 PM

**2013/2014 Season Tickets:**

- Best Value • 5 Show Series \$17.50 x 5 shows \$87.50 • Individual Ticket \$22.50
- 4 Show Series \$17.50 x 4 shows \$70.00 • Group 10+ \$19.50

Largo Cultural Center  
105 Central Park Drive  
off East Bay Dr. between  
Highland & Seminole Blvd.

**(727) 587-6793**

LargoArts.com or [www.largolionsclub.org](http://www.largolionsclub.org)

Prices and schedule subject to change. The City of Largo adds a \$3.50 handling fee per ticket.

Thank You! We are truly grateful to our sponsors:

Hammill Tire & Auto, Large Medical Center, Best Buy, McGILL, Village Inn, USAAmeriBank, Lions Dick & Beverly Lingle, DR. RONALD TUCKER, HAZARD PROPERTY, Hampton.

**Hurricane Security Windows**

*Surround Yourself with Peace of Mind!*  
**Prepare NOW! Don't Wait Until it is too Late.**

CGC1516020

**STORM FITTERS**® Windows • Doors  
Hurricane Shutters

**SPECIAL OFFER**

<b>LIMITED TIME</b> ENTIRE HOUSE of <b>WINDOWS</b> \$3,199*	<b>LIMITED TIME</b> ENTIRE HOUSE of <b>SHUTTERS</b> \$1,699*
-------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------

Vinyl Frame, Insulated Dual Pane, Non-Impact, Screens, Lifetime Warranty

Aluminum or Fabric Panels

\*Up to 10 Units, Up to 88 U.I. Each

- 30 year trustworthy reputation
- Thousands of Local References

**STORMFITTERS Corporation**  
**727-544-0575**

Call for Free Home Inspection & Estimate

2501 Anvil Street North  
St. Petersburg  
[www.stormfitter.com](http://www.stormfitter.com)

**2013 Reader's Choice Award BEST Service Center 5 Years #1**

**Hummel Tire & Auto** **TECH-NET Professional AUTO SERVICE**

Family Owned Most Extended Warranties Accepted BBB Service Center Reg# MV-68432

**FREE! Inspections!**

- Brakes
- A/C
- Cooling System

**4 Wheel Alignment Special!**

- Check Suspension for Worn Parts
- Check & Adjust Tire Pressure • Check for Tire Wear
- Reset Toe Angles to factory specs

Most cars and trucks Exp. 12/6/13

**\$59.95** Reg. \$85

**\$17.98** Oil, Lube, Filter

- 5 qts. of 10W-30 Conventional Oil • Expert lube
- 27 pt. maintenance inspection • 5W-20 & 5W-30 oil \$4.00 extra

Coupon Expires 12/6/13. Good only at Hummel Tire & Auto. By appointment. Plus tax & disposal fee. Most cars & light trucks. Offer not valid with any other discounts or promotions. We accept all competitors coupons. Must present at time of service.

**Fall Service Special!**

- Lube, Oil, Filter Service (up to 5 qts. 10W30)
- Tire Rotation • Brake Inspection
- Air Filter Replacement (Some air filters are extra)
- Replace Wipers (Some models extra)

**\$59.98** Reg. \$79

Coupon Expires 12/6/13. Good only at Hummel Tire & Auto. Plus tax & disposal fee. Most cars & light trucks. Offer not valid with any other discounts or promotions.

**Pre Purchase Car Inspection!**

**\$39.95** Peace of mind inspection. Written report provided. By appointment. Expires 12/6/13

**WE ACCEPT COMPETITORS' COUPONS**

**8350 Seminole Blvd. 393-2216**

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5:30 • Sat. 7:30-3:00

# Diversions

Events • Movies • Classifieds

Largo Leader, Section B, November 28, 2013 • Visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com)

**Thanks-Giving-It-Away Sale**  
**Friday, Nov. 29 & Saturday, Nov. 30**  
**All Jewelry 25% OFF**  
**SILVER QUEEN**  
**BELLEAIR COINS**  
 Gold & Diamonds Since 1972  
 Honesty, Integrity & Reliability  
**1350 West Bay Drive**  
**Largo, FL 33770**  
**TOLL FREE 888-436-6463 • [www.belleaircoins.com](http://www.belleaircoins.com)**

## Top five diversions

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

• **Madeira Beach Thanksgiving Weekend Craft Festival**, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 30 through Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Madeira Way between Gulf Boulevard and 150th Avenue, Madeira Beach. American Craft Endeavors will host this festival, now in its second year. Madeira Way will be lined with fine crafters from all areas, displaying their works for sale at this community festival. Attendees will find a wide variety of ceramics, jewelry, stained glass, metal works and much more. Admission is free.

• **The 23rd annual Thanksgiving Art and Craft Festival**, sponsored by the Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 30 through Dec. 1, at 111 E. Tarpon Ave., Tarpon Springs. The outdoor showcase has been a holiday favorite for more than 22 years, and has always been presented during Thanksgiving weekend. With the holidays right around the corner, this is the perfect opportunity for locals and visitors alike to shop small business for their gift giving needs. Historic Tarpon Springs, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is widely recognized as a spirited arts destination. The weekend's event will feature the original works of new and upcoming talent as well as established artists and crafters. There is something for everyone here - from folk art, earthenware, and paintings, to wearable art, body products and personalized gifts. For information, visit [www.SIKPromotions.com](http://www.SIKPromotions.com).

