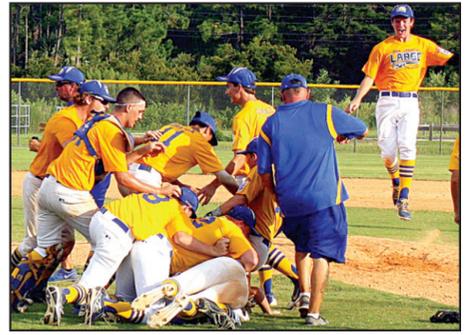


LARGO LEADER

Largo All-Stars named state champs, headed to regional

The team will represent Florida in this week's tournament in Safety Harbor ... Page 3A.



INSIDE



ENTERTAINMENT



'Guardians of the Galaxy' opens

An action-packed, epic space adventure, Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy" expands the Marvel Cinematic Universe into the cosmos, where brash adventurer Peter Quill finds himself the object of an unrelenting bounty hunt after stealing a mysterious orb coveted by Roman, a powerful villain with ambitions that threaten the entire universe. ... Page 1B.

POLICE

Man arrested in fatal stabbing

Largo police arrested Charles Michael Yantis, 24, of Largo July 26 for second-degree murder. Neighbors called to report a fight that had left one man bleeding. Officers who responded found Marvin Neil Hadlock, 26, dead. ... Page 5A.



Charles Yantis

BUSINESS

A new vision for Seminole Mall

Even before the new owners, North American Development Group, came on board, for years the future of the declining mall has been a giant question mark for the city. ... Page 8A.

VIEWPOINTS

Tom Germond

To kill a woodpecker? Just a croc. ... Page 10A.



Largo candidates prep for election

Seven declare intentions to run as qualifying period opens Aug. 1

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – Largo's next mayor and the commissioners in Seats 1 and 6 might already be decided, if no one else declares intentions to run before the qualifying period ends Aug. 15.

Only two of the five seats to be decided in the Nov. 4 election are contested so far, with two political newcomers squaring off for an empty seat and another new candidate facing off against longtime incumbent Harriet Crozier for Seat 5.

But so far, Woody Brown, who has been a Largo commissioner since 2007, is the only declared candidate for mayor. Former Largo police chief John Carroll is the sole candidate in the seat Brown is vacating. And Michael Smith, vying for his second term as Largo commissioner, also has no opponent.

Seat 2

According to the city's records so far,

the candidates for Seat 2 are Samantha Fenger and Daniel Ruffner.

Fenger, 35, was a land use and rezoning planner for Pinellas County and Tampa governments before handling social services and community outreach for the nonprofit Big Brothers Big Sisters. She attended the Tampa Bay Public Leadership Institute last year, and has since dedicated herself to full-time campaigning.

She's served on Largo's Community Redevelopment Advisory Board for several years, but most recently began serving on the Planning Board.

She's lived in Largo for 10 years, moving back to the state to pursue her undergraduate degree at Eckerd College. She has an MBA in sustainable management from Marylhurst University. She has been married to Eric for nine years.

Her goals will be to attract economic development to Largo, especially in the downtown area, and "promote sustainable growth and provide most efficient

Uncontested: Seat 1



Michael Smith

Uncontested: Seat 6



John Carroll

Uncontested: Mayor



Woody Brown

and effective city services."

Ruffner, 47, is a vice president of a BB&T branch in Largo who said he realized, after serving as a timer during a Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce debate, that he was just as qualified as the Largo candidates he was timing.

"My clients have approached me saying that they don't think they've been

fully represented in the city of Largo," Ruffner said.

The Largo High School graduate, who has lived in Largo since 1972, has a banking and finance degree from University of South Florida. He's served on the city's Code Enforcement Board. He said

See CANDIDATES, page 4A

Pellon consolidates new headquarters in Largo

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – The Haskell family, owners of Pellon Consumer Products, has been in the fabric and textile industry for four generations.

"This dates back to when my great-grandfather was selling war patches to the government during World War II," explained Cris Haskell, CEO of the company, which recently moved its headquarters to Largo.

The business expanded into Dubin Haskell Jacobson, or DHJ, a publicly traded international company selling "non-wovens" to the apparel industry. DHJ was sold in the 1970s, but "non-wovens" still describe what the Haskell family manufactures and distributes within the craft and home goods markets.

The Haskells own the Pellon brand, a name that has come to describe the structural material in quilts, within North America. Pellon Consumer Products still works with the German company Freudenberg, which first brought the innovative material to the United States six decades ago.

"The Pellon brand has a lot of equity. It's been around in the craft and hobby world for about 60 years," Cris Haskell explained. "Consumers know and trust this brand."

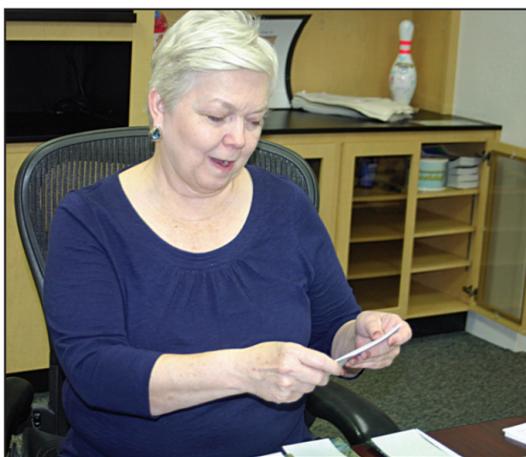
John Haskell, representing the third generation of Haskells in textiles, took over the Pellon brand at the start of the new millennium. The move to retail was a new direction for the family, his son explained.

"My father really did an



Photos by JULIANA A. TORRES

Above, Pellon employees, from left, Lenora Babb in sales, Amaris Leon and Jonathon Seniw, both in marketing, pose in front of a wall of Pellon products in showroom of the company's new headquarters in Largo. Below, Darlene Christopherson, who works in marketing, puts together mini kits with all the materials for a small craft that will serve as a demonstration for one of Pellon's customers.



See PELLON, page 4A

County election: Aug. 26

Mail ballots arrive at Elections Office

By SUZETTE PORTER

Pinellas County voters have a number of decisions to make by Election Day – Aug. 26, and more than 6,000 have already cast their ballot, according to statistics reported by the Elections Office Friday, July 25.

Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark mailed 244,826 ballots to domestic voters July 22. An additional 2,657 were mailed to absent military and overseas voters July 9.

As of July 25, 248,048 mail ballots had been distributed, and 2.5 percent had been returned to an Elections Office. Of the 6,227 returned, 42 percent were from registered Republicans and 41 percent were from Democrats. The remaining were from those registered as "other."

Check your mail ballot status

Clark sent out a press release July 22 requesting that voters confirm ballot requests due to a recent mailing from the Voter Participation Center, a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. As of July 22, the Elections Office had received more than 1,300 mail ballot requests from voters responding to that mailing.

"The problem is that 87 percent of the voters already have ballot requests on file," Clark said.

The organization's mailer also generated 125 phone calls through July 22, of which all but five were from voters who already had requested mail ballots.

"We want to clear up any misinformation that voters may have regarding their request for mail ballots," Clark said. "Of the 1,315 mail ballot requests we received through today (July 22), as a result of the Voter Participation Center mailer, 1,150 were duplicate requests that were already scheduled to be mailed."

Voters can check the status of their mail ballot requests at www.voteinellas.com by clicking on "Track Your Mail Ballot" or calling 464-VOTE (8683).

All eligible registered voters can request a mail ballot and vote in the comfort of their homes, Clark said. To request a mail ballot, visit www.voteinellas.com, call 464-VOTE (8683), or email absentee@voteinellas.com and include date of birth.

Additional mail ballot requests will be fulfilled as received. The deadline to request a ballot be sent by mail is 5 p.m. Aug. 20.

The deadline for mail ballots to be received back at an Elections Office is 7 p.m. Aug. 26. Mail ballots cannot be returned at the polls. A list of drop-off locations is available at voteinellas.com.

Citizens can view sample ballots, based on their address, at www.voteinellas.com. A composite sample ballot also is available.

See BALLOTS, page 4A

Small clinic may replace plans for health campus

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County's grand plans to build a one-stop center to provide care to its homeless and indigent population will likely be replaced with a project much smaller in scale.

County Commissioners spent about three hours the afternoon of July 16 discussing the options. In the end, the consensus was to explore the possibility of getting federal funding for a smaller clinic, possibly for Safe Harbor.

Commissioners had previously approved accepting a \$5 million grant for construction of a Bayside Health Campus. Ongoing cost is a big issue. The federal grant would pay for construction of a 15,000 square foot facility, but provide

no money for operations or maintenance. Latest estimates show it would cost about \$3 million a year to provide the level of care staff recommends. Officials still have to solve the problem of how to get those who need care to a fixed location.