• **Dave Koz and Friends Christmas Tour 2013**, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$35. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.ruth EckerdHall.com](http://www.ruth EckerdHall.com). Dave Koz and Friends Christmas Tour 2013 is an uplifting, high-energy show the whole family will love. Get into the holiday spirit as some of music's biggest names jam on fresh, lively arrangements of seasonal favorites, led by multi-Grammy nominee and saxophonist extraordinaire Dave Koz. Joining Koz this year are Japanese born pianist/composer/producer Keiko Matsui, who has shared the stage with everyone from Stevie Wonder to Miles Davis; world-renowned singer Oleta Adams, who first came to prominence when Tears for Fears asked her to appear on their "The Seeds of Love" album and who has released eight acclaimed CDs of her own, crossing effortlessly between R&B, jazz, popular and gospel music; and Jonathan Butler, who was the first black artist played on white stations in his native South Africa and has since earned accolades in the R&B, contemporary jazz and gospel fields.

• **Trans-Siberian Orchestra**, Sunday, Dec. 1, 3 and 7:30 p.m., at Tampa Bay Times Forum, 401 Channelside Drive, Tampa. Tickets start at \$32.75. Call 813-301-2500 or visit [www.tampabaytimesforum.com](http://www.tampabaytimesforum.com). TSO will celebrate their first 15 years of touring with an encore and final performance of their multi-platinum rock opera, "The Lost Christmas Eve." TSO, whose phenomena has grown year after year, has played over 1,500 shows for more than 10 million fans in the past 15 years, and quietly became one of the world's biggest arena rock acts. The unprecedented fan driven growth is a testament to TSO founder Paul O'Neill's vision of "Rock Theater," the perfect amalgamation of Broadway storytelling with the spectacle of rock, delighting audiences of all ages year after year.



Photo courtesy of RUTH ECKERD HALL  
**Dave Koz performs Nov. 30 at Ruth Eckerd Hall.**



From left, Anna, Olaf, Kristoff and Sven share an adventure in Walt Disney Studios' "Frozen."

Photo courtesy of WALT DISNEY STUDIOS

## Opening this weekend

Disney's 'Frozen' thaws the box office; Spike Lee directs 'Oldboy'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

### 'Frozen'

Genre: Adventure and animation  
 Cast: Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff, Josh Gad, Santino Fontana and Alan Tudyk  
 Director: Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee  
 Rated: PG

Walt Disney Animation Studios, the studio behind "Tangled" and "Wreck-It Ralph," presents "Frozen," a stunning big-screen comedy adventure.

Fearless optimist Anna (voice of Kristen Bell) sets off on an epic journey - teaming up with rugged mountain man Kristoff (voice of Jonathan Groff) and his loyal reindeer Sven - to find her sister Elsa (voice of Idina Menzel), whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom of Arendelle in eternal winter. Encountering Everest-like conditions, mystical trolls and a hilarious snowman named Olaf (voice of Josh Gad), Anna and Kristoff battle the elements in a race to save the kingdom.

### 'Oldboy'

Genre: Thriller  
 Cast: Josh Brolin, Elizabeth Olsen, Sharlto Copley, James Ransone and Samuel L. Jackson  
 Director: Spike Lee  
 Rated: R

"Oldboy" is a provocative, visceral thriller that follows the story of Joe Doucette, a man who is abruptly kidnapped and held hostage for 20 years in solitary confinement, for no apparent reason.

When he is suddenly released without explanation, he begins an obsessive mission to find out who imprisoned him, only to discover that the real mystery is why he was set free.

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

### 'Black Nativity'

Genre: Drama and musical  
 Cast: Forest Whitaker, Angela Bassett, Jennifer Hudson, Tyrese

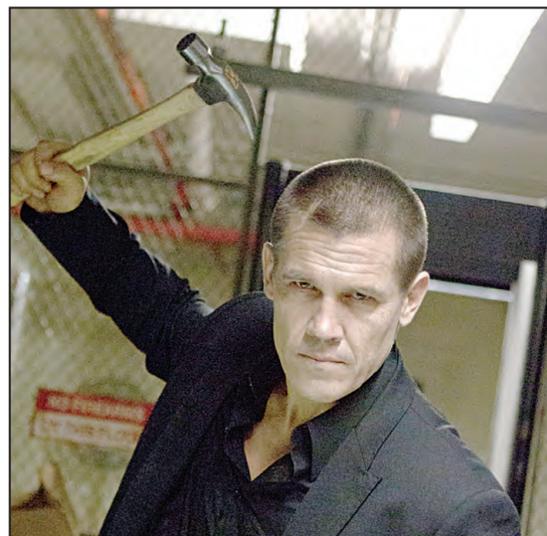


Photo by HILARY BRONWYN GAYLE

Josh Brolin stars in Spike Lee's "Oldboy."

Gibson, Jacob Latimore, Nas and Luke James

Director: Kasi Lemmons  
 Rated: PG

In a contemporary adaptation of Langston Hughes' celebrated play, the holiday musical drama "Black Nativity" follows Langston (Jacob Latimore), a street-wise teen from Baltimore raised by a single mother, as he journeys to New York City to spend the Christmas holiday with his estranged relatives, the Rev. Cornell and Aretha Cobbs (Forest Whitaker and Angela Bassett).

Unwilling to live by the imposing Reverend Cobbs' rules, a frustrated

See **OPENING**, page 8B

## LOWER YOUR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

"THE SILENT KILLER"

## FREE 16 WEEK PROGRAM

conducted by The Research Institute of America

- ✓ NO MEDICATIONS TO TAKE
- ✓ DIET AND HABIT CHANGES
- ✓ RELAXATION TECHNIQUES



Our 16 week program uses the same proven techniques as the Weight Watchers program!

Please call Michele at 727-421-0704 to register

It's time to reduce the costs and complications of medication!

727-421-0704

300 South Duncan Avenue | Suite 188  
 Clearwater, Florida 33755

112813

[www.SandyHartmannHomes.com](http://www.SandyHartmannHomes.com)

**727-420-7510**

**Sandy Hartmann & Associates**  
 Realty Executives—Adamo  
 The Power of Knowledge, The Gift of Caring

**PRICE REDUCED**

**1.25 ACRE WATERFRONT PARADISE**  
 • 4BR/3BA/6CG + NEW ROOF • New state of the art Trane AC  
 • Paved covered patio overlooking the water  
**\$809,876**

**SEMINOLE BLVD OFFICE COMPLEX**  
 • 7 SUITES TOTAL • High traffic area  
 • Large parking lot  
**\$2,200,000**

**PRICE REDUCED**

**WATERFRONT OAKHURST SHORES HOME**  
 • 3BR/2BA/2CG + DOCK • Wide open water views  
 • Huge screen enclosed patio  
**\$550,000**

**PRICE REDUCED**

**SEMINOLE HOME BUILT IN 2007**  
 • 5BR/3.5BA/3CG + OFFICE • Gourmet style kitchen  
 • Huge 5th bedroom could be media room  
**\$529,000**

**4 ACRE WATERFRONT PROPERTY**  
 • Prestigious Park St. • Private marina with covered boat port and tie poles for large yachts  
**\$3,900,000**

**SEMINOLE EQUESTRIAN ESTATE**  
 • 2.5 private acres • 6,500 Sq. Ft. main home  
 • 6,000 Sq. Ft. stable & RV garage  
**\$2,500,000**

"From our family to yours, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends."

112813



# Music scene

## Capitol Theatre welcomes Michael McDonald; Chris Cornell plays the Mahaffey

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

The **97X Next Big Thing** concert will be Saturday, Dec. 7, noon, at Vinoy Park, 501 Fifth Ave. NE, St. Petersburg.

Tickets start at \$25. Visit [www.97xonline.com](http://www.97xonline.com).

The lineup will feature Thirty Seconds to Mars, Stone Temple Pilots with Chester Bennington, A Day to Remember, Jimmy Eat World, Dirty Heads, Manchester Orchestra, Pepper, Sleeping with Sirens, Frank Turner and the Sleeping Souls and Saints of Valor.

The **93.3 FLZ Jingle Ball** will be presented Wednesday, Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m., at Tampa Bay Times Forum is at 401 Channelside Drive, Tampa.

Tickets start at \$26. Call 813-301-2500 or visit [www.tampabaytimesforum.com](http://www.tampabaytimesforum.com).

This year's lineup will feature Miley Cyrus, Robin Thicke, Enrique Iglesias, Flo Rida, Paramore, Austin Mahone, Ariana Grande, Jason Derulo, Fifth Harmony and Travis McCoy.

The Ruth Eckerd Hall On the Road series will present **Blast Friday with Little River Band** on Friday, Dec. 27, 5:30 p.m.

The will be presented on the Tampa Bay Times Cleveland Street Stage in downtown Clearwater. This free street festival will feature a variety of vendors as well as food, beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. The street fair begins at 5:30 p.m. with entertainment outside until 10 p.m.

Little River Band was originally a blend of musicians who had enjoyed success in other Australian acts. With their good song writing, powerful vocals and guitar harmonies, they immediately claimed their place as one of the great vocal bands of the '70s and '80s. Some of their chart-topping hits include "It's a Long Way There," "Help Is On Its Way," "Happy Anniversary," "Reminiscing," "Lady" and "Cool Change."

A limited number of VIP packages are also available which includes a general admission ticket in the reserved seating section directly in front of the Tampa Bay Times Stage, one beer and one slice of pizza from Tony's Pizzeria. VIP packages cost \$25. For information, call 791-7400 or visit [www.RuthEckerdHall.com](http://www.RuthEckerdHall.com).

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

### Capitol Theatre

- Michael McDonald: This Christmas - An Evening of Holiday and Hits, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Rockapella, Friday, Dec. 20, 8 p.m.
- B.B. King, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 9 p.m.

Capitol Theatre is at 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.theatrecap.com](http://www.theatrecap.com).

### Jannus Live

- Alabama Shakes, Friday, Dec. 6, 9 p.m.
  - Megadeth, Sunday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.
- Jannus Live is at 16 Second St. N., St. Petersburg. Call 565-0550 or visit [www.jannuslive.com](http://www.jannuslive.com).

### Largo Cultural Center

- Rock 'n' Roll Holiday Concert III featuring Tommy Mara and The Crests and Cornell Gunter's Coasters; Thursday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.
  - Tony Kenny's Christmas Time in Ireland, Monday, Dec. 9, 2 and 7 p.m.
- Largo Cultural Center is at 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Call 587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com).

### The Local 662

- The Revivalists, Thursday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.
  - Jessica Hernandez & the Deltas, Monday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.
  - Sylhh 7.0, Saturday, Dec. 14, 10 p.m.
- The Local 662 is at 662 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 258-4829.

### The Mahaffey

- The Florida Orchestra: Mahler's Symphony No. 1; Friday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m.
  - Chris Cornell, Friday, Dec. 6, 9 p.m.
  - The Florida Orchestra: Mahler's Symphony No. 1; Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m.
  - The Florida Orchestra: Sounds of Celebration; Thursday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m.
  - Mix 100.7 Acoustic Christmas featuring Goo Goo Dolls, The Fray and ZZ Ward; Friday, Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.
  - The Florida Orchestra: Holiday Pops; Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 and 8 p.m.
  - Chris Isaak, Sunday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.
- The Mahaffey is at 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Call 892-5767 or visit [www.themahaffey.com](http://www.themahaffey.com).