Questions about expenses to furnish, maintain, operate the facility, along with ongoing issues with involved third party stakeholders caused the commission to begin rethinking its decision.

At a meeting June 3, Dr. Claude Dharamraj, director of the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, encouraged commissioners to find a way to accept the federal grant. She suggested that a smaller facility be constructed that would meet the terms of the grant,



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER

Dr. Claude Dharamraj, director of the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, advocates a plan to use federal grant money to build a small clinic at Safe Harbor to serve the homeless.

but not over-extend the county's capacity to provide services.

Dharamraj advocates construction of a "little clinic," in or near Safe Harbor, which is taxing Largo Fire Department's resources due to emergency calls for health care. It also would be close enough to serve Pinellas Hope.

At the July 16 meeting, staff seemed to agree with Dharamraj's plan. Commissioners asked staff to explore the possibility of receiving a smaller grant from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration to build a smaller clinic. They also directed staff to talk to Sheriff Bob Gualtieri to get his opinion on a clinic at Safe Harbor.

Safe Harbor is a place where the homeless can find shelter. Gualtieri

See CLINIC, page 4A

Features

- Business 8-9A
- Classifieds 5-7B
- County 5-7A
- Entertainment 1-4, 8B
- Health 12A
- Just for fun 2B
- Largo 3-4A
- Outdoors 14A
- Police beat 5A
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Why Do People Delay Addressing Hearing Loss?

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

Accepting & Correcting Your Hearing Loss

Researchers estimate that over 30 million people in the United States suffer from hearing loss, but almost 75% avoid scheduling a hearing test to determine the cause and how to remedy this condition. As the baby boomer generation ages, more people are going to experience hearing loss.

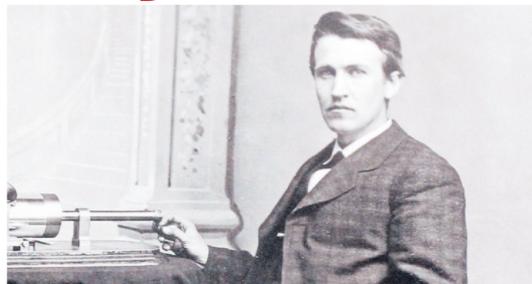
Many people with hearing loss do not take the steps needed to correct the problem. The first step starts with getting a hearing exam when you first notice you are experiencing symptoms. A hearing test can determine the cause of your hearing loss, and which state-of-the-art hearing devices can improve your quality of life. There is often a period of denial or hesitation that must be overcome before the appointment for the hearing test is made.

At first it may seem like you only have very mild hearing loss, if any, because you can hear someone talking to you, or you can hear the TV, radio, or a movie, you just can't catch every word. Or you may have trouble following conversations, but you always come up with a reason why *it's too noisy, people are speaking too fast, or there are too many people talking at once.*

The truth is that when you have early, mild hearing loss, you will start to have trouble hearing certain higher frequency sounds. Consonant sounds are in the higher range and are the first to go. While you may hear voices, you may find yourself mistaking similar-sounding words, like, "rent" and "sent" or "time" and "lime".

If you believe you have mild hearing loss, begin by getting a hearing exam. You can use the results of the hearing test to rule out or fix any correctable conditions, and then you can assess if any of the new and advanced hearing technologies can help you hear more clearly.

After your hearing test you will be able to make a more educated decision about what your options are to prevent further hearing loss and hear more clearly immediately, improving your overall quality of life.



Thomas Edison Suffered From Hearing Loss!

One of the most famous people with hearing loss in history is the inventor Thomas Edison (1847-1931), who is credited with inventing the phonograph, light bulb, and movie camera. What many people are not aware of is that Edison became technically deaf in his early teens. It could have been from a childhood illness or the result of a "boxing" of his ears by a train conductor.

Purchasing a hearing aid is not a decision made lightly. It's important that the person you are working with listens to you and works together with you to address your specific hearing needs. You need to be able to trust their guidance in choosing a solution to match your lifestyle.

Advances In Hearing Care!

A hearing specialist with **Audibel Hearing Centers** will be available to answer all your questions and discuss the latest advances in hearing care. Even with the new technology, your brain still needs time to readjust to hearing sounds it may not have been hearing for years. You will be amazed at your own ability to reconnect with your life with the help of this advanced technology.

In addition, technology is constantly changing. A hearing test can now determine if you have even very mild hearing loss, and the new generation of digital hearing aids has nearly eliminated the problems of feedback, and

extraneous noise that was bothersome with earlier models.

Most hearing losses don't require expensive hearing aids to help you with sounds you were missing, including those lost consonants, without introducing additional, distracting noises. Personalized programming adjustments ensure your hearing aid is set to your specific loss and unique needs.

No One Will Know

It is true that hearing aids of past years did have a stigma attached to them. They were large and bulky, and usually they were visible to anyone who walked by. But just as the internal technology has changed, so have the external characteristics of digital hearing aids. New models are virtually invisible when worn making your Audibel hearing aid far less noticeable than your hearing loss. With advanced digital technology and miniaturization, nobody else has to know that you're wearing a hearing device.

In addition, hearing aids technology has an exciting future. Even now you can have your hearing aid connected to different external devices, such as an MP3 player, a cell phone, radio, or your TV. As microchips continue to get smaller, the amount of data processing power continues to increase at astronomical rates, allowing for hearing aids to be made smaller while continuing to improve sound quality. If you checked out hearing aids five years ago, you should take a look at the new models - you might be surprised at how far things have come and how easily hearing loss may be corrected.

Hearing loss can affect people of all ages. If you were in the military, law enforcement, or simply exposed to the loud noises of machinery in a factory, you could have developed hearing loss at an early age. Don't be embarrassed by your inability to hear clearly - take action now and get a hearing test to find out what you can do to enhance your ability to hear clearly and prevent continued deterioration.

Start by having a hearing test and then take steps to decide if you feel comfortable with the new technologies. Think about it - how much time and energy are you spending apologizing because you misheard something, or asking someone to speak louder or to repeat themselves? Having a hearing test and wearing a hearing device can alleviate many problems caused by hearing loss - and that is priceless!

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Largo All-Stars headed to southeast regional

By JULIANA A. TORRES

LARGO – The senior division All-Stars team of the Greater Largo Little League went undefeated to claim the championship in the Florida Little League state tournament in Port St. John July 26-27.

The Largo senior team, comprised of ages 13 to 16, allowed only eight runs against the three other teams in their pool: Deerfield Beach, San Mateo and Niceville/Valparaiso. In the championship game July 27, they faced Union Park, also undefeated. Greater Largo won 8-2 and was named the state champions of their age bracket.

They will represent Florida in the Southeast Regional Tournament in Safety Harbor Aug. 1-6, playing teams from Georgia, North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee.

The Largo players' first game will be against West Virginia Saturday, Aug. 2, 9 a.m., at the Safety Harbor Little League fields at 940 Seventh St. S., Safety Harbor. They will play against Georgia Sunday, Aug. 3, 10:30 a.m., and against North Carolina on Monday, Aug. 4, 4:30 a.m. Semifinals are scheduled Tuesday, Aug. 5, and the championship game is Wednesday, Aug. 6.

If the Largo team is successful at the southeast regional level, they will play in the Little League World Series in Bangor, Maine.

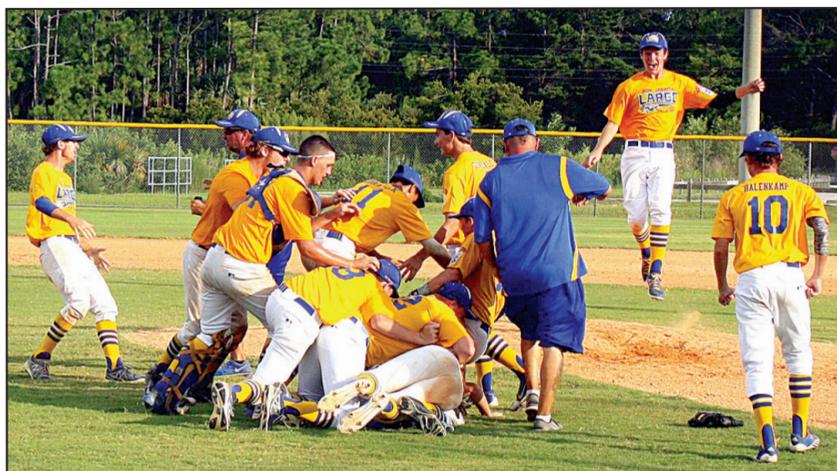


Photo by TANYA NELSON



Photo by KAREN GONZALEZ

Above, the senior division team of the Greater Largo Little League celebrates after their championship win in the Little League state tournament in Port St. John July 27. At left, the team consists of, front row, from left, coaches Gary Nelson, Dan Guido and Bruce Hallenkamp; back row, Drew Guido, Hunter Catrett, Eli Moravick, Jarred Halenkamp, Mat Nelson, David Siegel, Kyle Koker, Jordan Mazzucco, Austin Shedler, Bailey Dublin, Matt Gonzalez, Zak Palmieri and James Emery. Not pictured are Aldo Torres and Matt Vanjelgerhuis.

Largo library

Largo Public Library, at 120 Central Park Drive, has several special and monthly events scheduled for August. For more information, call 587-6715.

- Adult Programs**
- **Sign language.** Wednesdays, Aug. 6 and 20. The basics class is at 6 p.m. with an intermediate class at 7 p.m.
 - **Story Circle Writers' Group.** Wednesday, Aug. 6, 6 p.m. Writers share stories and develop skills in a group facilitated by author and writing coach, Jan Golden.
 - **Poets Live.** Monday, Aug. 11, 6:30 p.m. Volunteers lead a group for poetry enthusiasts.
 - **English Language Learning Conversation Club,** Mondays, 10 a.m. Practice speaking and listening in English.

- Genealogy classes**
- **Fold3, Dropbox, & Evernote for Genealogy.** Monday, Aug. 4, 10 a.m.
 - **Ancestry.com,** Monday, Aug. 11, 6 p.m.

- Book discussions**
- **Last Word Book Discussion Group,** Wednesday, Aug. 6, 6 p.m., on "A Box of Darkness" by Sally Ryder Brady.
 - **Booktalking with Iris.** Wednesday, Aug. 13, noon. Listen to a talk on popular titles each month.

- Teen programs**
- **Back-to-school prize drawing:** Ages 13 to 18 can visit the

teen room and fill out a survey between Aug. 18 and Aug. 27 to enter a drawing for a back-to-school gift bag.

- Children's programs**
- **Mad Science Bingo,** Friday, Aug. 1, 1 p.m. Learn about science, historical figures, famous people or book characters in this program that combines stories and trivia with bingo.
 - **Jigglesman,** Friday, Aug. 1, 2 p.m. Watch stunts and laugh at this silly performance.
 - **CPR instruction,** Monday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m. Learn to save a life with this non-certified, infant and child CPR training.
 - **Summer Science Movies,** Wednesdays, Aug. 6 and 13, 6 p.m. Families are invited for a movie and snack at the library. Call 587-6715 for movie titles.
 - **Off to Kindergarten,** Tuesday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. This special story time is just for little ones making the leap to kindergarten.
 - **Baby Sign Language,** Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. Include signs naturally while interacting with your child. Registration is required. Email rrodriguez@pplc.us to register.

- Special programs**
- **Book Maniacs' Mini-Golf,** Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Make a hole-in-one at one of the two indoor, book-themed courses at the library's inaugural mini-golf event or putter around the vendor shopping area and grab a snack. This fundraiser is for the Teen Room. Call 587-6715.

Around town

Arthritis water exercise to start

LARGO – The aquatics division of the city of Largo is offering a new season of water exercise for those suffering from arthritis on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays starting Aug. 1, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Imperial Palms Apartments east clubhouse pool, 101 Imperial Palm Drive.

An Arthritis Foundation-certified instructor will teach. The classes are conducted in shallow water with a step entry and exit and an ADA lift. No swimming skills are required, however, one should be comfortable in waist deep water. As with any exercise program, check with your doctor before starting. A lifeguard will be on duty during all class times.

Interested participants can try their first class for free. The monthly fee is \$36 for residents and \$45 for nonresidents. Drop-in fees are, with a recreation card, \$4 for residents and \$5 for nonresidents or \$8 without a card.

Call 518-3016 or visit LargoPools.com.

Foster parents needed

Eckerd Community Alternatives is seeking residents willing to take in foster children to meet a growing need for homes.

There are more than 1,000 children in licensed foster care in Pinellas and Pasco counties, but only 300 foster homes to care for them. These children have been abused, neglected or abandoned.

Candidates must be at least 21 years old, have appropriate housing and be able to pass a background screening. Those interested in becoming foster parents must complete a home study and 36-hours of special training called M.A.P.P.

Potential foster parents must have adequate space and be able to provide for their own existing family. Although foster parents will receive financial assistance to help care for the child, they cannot rely on this to pay their own bills.

Call the Eckerd Community Alternatives recruitment line toll-free at 1-866-233-0790.

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City calendar

Highland Recreation Complex

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

Registration opens for scrapbooking weekend

LARGO – Join fellow “scrappers” as you crop, trim, and embellish till your heart’s content at this year’s Crop Till You Drop weekend, Aug. 1-3, at the Highland Recreation Complex.

The scrapbook extravaganza begins Friday, Aug. 1, 4 p.m., and continues until Sunday, Aug. 3, 5 p.m. We will close Friday and Saturday evening from midnight to 8 a.m.

Scrappers will enjoy prize drawings, giveaways and fresh new ideas from fellow scrapbookers.

The cost is \$100 per person for the whole weekend and \$50 for Saturday only. The full weekend includes six meals, snacks and drinks.

Southwest Recreation Complex

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

Food trucks come to Southwest

LARGO – Local food truck vendors will converge on Southwest Pool for Food Truck Family Friday, Aug. 1, 7 to 9 p.m.

Find out what all the hype is about. Enjoy an array of food along

with a swim in the pool with fun, games, rafts and music.

Entry is \$3 for residents, \$4 for nonresidents or \$6 guests. Prices for foods vary per food truck vendor.

Tidalwave Tuesdays concludes

LARGO – The Highland Family Aquatic Center will host Tidalwave Finale, a glow-in-the-dark teen pool party, Tuesday, Aug. 12, 8 to 11 p.m., at 400 Highland Ave.

The cost is \$5 and open to middle and high school youth. Meet up with friends, swim, and catch up on what happened over the summer.

Activities will include glow-in-the-dark necklaces, a 20-foot screen to play Guitar Hero, elevated inflatable slip-n-slide, lighted palm trees and 10 laser lights.

Facility amenities include the tallest slides in Pinellas County, a 214-foot circular and a speed slide, double slide, water play features, deck sprays, expanded deck and shade coverings, deck chairs and lounges, sand volleyball court, Big Squirt water refill station and bath houses. Splash’s Snack Bar will be open.

Tennis social held

LARGO – The Southwest Tennis Center will host a tennis social for ages 16 and older Friday, Aug. 15, 5 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$5.

Reserve a table at the Community Garage Sale

LARGO – Tables at Southwest Recreation Complex’s Community Garage Sale are now on sale.

Tables cost \$9 each and are limited to two per person. The complex

will do all the advertising, setup, and clean up for the event, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 23, 8 to noon, at 13120 Vonn Road.

Space is limited. Set up on the day of the event begins at 7:15 a.m.

This event includes free chair massages, health screenings, giveaways and back-to-school physicals as well as an open house. Explore all of the benefits that Southwest Recreation can offer with instructor demos, food, giveaways and more.

Largo Community Center

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

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.

• **Swing dancing:** Fridays, 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 for students, \$7 with a recreation card and \$8 without a recreation card.

• **Bay Area Singles 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:** Reduced for the summer. Call 518-3131 for the schedule.

CANDIDATES, from page 1A

he wants to apply his financial know-how to be a “good steward of the taxpayers’ dollars and plan for the future.”

He and his wife, Laura, have a 15-year-old daughter, Rachel.

Seat 5

Donna Holck plans to challenge Crozier for Seat 5. Another political newcomer, G. Raymond Raulerson, declared before the qualifying period but has since told the Largo Leader that he doesn’t intend to pursue the candidacy.

Holck, 51, owns a small tax consulting firm, but has also worked as a nail technician and trainer for several years. She’s lived in Largo for 20 years and said she’s running because, despite thinking Crozier has done a “fantastic job,” thinks it’s time to bring a new face to the commission.

“I believe in term limits, whether it’s big governments or small,” she said. “I just feel like after a certain amount of time ... that you kind of lose a little bit of perspective.”

She’s been married to Gary for 15 years.

Crozier, 70, has served as a Largo commissioner since 2000, 20 years total, adding in six years as a commissioner prior to that year.

She is retired, but used to work as an office manager for Serenity Gardens funeral home as well as teach computers.

Along with serving as a commissioner, Crozier has served on the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Pinellas Planning Council and the county’s Intelligent Technology System,

roles that she said help her better serve the residents of Largo.

“I still have the enthusiasm and the drive to continue to move Largo forward,” she said.

Crozier has been a Largo resident since 1971. She has been married to Bobby for 34 years and has an adult daughter, Lisa.