Photo by JAKE CHESSUM/MAHAFFEY THEATER

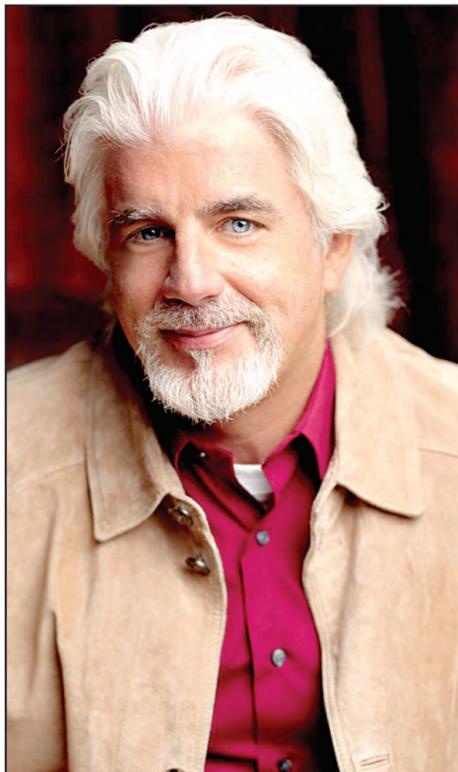


Photo courtesy of CAPITOL THEATRE



Photo by AUTUMN DE WILDE/THE FUN STAR

Above, Jannus Live welcomes Alabama Shakes Dec. 6. At left, Chris Cornell plays the Mahaffey Theater Dec. 6. At center, Michael McDonald brings his holiday concert to Capitol Theatre Dec. 18.

### Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre

- Arab Idols 2013 Stars, Saturday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
- The Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds is at 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Call 813-740-2446 or visit [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com).

### The Palladium at St. Petersburg College

- Nate Najjar's Jazz Holiday, Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m.
- The Palladium at St. Petersburg College is at 253 Fifth Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Call 822-3590 or visit [www.mypalladium.org](http://www.mypalladium.org).

### The Ritz Ybor

- August Burns Red, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.
  - The Devil Wears Prada, Sunday, Dec. 8, 6 p.m.
- The Ritz Ybor is at 1503 E. Seventh Ave., Tampa. Call 813-247-2518.

### Ruth Eckerd Hall

- Bonnie Raitt, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 8 p.m.
- Yanni, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.
- Yanni, Thursday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.
- Huey Lewis and The News, Friday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m.
- Bowzer's Holiday Rock 'n' Roll Party, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.
- Hungarian Stage Folk Ensemble, Sunday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m.
- The Florida Orchestra: Mahler's Symphony No. 1; Sunday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.
- The Fresh Beat Band, Thursday, Dec. 12, 5 p.m.
- New York Tenors Christmas, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 p.m.
- The Florida Orchestra: Holiday Pops; Sunday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.
- A Peter White Christmas, Monday, Dec. 16, 8 p.m.
- Trace Adkins Christmas Show, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 8 p.m.
- Rockapella Holiday, Friday, Dec. 20, 8 p.m.

- ZZ Top, Friday, Dec. 27, 8 p.m.
- Ruth Eckerd Hall is at 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Call 791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com).

### Skipper's Smokehouse

- Galbraith Group, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m.
  - Unknown Hinson, Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m.
  - Suncoast Blues Society Holiday Party featuring the Nick Moss Band and the Lauren Mitchell Band, Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m.
  - Dean Johannesen, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.
  - Hendrix, Osborne & Key, Friday, Dec. 27, 8 p.m.
  - Zach Deputy, Saturday, Dec. 28, 8 p.m.
  - Donna the Buffalo, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m.
- Skipper's Smokehouse is at 910 Skipper Road, Tampa. Call 813-971-0666 or visit [www.skipperssmokehouse.com](http://www.skipperssmokehouse.com).

### State Theatre

- Danny Brown, Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m.
  - Papadosio, Thursday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m.
  - Rocking the Holidays, Friday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.
  - Jon Oliva's Pain, Saturday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
  - Chiodos, Friday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m.
- State Theatre is at 687 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 895-3045 or visit [www.statetheatre.com](http://www.statetheatre.com).

### The Straz Center for the Performing Arts

- The Florida Orchestra: Holiday Pops; Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m.
- The David A Straz Jr. Center - formerly the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center - is at 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Call 813-229-7827 or visit [www.strazcenter.org](http://www.strazcenter.org).

### Tampa Bay Times Forum

- Trans-Siberian Orchestra,

Sunday, Dec. 1, 3 and 7:30 p.m.

- Donny and Marie Christmas, Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.
  - Andrea Bocelli, Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m.
  - 93.3 FLZ Jingle Ball, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Tampa Bay Times Forum is at 401 Channelside Drive, Tampa. Call 813-301-2500 or visit [www.tampabaytimesforum.com](http://www.tampabaytimesforum.com).

### Tampa Theatre

- Lyle Lovett, Monday, Dec. 9,

7:30 p.m.

Tampa Theatre is at 711 N. Franklin St., Tampa. Call 813-274-8982 or visit [www.tampatheatre.org](http://www.tampatheatre.org).

### Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center

- Christmas with the Baltimore Consort, Sunday, Dec. 15, 3 p.m.
- Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet, Sunday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.

The center is at 324 Pine St., Tarpon Springs. Call 942-5605 or visit [www.tarponarts.org](http://www.tarponarts.org).

### USF Sun Dome

- Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, Saturday, Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.
- The Sun Dome is on the USF Tampa Campus at 4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa. Call 813-974-3004.

For more music and concert information, visit [TBNweekly.com](http://TBNweekly.com).