Seat 1

Smith, 32, has worked in the Pinellas County Library System for 11 years, currently as a library assistant for the Pinellas Park library. He was born in Largo, raised throughout Pinellas County and has lived in Largo since 2009. He and his partner of four years, Eric Hutton, purchased a house in October of last year.

He is currently a member of the Largo Historical Society, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Board of Directors and the Largo Historical Society, to name some of his community involvement.

“I have enjoyed being out in the community, learning about what our citizens need and want,” Smith stated.

Seat 6

Carroll, 55, retired as police chief last year, ending a 33-year career with the Largo Police Department. He’s lived in Largo since 1967 and graduated from Largo High School, joining the police with the U.S. Army before becoming a civilian police officer.

Even as he retired last year, Carroll told the Largo Leader that he would be considering a run at the Largo commission.

“It would be another opportunity to serve,” he said at the time.

Largo Seat 2 candidates



Samantha Fenger



Daniel Ruffner

Carroll has been married to Linda for 33 years. They have two adult children.

Mayor

Brown, 43, decided to run for mayor after its current mayor, Pat Gerard, declared her intentions to run for county commissioner.

Brown is a chiropractor with an office in the city’s downtown West Bay Drive district. He’s lived in Largo since 2000, but said he grew up on Indian Rocks Beach and was a Largo High School graduate.

He currently serves on the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and the Clearwater Jazz Force, among other organizations. He said he first ran for

Largo Seat 5 candidates



Harriet Crozier



Donna Holck

commissioner in 2007 because he didn’t feel like the perspective of a young professional raising a family was well represented on the commission.

“I’m not alone in that capacity now,” he said. “I want to keep Largo a great place to live.”

He and his wife, Jenny, have two sons: Sawyer, 3, and Wyland, 5.

To qualify as a candidate for office, those interested must obtain petition signatures from 200 registered Largo voters, open a campaign account and designate a treasurer. Candidates must have lived in the city of Largo for at least one year.

For more information about the process, contact the city clerk at 587-6710 or cityclerk@largo.com or visit the city election page, which can be found at bit.ly/Lrgelections.

PELLON, from page 1A

unbelievable job in growing the business, working with our employees, working with our customers and our suppliers to really expand the product lines,” Cris Haskell said.

Now, the Pellon Consumer Products distributes more than 800 products, and it’s not just quilters who use Pellon regularly. The company’s flagship products are still batting and interfacing, sold in several color-coded categories: blue for embroidery, pink for apparel, yellow for crafts and home decor, green for quilting and orange for fusible webs and adhesives.

The company packages its products into what it calls “notions,” usually a kit to make a specific craft. It also has a home goods line that sells comforters, bed pillows, bed forms, mattress encasements, mattress protectors and even pet beds.

But Pellon doesn’t sell directly to the consumer. Its customers are Joann’s Fabrics, Walmart, Hobby Lobby, Hancock Fabric and several independent distributors around the country that cater to more than 6,000 sewing and quilting shops.

Still, the company targets its products to consumers, working backward to refine the process and market new items to the businesses that sell Pellon. Cris Haskell said. Every day, the company gets both positive and negative emails and calls on its 800 number from Pellon consumers.

“It’s very helpful for us to stay in tune with the experience they are having in the market so we can adjust either our manufacture line or put in (more) quality control mechanisms in place,” Cris Haskell said. “That’s a big focus for the company.”

Pellon consumers rely on the consistency and quality of the brand, he explained. New products begin with that in mind.

“We spend a lot of time doing research and working with consumers and then taking that information internally and trying to come up with a proper delivery or product to what the benefit of that product is,” he said.

About seven years ago, the company moved to St. Petersburg from Georgia. It grew into two warehouses and a downtown office.

“It wasn’t until maybe late last year where we realized our growth was surpassing our space, and we needed to really consolidate all three facilities into one,” Cris Haskell said.

The company canvassed Pinellas County to look for opportunities, narrowing it down to two locations. The 140,000-square-foot site at 4801 Ulmerton Road in Largo made the most sense. Pellon Consumer Products began the transition about two months ago.

“And it’s starting to pay its dividends. The teams are working more closely together,” Cris Haskell said. “Instead of running around from a couple of different places, they now have a lot more resources to handle the day-to-day issues.”

Most of the company’s employees, about 100 total, now work in the Largo headquarters.

“We’re just excited to get settled in the city of Largo in this facility. It’s great for us; we’ve been growing so much that we’ve found a place that we’re going to be calling home for the foreseeable future,” Cris Haskell said. “We try and bring everything down here so we can have a hold of the quality stronger.”

Aside from Largo, Pellon Consumer Products has manufacturing plants and sales offices around the United States, including offices intentionally close to Wal-Mart and Joann headquarters. The company challenges itself and its suppliers to manufacture the majority of its products in the United States. Cris Haskell explained

“Sometimes, unfortunately, we can’t always do that, so then we go to China or India or Southeast Asia,” he said.



Photo by JULIANA A. TORRES

A makeshift sign marks Pellon’s new headquarters off Ulmerton Road in Largo July 17.

Cris Haskell joined his father in the business about four years ago. The company also includes his brother, “and of course, the real boss: Mom,” he said.

John Haskell never forced his son to join the family business. With that freedom – appreciated in hindsight – Cris worked with brand management in the consumer package goods industry. The outside experience helped the company when he joined his father at the helm.

Cris said he was hesitant to make the move at first, but now the two work closely together.

“We are smiling, hand-in-hand every single day,” he added with a grin. For more about the company, visit www.pellonprojects.com.

BALLOTS, from page 1A

“The composite sample ballot includes races for the Republican and Democratic primaries as well as nonpartisan races,” Clark said. “Voters may check their voter information cards to confirm their political parties, voting districts and precincts.”

Currently, 617,504 registered voters in the county – 219,477 Republicans, 223,638 Democrats and 174,389 other. Voter registration deadline was July 28 – also the last day to change political affiliations.

Florida is a “closed primary” state. Only voters registered with a political party may vote in that party’s primary, explains Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark. All registered voters may vote on the county referendum question and nonpartisan races on the Primary ballot, including judicial and school board races.

Republican primary

Registered Republicans will cast ballots for their candidate to run in the Nov. 4 general election. They have a choice between incumbent Rick Scott and challengers Yinka Abosedede Adeshina and Elizabeth Cuevas-Neunder.

In the race for state senator District 20, Republicans will decide between the incumbent Jack Latvala and Zahid Roy. In the three races for state representative, choices are between James Grant and Miriam Steinberg for District 64; Debbie Faulkner and Chris Sprowls for District 65 and Chris Latvala and Christopher Shepard in District 67; and Joshua Black and Bill Young in District 68.

In the race for county Commissioner District 2 –

at large, Republicans can pick between incumbent Norm Roche and former state representative Ed Hooper. Seven names are on the ballot for the District 4 single member seat, currently held by Susan Latvala. The candidates are Dave Eggers, Johnny Johnson, Tim Keffalas, Wanda Kimsey, Macho Liberti, Peter Nehr and Jim Ronecker.

Democratic primary

Registered Democrats also will make their choice for a candidate to run in November. The choice is between former governor Charlie Crist and Nan H. Rich. Democrats also will pick between George Sheldon and Perry E. Thurston to run for attorney general.

The final choice is for a candidate in the District 67 race for state representative. Voters can pick between Thomas D. Ryan, Steve Sarnoff and Shawna Vercher.

Universal primary

Republicans and Democrats that live in the county’s district 6 will be able to vote in a universal primary. Tom Rask is challenging incumbent John Morroni. Both are Republicans. No other candidates qualified for the race. The winner of the universal primary will decide the election. The race will not appear on the November ballot.

Nonpartisan races

All registered voters will make choices in elections for Sixth Circuit judge positions and school board seats.



Photo courtesy of ELECTIONS OFFICE

Workers load a truck July 22 with 244,826 mail ballots sent out to domestic voters.

Laura Snell and Susan St. John are running for circuit judge. Group 1 and Ken Lark, Alicia Polk and Alan Scott Rosenthal are vying for circuit judge Group 2. Brian Battaglia and Kimberly “Kim Sharpe” are running for circuit judge, Group 16; Amanda Colon and Phil Matthey for Group 21; and Bruce Boyer and Jon Newlon for Group 35.

In the race for school board, District 2 at-large position, all voters can pick between incumbent Terry B. Krassner and Chris Tauchnitz, and Ken Curtis and incumbent Peggy O’Shea for the District 3 seat.

In the two single-member school board races, only those living within the district will vote. Beverly Billiris, John H. Nygren and Ken Peluso are run-

ning for the District 4 seat, and Maureen Ahern and incumbent Linda Lerner are running for the District 6 position.

The candidate receiving the majority of votes, more than 50 percent, will win. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the two with the most votes will compete in a runoff during the Nov. 4 general election.

All registered voters also will vote yes or no on a referendum question concerning a proposed county-wide tax exemption for qualified businesses.

More election information

Address changes can be made online at www.voteinpinellas.com or by calling 464-VOTE (8683) or emailing election@voteinpinellas.com, with birth date included.

Name and party changes may be made by sending a signed, written statement to the Supervisor of Elections including birth date or voter ID number.

Any updates, including signatures, can be made by completing and signing a voter registration application and returning it to the Supervisor of Elections.

For an updated list of voter registration events, visit www.voteinpinellas.com and select News and Events/Voter Education & Registration Events on the home page menu.

In addition to sample ballots, mail ballot updates, ballot drop-off locations, canvassing board schedule, polling places and other election information are available at www.voteinpinellas.com under the link “August 26, 2014 Primary Election Information.” For additional election information, call 464-VOTE (8683).

CLINIC, from page 1A

opened Safe Harbor in 2011 to better serve the chronically homeless, keep them out of the county jail and the criminal justice system. It is primarily a jail diversion program.

Commissioners seemed favorable to exploring the options of opening a small clinic in or near Safe Harbor. Commissioner Ken Welch cautioned that building the clinic would mean Safe Harbor would become a permanent expense. Costs for the shelter are currently being split between the county government, the sheriff’s office, the city of St. Petersburg and other municipalities.

“Safe Harbor has served its purpose,” Welch said.

He said having a clinic to serve Safe Harbor and Pinellas Hope was definitely worth considering, especially in lieu of the strain it was putting on emergency services provided by the city of Largo.

“But we need to recognize that it (Safe Harbor) will become part of the budget and will be going forward,” Welch said.

Commission Chair Karen Seel said staff was just exploring the possibilities.

“I don’t hear support for building a clinic for families,” she said.

The commission discussed other plans to serve the homeless population, including the need for affordable housing and additional prevention measures.

Welch agreed that prevention was better than trying to help after in-

dividuals or families become homeless.

Commissioner Janet Long questioned the wisdom of using county staff to serve the homeless.

“We have multiple agencies working on homeless issues in this county,” she said. “Why are we not contracting with them instead of using our precious resources? People are already doing this work.”

Seel agreed that Long’s concept was worth exploring. Commissioner Charlie Justice agreed, adding that the county should partner with agencies that are “stable and have long-term respect.”

Interim County Administrator Mark Woodard said staff would continue work on the matter and report back to the commission in 60 to 90 days.

Body found at Pinellas Park house fire

By SUZETTE PORTER

PINELLAS PARK – Authorities believe that a Pinellas Park woman intentionally set her house on fire before shooting herself the morning of July 26.

According to a report from Pinellas Park police, the District 6 Medical Examiner will determine the exact cause of death for Birgitta K. Melm, 61.

Pinellas Park Fire Department responded to a structure fire at 7600 71st Ave. about 6 a.m. Saturday, July 26. Shortly thereafter, Pinellas Park police were notified that a body had been found inside the single-family residence. Firefighters put out the fire and remained on scene while police entered the home to begin an investigation.

Police soon found out that two men, who knew the victim, had arrived prior to the firefighters. The two men had attempted unsuccessfully to put out the fire before one of the men tried to remove the woman from the home. He was overcome by smoke and had to leave the home.

Police entered the home and found that the roof had partially collapsed on the east side. They found the woman's body in the living room.

"Due to the obvious trauma and evidence that the fire was not the cause of the injuries to the female, a decision was made to call out detectives to continue the investigation," said Sgt. Adam Geissenberger, Pinellas Park police public information officer.



Photo courtesy of PINELLAS PARK POLICE
Extensive damage is evident from a fire at a home on 71st Avenue in Pinellas Park Saturday morning. A woman's body was found inside. Authorities believe she set the fire before committing suicide.

When detectives arrived at the scene, they saw evidence that led them to believe that the female was the victim of a "violent act."

"The determination was made at that time to treat the fire as a crime scene and that the death of the woman would be investigated as a homicide," Geissenberger wrote in his media release.

Detectives and crime scene personnel started to collect evidence at the crime scene. The state fire marshal and Pinellas Park fire inspector assisted in the investigation. The medical examiner also was called to the scene.

Detectives and the medical examiner did a physical examination of the victim and determined that she had a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

"It is now believed that the fire was intentionally set by the woman shortly before she took her own life," Geissenberger said.

The woman owned several cats, which were not in the house at the time of the fire. Police think that the woman placed the cats in a shelter. One cat was left on the doorstep of a neighbor and a note was left nearby. Another note was found inside of a vehicle owned by the woman.

"Neither note offered any insight as to why the fire was set," Geissenberger said. "An autopsy will be required to determine the actual cause of death. There is no reason for investigators to believe this was anything more than a suicide."

Largo man arrested for second-degree murder

LARGO – Largo police arrested Charles Michael Yantis, 24, of Largo July 26 for second-degree murder in the investigation of a fatal stabbing.

Police responded to an apartment complex at 4500 E. Bay Drive at 5:38 p.m. July 25. Neighbors called to report that a fight had taken place, leaving one man bleeding. Officers who responded found Marvin Neil Haddock, 26, dead.

According to witnesses, a verbal argument began outside of the apartment. Yantis reportedly told Haddock to step inside. Both continued to argue, challenging each other to a physical confrontation, according to a police report.

Once inside, Yantis retrieved a knife and sliced Haddock's arm. Yantis was told to drop the knife by all involved parties, according to police, however, he fatally stabbed Haddock.

Detectives were able to quickly identify all involved in the altercation. Yantis was arrested and taken to the Pinellas County Jail. Along with second-degree murder, he is charged with simple battery and aggravated battery involving physical disfigurement.

According to jail records, Yantis lives at the apartment complex where he was arrested. Previously, he was arrested in Pinellas County for simple battery in February of this year, possession of marijuana and retail theft in June 2013 and aggravated battery in December 2009.

No other arrests are expected in this case.



Charles Michael Yantis

Police beat

Man arrested for exposing kids to porn

ST. PETERSBURG – Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives arrested a St. Petersburg man July 25, on charges of lewd and lascivious molestation and for exposing three minors to pornographic materials.

Roger Lyle Kent, 67, was charged with three counts of lewd and lascivious molestation; protection of minors; and prohibition of certain acts in connection with obscenity. He was booked into the Pinellas County Jail where he is being held without bond.

Detectives with the Crimes Against Children Unit say the victims, one male and one female, were under the age of 12 when the act was committed.

The investigation began on July 1. The crime occurred at a private residence in St. Petersburg.

According to investigators, the male victim told his father about the incident. The father reported the crime to the sheriff's office.

Detectives determined that Kent had exposed the three children to pornographic video materials for about four to five years. Detectives also said that Kent had touched the boy in an inappropriate sexual manner; and made the girls touch him in an inappropriate manner. This activity repeated itself on multiple occasions.

Detectives interviewed Kent at the Sheriff's Administration Building in Largo July 25, and subsequently arrested him.



Roger Lyle Kent

curb lane of Park Boulevard.

While on the sidewalk, the Jetta struck a PSTA bus stop sign breaking the pole at the base. When the car reached the driveway of 6035 Park Blvd., it swerved left into the curb lane and the left half of the vehicle went into the center lane. At that time, the front of the Jetta struck the right rear of the Nissan truck.

The truck veered left and fishtailed, bringing the back of the vehicle to the median lane. The truck was sideways with the driver's side door facing west. It rolled onto the driver's side and then onto its roof continuing to spin: the vehicle was traveling west. Then the truck left the roadway and went into the grass area of 6051 Park Blvd. where it hit a fixed sign.

Police said after the Jetta hit the rear of the truck, the right front rim dug into the roadway and the Jetta rolled onto its passenger side and then rolled onto the roof. The vehicle came to a stop in the curb lane of Park Boulevard.

Injuries were reported, but were "minimal," according to the report. Investigators believe that seat belts and airbags prevented more serious injuries.

Barnes was issued a citation for careless driving. Independent witnesses told investigators that the vehicle was driving at a high rate of speed just before the crash.



Photo courtesy of PINELLAS PARK POLICE
Pinellas Park police and fire personnel work the scene of a two-vehicle crash Thursday, July 24, in the 6000 block of Park Boulevard. Both vehicles ended up on their tops.

then entered the bar through a window. The suspects stole an undisclosed amount of cash and caused damage to the property.

One suspect is described as a white male with a slim build and short hair. He was last seen wearing a black T-shirt and camouflage pants.

The second suspect is described as a white male with a slim build and short hair. He was last seen wearing a hoodie style sweatshirt with "PINK" written on the back and blue jeans.