## Capo De Monte Italian Market

Visit us for all your Italian Grocery Deli needs

**FULL CATERING MENU FOR ALL YOUR HOLIDAY EVENTS!**

- Delicious Subs & Paninis • Gourmet & Italian Foods
- Prepared Meals-To-Go
- Beer and Wine • Homemade Soups • Pasta Sauce
- Crostini made fresh daily • Specialty Meats & Cheeses
- Homemade Sausage • Fresh Italian Bread
- Homemade Dips, Spreads
- Mozzarella Cheese & Much More!

**\$5 OFF**  
Any purchase of \$30 or more  
Must present coupon.  
Dine in or Take out.  
Not valid with other offers.  
Exp. 12-30-13

8400 Seminole Boulevard  
Seminole • 394-7800

## PIPO'S

Est. 1979  
The Original Cuban Cafe

Now Taking Catering Holiday Orders!

**9531 Bay Pines Blvd.**  
Hours: Mon.-Thurs 9am-9pm  
Fri.-Sat. 9am-10pm • Sun. 9am-7pm  
**727.394.PIPO (7476)**

Serving Beer & Wine

**HALF OFF**  
Lunch or Dinner  
Buy 1 Entree, Get the 2nd at HALF Price  
Of Equal or Lesser Value. With Purchase of 2 Drinks. Dine-in Only.  
Expires December 5, 2013  
Not valid with any other offers.

Place your order online at [www.pipos1979.com](http://www.pipos1979.com) • NOW HIRING!

## We Transfer Old Home Reels Or Video To DVD

TOTAL TAPE SERVICES is Clearwater's #1 place for media transfer. We transfer audio cassette, reel to reel & vinyl to CD, VHS, Hi-8 & 8mm to DVD, AVI, MPG or WMV. US to European format. 8 & 16mm film to DVD, VHS or Digital file. Call us for all of your media needs! 727-799-3100  
[www.totaltapeservices.com](http://www.totaltapeservices.com)

## M A D B E A C H

# HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

Buy Local...  
Shop Small Business!

Children's Activities, Letters to Santa  
Handmade Gifts, and Much More!

**FREE ADMISSION!**

December 7 & 8, 2013  
10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
15004 Madeira Way, Madeira Beach, FL 33708

AVADORA BEACH  
SUNSHINE  
FOR VISITOR INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT  
[SiKpromotions.com](http://www.SiKpromotions.com)

## Big Jim's Famous Philly Steaks & Beer, Together at Last...

Over 50 Domestic, Craft & Micro Brews:

- Guinness
- Cigar City
- Goose Island
- Tampa Bay Brewing Co.
- Rapp Brewing Co.
- Florida Ave Ales & Many More!

Catch All of Your Favorite NFL & College Football Games on Our HDTVs!

Philly's Favorite Philly!

Hand-Tossed NY Style Pizza!

16 Specialty Pizzas!

Famous for Philly Cheesesteaks!

Ask About Big Jim's Catering!

1/4 Mile West of Starkey  
9220 Ulmerton Rd, Largo  
Open 7 Days a Week  
11am 'til Late

Dine In | Carry-Out  
**727-518-6201**  
Call Ahead for Fast Take-Out!

See Full Menu Online:  
[www.BigJimsSteaks.com](http://www.BigJimsSteaks.com)

Find us on facebook!

# 2013 holiday calendars in Tampa Bay are filled with fun

By SUZETTE PORTER

It doesn't take snow to celebrate the winter holidays in Pinellas County. Plenty of festive fun can be found throughout each and every town, including the following.

## Holiday boat parades

### • St Pete Beach and South Pasadena holiday lighted boat parade

ST. PETE BEACH – The St Pete Beach and South Pasadena holiday lighted boat parade is Friday, Dec. 6, 6 p.m. The event starts at the Blind Pass Bridge and heads south to the Bayway Bridge. There are cash and other prizes available to winning entries. Entry is free. Entries are limited. To register your boat or get more information contact Mandy Edmunds at 363-9245 or a.edmunds@stpetebeach.org.

### • Island Estates Yacht Club Holiday Boat Parade

CLEARWATER – The 2013 Memorial Holiday Boat Parade, organized by the Island Estates Yacht Club, is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 14, beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be a pre-parade captain's meeting Thursday, Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m., at the Clearwater Yacht Club, 8300 S. Bayway Blvd. Call 447-6000.

The decorated boats will assemble in Mandalay Channel located between Island Estates and Clearwater Beach at 6 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., the lead boat will proceed northward through Mandalay Channel. Then the parade will weave in and out of many of the Island Estate canals before heading over to Coachman Park around 8 p.m. From there the boats will go under the new Memorial Causeway Bridge turning into the Clearwater Marina Channel before navigating to the Clearwater Yacht Club's judging stand. Cash and gift certificate prizes, donated by many area businesses, will be awarded to the best-decorated boats.

There is no parade entry fee. Anyone interested in participating can call IEYC Fleet Captain Paul Lightfoot at 744-1728 or email lightfoot@msn.com. The Island Estates Yacht Club Boat Parade is one of the largest and most popular marine events in the Clearwater area. This is its 39th year. The parade honors the memory of Island Estates Yacht Club members who have passed away during the year.

### • Redington Beaches and Indian Shores Holiday Boat Parade

REDINGTON BEACHES/INDIAN SHORES – The Redington

Beaches/Indian Shores Holiday Boat Parade Committee announced that the 2013 edition of the annual Holiday Boat Parade will be staged on Sunday, Dec. 15, beginning at 6 p.m. Participating boats are requested to rendezvous just north of the Tom Stuart (Madeira Beach) Causeway at approximately 5:45 p.m.

This year, the committee hopes to increase the value of the prizes distributed to the winning boats. Last year, the total prize value exceeded \$4,000, shared among the almost 30 boats entered.