Anyone with information on this commercial burglary is asked to contact Detective Rogers of the Burglary & Pawn Unit or to remain anonymous and be eligible for a reward contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-873-TIPS or www.crimestop.org



Photo courtesy of PCSO
A surveillance photo of one of the suspects wanted in connection with a July 11 burglary at a bar in Lealman.

One driver cited in two-vehicle crash

PINELLAS PARK – Westbound Park Street was closed at 60th Street just before 5 p.m. Thursday, July 24, as Pinellas Park police worked the scene involving two overturned vehicles.

According to the police report, a 2011 Nissan truck, driven by Kenton Sams, 70, of Treasure Island and a 2010 Volkswagen Jetta, driven by Shawn Barnes, 35, of Madeira Beach were traveling west in the 6000 block of Park Boulevard. The truck was in the center lane and the Jetta was in the median lane.

Due to roadway construction the pavement in the median lane had been removed which created a 1-inch lip between the median and center lanes.

When the Jetta changed lanes from the median to the center, the front right tire failed and resulted in a blowout. The car traveled 218 feet and went from the median lane to the sidewalk on the north side of Park Boulevard. The car then traveled 255 feet on the sidewalk with the right half of the car on the sidewalk and the left half of the car in the

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Commission OKs tax rates; considers changes to mobility plan

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – Pinellas County Commissioners discussed the budget proposal presented July 15 by Interim County Administrator Mark Woodard during a July 22 work session and agreed to accept the millage rates as proposed.

Woodard and Bill Berger, director of the Office of Management and Budget, walked commissioners through a list of changes, including those made at a July 16 work session on homeless healthcare.

New funding requests added to the fiscal year 2015 budget include:

- \$150,000, if needed, to “de-couple” the Veterans Service Office from Health and Community Services
 - \$500,000 for a dental health care program for the indigent in addition to the \$436,000 already budgeted by HCS for dental care
 - \$70,000 for a dental sealant program
 - \$250,000 for the public defender’s jail diversion program
 - \$60,000 for the public defender’s SOAR program, which assists with applications for federal benefits
 - \$123,600 requested by the property appraiser
 - \$110,450 requested by the tax collector
 - \$433,170 requested by the supervisor of elections
 - \$98,900 requested by the clerk of the circuit court
 - \$315,000 to buy a land clearing mulching machine to forgo contracting for those services in the future
 - \$90,000 for international trade expansion
 - \$30,200 for the Homeless Leadership Board
 - \$75,000 for the Community Mobile Health Unit
 - \$200,670 for the Metropolitan Planning Organization
 - \$10.7 million for the sheriff’s office to implement a new pay plan for sworn personnel
 - \$2 million for Business Technology Services
- Items requested but not funded include money

for the arts, Lealman Community Services and cameras for the Pinellas Trail.

Commissioners affirmed their acceptance of millage rates as presented and canceled the July 31 budget workshop. The tentative millage rates will be forwarded to the property appraiser’s office to include in the Truth in Millage Notices that will be mailed to property owners on Aug. 22.

Tentative millage rates are as follows: Each mill represents \$1 of tax assessment per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Countywide millage rates

- General Fund: 5.2755, unchanged from the current year.
- Health: 0.0622, unchanged
- Emergency Medical Services: 0.9158, unchanged

Dependent MSTU special districts

- Municipal Service Taxing Unit (unincorporated county): 2.0857, unchanged
- Public Library Cooperative (MSTU): 0.50, unchanged
- Palm Harbor Rec and Library District: 0.50, unchanged
- Feathersound Community Services District: 0.50, unchanged
- East Lake Library Services District: 0.25, unchanged
- East Lake Recreation Services District: 0.25, new assessment

Fire Protection Districts

- Belleair Bluffs: 1.7320, unchanged
- Clearwater: 3.2092, unchanged
- Dunedin: 2.9222, lowered from 3.5525 mls
- Gandy: 2.2977, unchanged
- Largo: 3.5609, unchanged
- Pinellas Park: 3.0163, unchanged
- Safety Harbor: 2.8118, unchanged
- Tarpon Springs: 2.3745, unchanged
- Seminole: 1.9581, unchanged
- Highpoint: 2.6700, unchanged

- Tierra Verde: 1.9118, unchanged
- South Pasadena: 0.9137

Public hearings on millage rates and budgets are scheduled on Sept. 11 and 23. The next budget year begins Oct. 1.

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

Proposed mobility plan

Al Bartolotta, Planning manager for the Metropolitan Planning Organization, presented a report about ongoing work on a countywide mobility plan during a July 22 work session.

According to Bartolotta’s report, a Mobility Plan Task Force formed in October 2009. It was comprised of planning staff from local governments, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, Pinellas Planning Council and the Florida Department of Transportation’s District 7 Office, as well as citizen and business representatives.

The task force worked on several goals, including:

- Improved efficiency of local site plan review processes in the application of growth management requirements
- Consistency in the application of growth management requirements across jurisdictional boundaries
- Furthering of the mobility goals of the local governments
- Addressing the transportation impacts of development projects effectively and equitably
- Furthering the emphasis on multi-modal transportation embraced by local comprehensive plans as well as the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan

The Mobility Plan provides local governments with a new approach for managing growth as it relates to the transportation impacts of development projects, the report said. The plan revolves around the framework of the Transportation Impact Fee Ordinance, which has provided a countywide approach to the use of transportation impact fees



Screenshot by SUZETTE PORTER
Bill Berger, director of the Office of Management and Budget, explains changes made to the proposed FY 2015 county budget during a July 22 work session.

since 1986.

The proposed plan replaces traditional concurrency management systems based on maintaining roadway level of service standards with a more flexible approach, and it promotes multi-modal transportation. Utilizing the ordinance would allow local governments to give developers credit for pre-existing uses, which would encourage redevelopment and re-use of existing structures.

The proposed Mobility Plan shifts the focus from roadway level of service to improving mobility with multi-modal transportation. It also enables local governments to provide a pay and go option for some development projects.

Next steps toward approval of the plan include the commission’s authorization to advertise. Then, in September or October, the Local Planning Agency will review and make its recommendation. Comprehensive Plan amendments will be sent to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in October or November. The last step will be adoption of the changes by the county commission.

Briefs

15 teens graduate from academy

LARGO – Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office celebrated graduation of the first-ever Teens Citizens Academy over the weekend.

Fifteen teens attended a graduation ceremony Saturday, July 26, at the Sheriff’s Administration Building at 10750 Ulmerton Road in Largo.

The Sheriff’s Teen Citizens Academy is a free six-week, hands on program which offers students ages 14 to 18 years an opportunity to learn close-up about the work of sheriff’s deputies and about a career in law enforcement.

The program was offered on consecutive Saturday mornings June 14 through July 26 (with the exception of the 4th of July weekend). The Academy offered the students the opportunity to work with deputies, practice defensive tactics, learn safe and effective use of a firearm and defensive driving techniques, and take a behind-the-scenes look at the Sheriff’s Office operations including a tour of the Pinellas County Jail.



Photo courtesy of PCSO

Ricky Butler, Community Programs Manager, squats in front as the 15 graduates of the 2014 PCSO’s Teens Citizens Academy pose for a photo. The graduates are, front row, from left, Dion Jackson, Melody-Grace Toscano, T’Nora Dessaw, Ashley Blairst-Schneck, Darren Weeks, Keira Dempsey, Daniel Weeks and Jesse Creaser; back row, Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Nathan Adkins, Doyle Dempsey, Andrew Hodge, Andrew Bearce, Troy Hicks, Blake Ottinger and Michael Schuller.

Explorer Post 900 attends national conference

LARGO – Fourteen members of the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office Explorer Post 900 joined more than 2,100 other Explorers, adult leaders, and staff from throughout the nation at the National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference, July 13-19, at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

The conference provided attendees with training, competition in all areas of law enforcement, and allowed explorers to gain an insight to all the different aspects of law enforcement throughout the nation.

Sponsoring organizations included the FBI, Secret Service, Homeland Security (Customs/Border Patrol), ATF and DEA. The sponsoring agencies held a career fair at which law enforcement professionals were available to discuss career goals with individual Explorers. There also were demonstrations, exhibits, recreational and entertainment events.

During the closing rally, area federal agencies and other law enforcement organizations showed off the latest in law enforcement technology and techniques. The explorers attended seminars related to domestic terrorism, forensic science, and defensive tactics.

The conference featured competitions sponsored by law enforcement organizations providing realistic and practical experiences to prepare Explorers for the types of situations they would have to face in law enforcement careers. Team events included Arrest and Search, Bomb Threat Response, Crime Prevention, Crime-Scene Search, Domestic-Crisis Intervention, Shoot/Don’t Shoot, Hostage Negotiation, Burglary in Progress, Traffic Accident Investigation, Traffic Stop, White-Collar Crime and Emergency Field First Aid.

Four competition teams represented explorer Post 900. Team A was comprised of Explorer Capt. Spencer Shaw, Explorer Lt. Kelley Butterfield, Explorer Sgt. Lauren Paschall and Explorer Zoe Gambel. Team A received third Place in the nation for the Domestic Violence Investigation scenario. Although the other teams did not place in the top 5, the explorers learned valuable lessons on teamwork and investigative techniques.



Photo courtesy of PCSO

Team A poses for a photo at the National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference, July 13-19, at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

Individual competitions included air-pistol, drill, mountain bike, emergency vehicle operations course, physical agility test, honor guard, volleyball, and a pistol competition. Several explorers participated in the air pistol and pistol competition using 40 caliber semi-automatic firearms. Explorer Kelley Butterfield received first place in the slow fire phase and Explorer Max Dulsky received eighth place overall. Explorer Spencer Shaw received third place overall in the Top 20 Shooters in the nation for the 40 caliber firearms competition.

Off campus, the Explorers experienced hiking in several Indiana state parks and a zip lining adventure in Eagle Creek Park. The explorers learned to utilize teamwork during the zip lining adventure, as they had to motivate and encourage each other to complete all of the obstacles with some being more than 30-feet off the ground.

Deputy Jim Butterfield was given the opportunity to present at the conference. His presentation was on “How to Build Your Post,” which was heard by over 50 other posts advisors from around the Nation. Butterfield’s keynote point was fundraiser projects to assist in funding your post.

For more information about Post 900, visit www.post900.com or call Butterfield at 421-3149.

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New Port Richey Main Library
Wednesday August 6, 2014 at 2 pm
5939 Main Street, New Port Richey (Located near City Hall)

Arbor Oaks Assisted Living
Thursday August 7, 2014 at 2 pm
1701 68th Street North, St. Petersburg (Near Tyrone Mall behind Chili’s)

Largo Library
Friday August 8, 2014 at 2 pm
120 Central Park Drive, Largo (Just across from The Largo Cultural Arts Center)

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Dan Slaughter named Clearwater police chief

CLEARWATER – In a quick turnaround, Clearwater City Manager Bill Horne announced the city's new police chief, just a week after current Chief Tony Holloway accepted the position to head St. Petersburg's department.

Patrol Division Commander Daniel Slaughter has been with the Clearwater Police Department for more than 20 years, and will soon become the 13th chief of the department.

"Dan Slaughter meets all the criteria that we are looking for and need in a police chief," Horne said. "He is a highly competent police professional with the appropriate education credentials, field experience, and respect and support from his peers, subordinates, police unions, city department directors, neighborhood leaders and the Tampa Bay law enforcement community."

Slaughter has most recently been the major in charge of patrol operations for the last two years, in which he has overseen about 171 uniformed officers and three dozen civilian employees. He has also worked as the department's special operations lieutenant, accreditation supervisor, homicide detective, community police officer, and a field-training officer, according to a Clearwater press release.

"I am fortunate to inherit an organization that benefits from a strong, positive relationship with the community and is staffed with skilled and committed officers supported by a professional civilian staff," Slaughter said. "The future will



Photo courtesy of the CITY OF CLEARWATER
Daniel Slaughter has been named the new police chief for Clearwater.

still bring challenges, and I look forward to effectively addressing those challenges and building on this agency's well-deserved reputation for being a leader in community policing."

Slaughter, 44, has been with the department since October 1992 and will earn \$123,000 as the new chief. He graduated from Largo High School and the University of South Florida.

"I commend the city manager on his selection of Chief Slaughter, who has risen through the ranks of the Clearwater Police Department," said Mayor George Cretekos. "I am confident in Chief Slaughter's ability to provide the leadership needed to maintain the outstanding service of the department and the high standards set by Chiefs Klein and Holloway."

The Clearwater Police Department is the third largest law enforcement agency in Pinellas County, employing 235 sworn officers and about 100 civilian employees. It has earned the prestigious distinction of having the Excelsior status in state accreditation from the Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation, according to the press release.

Slaughter will officially begin as chief on Thursday, Aug. 7, when he is sworn in during the 6 p.m. city council meeting. Holloway will serve in an advisory role as a special assistant to the city manager from Aug. 7 through Aug. 12.

Community news

Patriot Ride honors local hero

LARGO – A Pinellas County Sheriff's deputy received an award during the second annual Heart Strings for Heroes 2014 Patriot Ride and Honors Celebration Sunday, July 27, at the Wing-House Bar and Grill, 7369 Ulmerton Road.

Deputy Troy Savetz, 36, was recognized for his actions in rescuing a suicidal subject from the Bay Pines Bridge on April 6. Deputies received a call about a suicidal subject that was standing on the railing of the Bay Pines Bridge. Responding deputies distracted the subject by talking to him and keeping his attention. As they did this, Savetz approached the subject from a blind spot and was able to grab him off the railing. The subject later thanked Savetz for pulling him off the railing.

PSTA reports record ridership in June

ST. PETERSBURG – The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority set another all-time ridership record, as riders boarded PSTA vehicles nearly 1.2 million times in the month of June – a 4.4 percent increase compared to June 2013.

The numbers continue a strong upward ridership trend for PSTA, coming after a record year in 2013 with more than 14.4 million riders. The June 2014 ridership level is the highest June on record in Pinellas County's 102-year history, and follows record May ridership on the North County Connector route to Tampa.

"PSTA is one of the few transit systems to see continual ridership growth over the last five

years including the recession, despite service cuts due to a major loss of property tax revenue," said PSTA CEO Brad Miller. "We're glad that demand for PSTA service is up, we thank the nearly 1.2 million Pinellas County residents, visitors, tourists and workers who made the choice to ride PSTA, and we look forward to offering them expanded service and new options through Greenlight Pinellas."

PSTA's single busiest route, the Route 19, has seen a 20 percent ridership increase over the last three years with an average ridership of nearly 6,000 per day. Route 19 is also the longest route in the PSTA system, from Tarpon Springs to Gulfport.

PSTA recently added additional increased service from Clearwater to the Gulf beaches, in response to high demand of beach and tourist industry employees needing to get to Clearwater Beach jobs without paying for scarce beach parking.

The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority is the public transit provider for Pinellas County, providing more than 14.4 million rides per year. PSTA operates nearly 40 bus and trolley routes with a fleet of 203 vehicles. More information is available at www.psta.net.

Pinellas GOP plans annual picnic

PINELLAS PARK – The biannual Pinellas County GOP Picnic will be held Sunday, Aug. 3, 1 to 5 p.m., at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd.

Seminole Mayor Leslie Waters will serve as the master of ceremonies.

Among the attendees will be Congressmen Gus Bilirakis and David Jolly as well as State Sens.

Jeff Brandes and Jack Latvala and State Reps. Larry Ahern and Kathleen Peters.

GOP candidates, throughout Pinellas County, who are vying for State Representative seats, Pinellas County Commission posts and other local elected positions, will attend. In addition, candidates for non-partisan school board positions and statewide office holders have been invited.

All candidates will make short presentations and will be available for one-on-one questions and conversation throughout the afternoon. A straw poll will give picnic goers the opportunity to show support for candidates who face opposition in the Aug. 26 primary.

All residents are invited to attend. Admission is \$25 per person and includes hot dogs, hamburgers, picnic salads and soft drinks; all to be enjoyed in an air-conditioned bug free indoor environment.

For more information, call Gail Hebert, 526-2492.

Homeowners' Scavenger Hunt set

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH – Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association will be hosting its second Scavenger Hunt Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. sponsored by Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty.

Registration will be held at Kolb Park on Bay Pine Blvd. from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The end of the hunt party is at Crabby's Loading Dock and there will be lots of fun places in between. The goal is to visit as many stops as you like, find the answer to the clues. Attendees will not be taking any items from the participating establishments, only answering as many clues as

possible. The team with the most points wins. Register as teams and work together (each team member must be registered), two or more participants to a team. To participate in food and drink specials, attendees will need a wristband, which they will receive when they register. Prizes to be awarded at 7 p.m. at Crabby Bill's Loading Dock.

All participants will receive an event T-shirt, Homeowners Koozie and a goodie bag.

There will be a total of \$600 in cash prizes for the three teams with the most points. You must be present to win. The association encourages everyone not to drive. Take the trolley or, since all stops are in IRB, walk or bicycle the route.

For more information, visit www.IRBhome.com.

Foundation plans health fair, barbecue

DUNEDIN – Here We Grow Foundation Inc. is working to sponsor its Second Annual Back To School Health Fair and Barbecue Saturday, Aug. 30. Here We Grow is currently seeking donations of school supplies to be given to Pinellas County students to ensure that they have a successful start to the 2014-2015 school year.

The organization has a full list of items that are needed at www.herewegrowfoundation.com/back-to-school-health-fair-bbq.php. All donations can be dropped off at the foundation office at 1171 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Dunedin, FL 34698.