As in previous years, the boats will cover a route following the Intracoastal Waterway from just north of the Tom Stuart Causeway Bridge (Redington Beach) to "The Pub" restaurant in Indian Shores. The route meanders into the creeks and canals that branch off the ICW, passing along the shoreline of each of the participating communities.

The Captain's meeting for participating boats is Thursday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m., at the Town Hall of North Redington Beach, 190 173rd Ave., North Redington Beach.

The awards ceremony will take place at "The Pub Restaurant," the major sponsor of the parade, following the arrival of the last boat parade participant. Again this year, Steve Westphal, owner of "The Pub," has graciously extended an invitation to all participants to dock their boats overnight in the restaurant's marina.

For more information about the Redington Beaches/Indian Shores Boat Parade, call Dave Will, Committee Chairman at 459-9710.

## Holiday parades

### • Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade

LARGO – The third annual Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade is Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 to 4 p.m., through Largo's Old Northwest neighborhood. Last year, more than 2,000 people came out to watch more than 60 floats in the parade. The Largo High School marching band will participate this year.

Participation in the parade is \$50 per decorated float. All proceeds go to the Suncoast Voices for Children Foundation. Sponsorship costs \$250 and includes a business logo on the parade banner at the front of the parade. The parade is scheduled before the Holiday Stroll in Largo Central Park. For more information and to register, visit discoverlargo.com.

### • Holiday Street Parade

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – The city of Indian Rocks Beach is planning its annual holiday street parade and invites groups and citizens to participate. The parade lineup converges Dec. 8 at noon at the intersection of Fourth Avenue and Second Street. At 1 p.m., it will begin to weave throughout each finger, ending at Kolb Park, 1507 Bay Palm Blvd. The parade route is 23 miles. After the parade, the city will host its annual children's holiday party in the civic auditorium, 1507 Bay Palm Blvd. Entry forms must be completed via mail or fax by Dec. 5. To obtain a form visit www.indian-rocks-beach.com. Call Diane Erb at 595-2517.

### • Holiday Illuminated Night Parade

SEMINOLE – The ninth annual Holiday Illuminated Night Parade is Sunday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m. on 113th Street North from the Seminole Mall to the Seminole Recreation complex. This event is

co-sponsored by the Seminole Chamber of Commerce and the City of Seminole. For more information, call the Chamber at 392-3245.

### • St. Pete Beach Holiday Parade

ST. PETE BEACH – St. Pete Beach Holiday Parade is Saturday, Dec. 14, at 4 p.m. Parade route and application for entry is on the St Pete Beach Recreation Department's website at www.spbrec.com. Category awards will be given out. For more information, call Mandy Edmunds at 727-363-9245 or a.edmunds@stpetebeach.org.

## Holiday events and light displays

### • Lights in the Gardens to open

LARGO – The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation's Holiday Lights in the Gardens will be open from Friday, Nov. 29, to Wednesday, Jan. 1, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Stroll through this year's display of more than 750,000 twinkling lights and holiday decorations. A donation of \$2 per person (13 years and older) is recommended. Events scheduled during the Holiday Lights include a Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation gift and plant sale on Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a dog parade on Sunday, Dec. 29, starting at 1 p.m.

The Florida Botanical Gardens is located at 12520 Ulmerton Road in Largo, with an alternate entrance at 12211 Walsingham Road. The gardens remain open from 7 a.m. until dusk every day, with free admission during daylight hours. For more information, visit www.fbg.org or call 582-2100.

### • Largo Holidays in the Park Arts & Crafts Show

LARGO – Celebrate the holidays with a weekend of talented crafters and artists offering original and unique items Saturday, Nov. 30, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Largo Central Park. Largo Holidays in the Park Arts & Crafts Show includes specialty food vendors, Christmas carolers and spectacular holiday lights in the park. Santa Claus will visit, so bring the kids. There will be lots of giveaways and raffles for cash gift cards and grand prizes. Free drawings are held three times per day. Grand prizes are at end of each day. Visit logan-jade.com or call 321-300-4509.

### • Oakdale Christmas Light display

ST. PETERSBURG – The Oakdale Christmas Light display opens Friday, Nov. 29, and continues through Jan. 3, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., at 2719 Oakdale St. S., St. Petersburg. The display includes about 500,000 lights on a half-acre lot. A walking yard tour includes an 18-train HO scale model railroad, moving and animated items, inflatables, lighted figures and displays. Enjoy hands-on games and bubble machines for the kids. Several trees tower over the display, including one rising to 70 feet.

The free Christmas display started in 1977 and was among the top three finalists on NBC's Today Show, "I'll Be Home for Christmas." It also was featured on HGTV's All Out Christmas Special and in People Magazine. It takes 10 people about three months to install. About 10 trailer loads bring items from storage. The display is powered by three electrical meters.

To get to the display, take I-

275 to exit 22 (old exit 9), which is 175 E. Turn right on Fourth Street, heading south. Go 1 mile, crossing over 22nd Avenue South. Next street on left is Oakdale. Go two blocks, park or look. For more information, visit ChristmasDisplay.org.

### • Chanukah Extravaganza

ST. PETERSBURG – The 10th annual Chanukah Extravaganza is Sunday, Dec. 1, 4 p.m. The Pardes Rock Band will be rolling into town for a rocking performance. The Chabad Jewish Center invites the entire community to celebrate the Festival of Lights at the extravaganza, featuring the Pardes Rock Band. The event is free of charge. Pardes is a Jewish rock band that defines the current state in the evolution of Jewish music. The band brings positive spiritual content together with rock sound and a hint of Mediterranean and Hassidic influence, and creates today's Jewish rock. The live shows performed by the band are always an uplifting experience where the audience is taken on an inspiring spiritual journey. Music is the path to the soul, and Pardes delivers.

Take a walk down memory lane while enjoying delicious hot brisket sandwiches, knishes, and jelly donuts, among other food concessions. Bring your family to enjoy flying on the bungee jumping and inflatable slide. Children will enjoy crafts and face painting. Public dignitaries and community leaders will attend the ceremony and will assist in kindling the giant Menorah. Chanukah, a celebration for all time is highlighted by the kindling of the Menorah each night of the holiday.

For more information, call the Chabad Jewish Center at 344-4900.

### • Winter's Miracle on Cleveland Street

CLEARWATER – Ruth Eckerd Hall Inc. and the Clearwater Marine Aquarium offer Winter's Miracle on Cleveland Street Friday, Dec. 6, 5:30 to 10 p.m. The festivities kick-off with the official lighting of the all-new Capitol Theatre sign atop the nearly completed theatre by Clearwater Mayor George Cretekos, city and business leaders and officials from Ruth Eckerd Hall. The first 250 children (age 12 and under) will receive an exclusive holiday Winter plush toy.

Presented by Bright House Networks, this free holiday festival returns for the sixth year when downtown Clearwater's Cleveland Street District is transformed into a holiday wonderland complete with Florida's largest natural snow slide, holiday crafts, train rides, inflatable attractions and an outdoor ice skating rink. Entertainment will include the Marcia P. Hoffman School of the Arts tap dancers and live music from Tampa Bay's favorite party band, Late Night Brass. Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, a founding member of Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Famers Sha-Na-Na will be the Master of Ceremonies.

Winter's Dolphin Tale Adventure, located in the Harborview Center at the corner of Osceola and Cleveland streets, will be open to the public with free admission. Children will be able to have their photograph taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy the Hurricane Blizzard and the many educational exhibits inside.

Families can participate in a scavenger hunt along Cleveland Street to win great prizes including tickets to upcoming performances at Ruth Eckerd Hall and the all-new Capitol Theatre. Other prizes include a register-to-win for the opportunity to be an "extra" in the upcoming film Dolphin Tale 2, an exclusive behind the scenes Dolphin Tale 2 family experience and exclusive Dolphin Tale 2 prizes. The festival will feature a variety of vendors throughout Cleveland Street providing holiday-themed food and refreshments.

### • Holiday in the Park

PINELLAS PARK – The 11th annual Holiday in the Park event is set for Friday, Dec. 6, 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 7, noon to 9 p.m., at England Brothers Park, 5010 81st Ave. N. This community-wide family event will feature children's games, entertainment, photos with Santa,

hayrides, a children's train ride and more. Call 541-0895 for more information.

### • Holiday concert

BELLEAIR – The town of Belleair's holiday concert is Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 901 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Call 518-3728.

### • Christmas lighting ceremony

ST. PETE BEACH – Pass-A-Grille Beach Community Church will host a Christmas lighting ceremony Saturday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m., outside the church at 107 16th Ave. All residents are invited to attend and join in the singing of Christmas carols while enjoying hot cocoa and homemade cookies. For more information on this and other church activities, call the church office at 360-5508 or email admin@pagchurch.org.

### • Trees and Traditions

LARGO – Heritage Village will present Trees and Traditions, a Pinellas holiday celebration from 1850 through 1950, on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This special day of holiday-related activities includes children's activities and crafts, holiday music, tours, a special visit from Santa Claus and a Holiday Marketplace. For more details, see page 8B.

### • Holiday showcase

LARGO – Enjoy an afternoon of dancing and singing Largo's Holiday Showcase Sunday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m., at the Largo Community Center. The Tutterow Dancers, The McMillans, The Bates, The Indian Rocks Christian School Student Choir and the Strolling Carolers all will perform in the grand ballroom. Tickets are \$14 and can be purchased at the Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road. Visit LargoCommunityCenter.com or call 518-3131.

### • Safford House Victorian Christmas

TARPON SPRINGS – Annual Safford House Victorian Christmas, Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 12-14, at Safford House Museum, 23 Parkin Court. Hours will be Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Friday, 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for members and children age 3 to 18. Attendees will have an opportunity to ring in the holidays and stroll through the 1883 Safford House beautifully decorated for the holidays in Victorian style. Guests may enjoy refreshments and the unique holiday gift shop and tour the house with "Governor Anson Safford" (Bruce Miller) as he describes Victorian holiday traditions and life. There also will be live performances of holiday music during the tour. Special Victorian games and activities will be scheduled for children on Saturday. Call 942-5605 or visit TarponArts.org.

## Special

### community events

### • South Pasadena Best of Lights contest

SOUTH PASADENA – The city of South Pasadena is conducting a Best of Lights Contest for 2013. All businesses, homeowners and multi-family complexes (condominiums, mobile home parks, etc.) are invited to display lights during the holidays for consideration. Lights can be placed on the storefront or the exterior and need to be visible from the street. Holiday signs, window painting and twinkling lights are allowed.

There will be two winners in each category: first place and first runner-up. First place winners will receive a framed award certification and an official yard sign. Runners up will receive certificates. The first-place winners and runners up will be selected by the Beautification Committee on Dec. 12. Signs and certificates will be presented at the city's regular commission meeting on Jan. 14. The city's cable channel 615 will display winners' names throughout the holiday season.

### • Soccer with Santa

SEMINOLE – The Seminole Youth Athletic Association hosts its seventh annual Soccer with Santa Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 12100 90th Ave., Seminole. The event includes a Seminole Elks Basketball Shootout, soccer games, pictures with Santa, craft fair, sports vendors, bounce houses, raffles, silent auctions, team photos and more. Lunch is \$3 and includes pizza.

ice cream and a drink. Free booths for vendors. For more information, email Sherri McCarthy at andycap1@tampabay.rr.com or call 235-3378.

### • Breakfast with Santa

TREASURE ISLAND – The St. Petersburg Lions Club plans its annual Breakfast With Santa event Saturday, Dec. 14, 9 a.m. to noon, at the Lions Club Beach House, 9300 W. Gulf Blvd. Admission is free but those attending are asked to bring a can or bag of pet food for Santa and his reindeer. The pet food will be donated to the PetPal Animal Shelter. Those planning to attend should register by Dec. 6. Call Sally at 813-965-2534 or email LionSally@gmail.com.

## Holiday entertainment

### • Holiday Party of One

LARGO – "Holiday Party of One," by Alison Burns with musical arrangements by Stan Collins; Dec. 5-20, 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. This Tampa Bay holiday traditional finds a home at New Stage Theatre after its highly acclaimed run in 2012. Written by local talents Alison Burns and Karla Hartley, this hilarious holiday treat follows three overworked, out of touch, people as they, once again, get caught up in the mad rush of the holidays – that is until Lucky, a Christmas elf, comes to the rescue. The second half of the evening is a unique cabaret of holiday favorites. This production is fun for the whole family.

### • Dave Koz and Friends Christmas Tour 2013

CLEARWATER – Dave Koz and Friends Christmas Tour 2013, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$35. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerd-hall.com. For more details, see page 1B.

### • Bowzer's Rock & Roll Holiday Party

CLEARWATER – Sixth annual Bowzer's Rock & Roll Holiday Party hosted by Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$35. Call 791-7400 or visit www.ruth EckerdHall.com. The show will feature Lesley Gore, Lou Christie, Lenny Welch, Joey Dee, Bowzer & The Stingrays and Rocky & The Rollers with special guests Johnny Contardo and Henry Gross, formerly of Sha Na Na. While attending Columbia University in New York in 1969, student Jon Bauman along with his fellow classmates combined their love for the classics of Rock & Roll with a dynamic theatrical approach to form Sha Na Na. The a'50s legends eighth professional gig was opening for Jimi Hendrix 44 years ago this summer at The Woodstock Festival. Bauman went on to become a VJ on the music channel VH-1 during its first two years. He's appeared on several television series, such as "Miami Vice." He also hosted the Hollywood Squares half of the Match Game-Hollywood Squares Hour. Bauman has spoken on behalf of musicians and helped pass legislation, known as the Truth in Music Act, that compels any group using the name of a classic group have at least one of the original members.

### • Russian Christmas

LARGO – A Russian Christmas performed by the State Choir of Russia, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m., at the Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$29.50. Call 587-6793 or visit largo arts.com. Celebrate the holiday season with this unique cultural experience. This company of 45 singers was founded from the merger of the USSR State Chamber Choir and State Symphony Orchestra of the USSR. Music critics have praised this spectacular group and rave of the flawless vocal technique and crystal-clear, precise intonation.

For more holiday events, visit www.TBNweekly.com.

## GOLF SPECIAL

### 18 HOLES

**Make Tee Times on line**  
[baypointegolf.net](http://baypointegolf.net)

**\$18 WALK \$25 RIDE EVERYDAY**

**\$15 WALK \$22 RIDE AFTER 1:30 PM**

**SANDWEDGE FOOD & SPIRITS**

18 Hole • Par 61

## Baypointe

GOLF COURSE

9399 Commodore Dr., Seminole  
**595-2095**

## THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA

# UPCOMING CONCERTS

2013/2014 Season

TAMPA BAY TIMES MASTERWORKS

### MAHLER'S SYMPHONY NO. 1, "TITAN"

Dec 6-8

RAYMOND JAMES POPS

### HOLIDAY POPS

WITH THE MASTER CHORALE OF TAMPA BAY

Dec 13-15 Saturday Matinee Added!

TAMPA BAY TIMES MASTERWORKS

### BRAVO BEETHOVEN!

Jan 10-12

RAYMOND JAMES POPS

### BOND & BEYOND

Jan 17-19

TAMPA BAY TIMES MASTERWORKS

### BARTÓK & BRAHMS

Jan 24-26

Tickets Start at \$15

727.892.3337 OR 1.800.662.7286

WWW.FLORIDAORCHESTRA.ORG

TAMPA • ST. PETE • CLEARWATER

## Casual Waterfront Dining on the Intracoastal

HAPPY HOUR • 8AM-6PM • CHEAP DRINKS

**Restaurant & Lounge**

125 Gulf Blvd.,  
Indian Rocks Beach  
727-595-1320  
[www.jdsrestaurant.com](http://www.jdsrestaurant.com)

**Celebrating 28 Years!**

**Breakfast Specials!**  
from \$2 & Up  
Tues.-Fri.

**Live Entertainment**  
Every Day  
Inside and Outside

**Make This Holiday Brighter For A Child**

Silent Auction of Fully Decorated Christmas Trees, Vacation Packages, Rum Cakes & More to Benefit Local Toy Drives.

Saturday, December 7 • 10am-5pm

**TUESDAY**  
Customer Appreciation  
Early Birds  
ALL DAY & NIGHT  
Exp. 12/12/13

**THURSDAY**  
\$1 Tacos & Hot Dogs  
NOON - 6pm  
With Purchase of Drink.  
In Lounge Only. Exp. 12/12/13

**SUNDAY**  
Chickens Wings Specials  
With Purchase of Drink.  
11am-4pm  
Call ahead and take your lunch to the beach!

**LUNCH BASKETS**  
**\$6.75**  
And Under!  
Noon-4pm  
Call ahead and take your lunch to the beach!