The organization is also seeking vendors for this event.

Two Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies merge

LARGO – Two local Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies are joining forces with a goal of pairing more children with caring adult mentors across Tampa Bay.

The boards of directors from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas County and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay have unanimously voted to merge. Previously, both nonprofit organizations collaborated on a variety of projects, serving their respective communities for nearly 50 years.

Susan Rolston, CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas County, retired on July 12; Stephen Koch, the current CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay is now the CEO for the entire Tampa Bay area. Rolston and Koch have worked closely throughout the process with one goal in mind: to help children in our community who want – and need – a mentor in their lives.

The board of directors from each agency is confident that their decision to merge will lead to even more positive outcomes for more youth, including improved school performance, increased high school graduations and avoidance of the juvenile justice system. The combined agency will serve more than 3,350 children by the end of 2014, with plans for continued growth.

"My journey with Big Brothers Big Sisters began 13 years ago, and it's wonderful to leave this legacy. It's something we've considered for years and now the timing is right to move forward as one agency," Rolston said. "At the end of the day, it's about serving more children and truly bettering the future of the community we live in."

Koch, an attorney who first became involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters 20 years ago as a volunteer, is looking forward to all that can be accomplished in the future.

"As a consolidated agency, we will be much better positioned to provide a Big Brother or a Big Sister to the more than 1,000 children currently on our waiting list; this is our primary focus," Koch said. "We will have increased relevancy and a broader perspective to reach more children and volunteers, as well as increased public awareness about the effectiveness of our evidence-based program."

"We have many staff, board members and volunteers who live in one county, but work across the bay and vice versa. It's exciting how our merger will ultimately improve and expand our impact, as well as increase our efficiency," Koch added.

The executive team also includes newly hired Pat Craven, who will serve as the Regional Director in Pinellas County as well as have the responsibility to raise funds to support Big/Little matches agency-wide.

"We are looking forward to leveraging our collective strengths to ensure that more children who need the guidance of a Big Brother, Big Sister or Big Couple will receive it and achieve success in life," said Craven.

The merged agency will be called Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay and serve children in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, Citrus, Hernando, and Sumter counties, with offices in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Lakeland. David Fox, Senior Vice-President for Valpak in St. Petersburg is the agency's new board chair.

The merger will be officially effective January 1, 2015.

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Pinellas tourism guru heading to Kissimmee

By SUZETTE PORTER

CLEARWATER – After more than seven years on the job, the executive director of Visit St. Pete/Clearwater is moving on.

D.T. Minich announced the news Monday morning that he is leaving Pinellas County to work for the Kissimmee Convention Visitors Bureau effective Aug. 15.

"As you might imagine, this was not an easy decision to make," Minich said in an email sent out Monday morning. "I have many fond memories of my time here, and I'm extremely proud of all the accomplishments we have achieved together as an industry. I'm also extremely proud of my incredibly talented and dedicated CVB staff, whose hard work and dedication is responsible for the amazing leaps we have made in Pinellas County tourism."

Prior to coming to Pinellas, Minich led the Beaches of Fort Meyers and Sanibel Visitor and Convention Bureau. Minich replaced Carol Ketherhagen, who retired after leading the county's bureau for 15 years.

Deputy Director David Downing will be in charge after Minich leaves.

Minich said Downing "has worked tirelessly alongside me every step of the way." He praised Downing's insight, talent and leadership. "I've come to rely on him in every aspect of managing this organization."

Pinellas County's tourism industry celebrated a record-setting year in 2013 and all signs indicate 2014 will be a repeat of that success.

"Although I'll miss all of you greatly, I take heart in knowing that I'm leaving the local tourism industry poised to continue in record-setting territory, with an incredibly strong brand and ever-growing international reputation," Minich said.

Briefs

Pincrest honors kitchen worker

LARGO – Pincrest Place Largo, a retirement community, recently honored Pinky Jackson for 25 years of service.

Jackson joined "Team Pincrest" in July 1989 as a member of the kitchen staff. According to a press release from Pincrest, Jackson uses her culinary talents to help residents enjoy fine dining experiences every day.

"Her homemade soups are the best and over the years they have been featured in our community cookbook," the press release states. "Our sales department has promoted Pinky's fabulous recipes to prospects and professionals with soup mugs and recipe ingredients."

along with other salon professionals from around the country attended The Redken Exchange overlooking Fifth Avenue in New York City. They learned advanced techniques in hair design and hair color from leading experts in the salon industry.



Attending The Redken Exchange are, from left, Kelly Hyland, Samantha Shaw and Kristina Weck from Salon West Hair Studio and Spa in Largo.

Hartselle employees serve meal

SEMINOLE – Hartselle BIG LLC, a local insurance agency located at 8200 113th St., Suite 201, recently donated time, collected donations and made a hot meal to Pinellas Hope at 5726 126th Ave., Pinellas Park.

Served was goulash, salad, rolls, watermelon and desserts.

The luncheon meal was served July 19 and fed 82 clients that day. Pinellas Hope has 20 acres and currently uses 10 acres to house the homeless that are temporary in need of a place to stay, until those residents can get back on their feet.

According to a press release from the agency, Hartselle BIG coordinates several community

projects throughout the year and found Pinellas Hope to be one of the most rewarding experiences.

Home Care Assistance grand opening set

CLEARWATER – Home Care Assistance Tampa Bay, a provider of nonmedical, in-home senior care, will celebrate the grand opening of its new location with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday, Aug. 6, 11:30 a.m., at 1530 N. McMullen Booth Road, D-12.

"We are excited to invite the community to our grand opening to have them share our special day," said Doris Kasold in a press release. Kasold is owner of Home Care Assistance of Tampa Bay. "It's a great opportunity to spend time with our neighbors, have fun, win prizes and share our passion for assisting the elder community to age happily and healthfully. Our mission, my mission, is to change the way the world ages."

The event will feature recipes from the Home Care Assistance cookbooks; delicious, fresh smoothies; door prizes; brain-teasers; music; and, a raffle. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony to commence at noon.

Home care experts will be available to share the Home Care Assistance proprietary Balanced Care Method, which is based on the studies of the extraordinarily long-lived elders in the Okinawa region of Japan – where lifespans of more than 100 years are not uncommon. Core principals of the Balanced Care Method include a healthy diet, physical activity, mental activity,

social activity and senses of calm and purpose.

New stylist joins Salon Mark Hall

SEMINOLE – Laura Williams recently joined Salon Mark Hall on Seminole Boulevard.

Williams, a hair stylist, comes to Salon Mark Hall from St. Petersburg with experience in top cuts and color.



Mark Hall, left, welcomes new hair stylist Laura Williams to Salon Mark Hall on Seminole Boulevard.

Venue Theatre to offer seminar

PINELLAS PARK – Venue Theatre will offer a one-day seminar for actors in résumé building and self-marketing on Sunday, Aug. 10, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the conference room at Country Inn and Suites, 8050 U.S. 19 N.

This seminar will cover all aspects of writing and organizing a résumé for best results. Topics will include:

- How to build a résumé with local projects for career success
- How to market yourself to local filmmakers, agents, and statewide projects

The seminar will feature nu-

New gift shop



Photo courtesy of LADYBUG SHOP & TURTLE TREASURES
Owners David and Christopher Clawson are opening the LadyBug Shop and Turtle Treasures at 13713 Gulf Blvd. A grand opening celebration for the gift shop is set Aug. 1-3. Call 914-3990 or visit www.ladybug-shop.com.

merous handouts and information on the business and how to break into it. There also will be tips on how to audition, training, headshot dos and don'ts and other areas of interest.

Corinne Broskette, who was trained by Lee Strasberg and has been a professional actress and acting coach for over 30 years, will run the seminar. Broskette has been instrumental in coaching and training more than 5,000 actors locally over the past 20 years in the Tampa Bay area, including Brittany Snow, Mark Consuelos and many other working actors.

Cost is \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door.

Attendees should be age 16 or older with previous experience and should be serious about their work. Parents of younger actors are welcome to attend. Space is limited to 30 participants.

Call 822-6194 or email venueactorstudio@gmail.com.

Frosted Fancy Cake Studio opens

CLEARWATER – Frosted Fancy Cake Studio recently opened at 26236 U.S. 19 N. in the Village at

Countryside Shopping Center.

Karen Kidder – owner and operator and award-winning sugar artist – and her family offer many flavors of cupcakes from plain to exotic. The business also specializes in decorated cakes for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, business meetings and all other special occasions or events.

"Our skills range from basic buttercream cakes to the more extreme and popular Fondant covered cakes," a press release announcing the opening states. "Embellishments include gum-paste flowers, pulled sugar, blown sugar, poured sugar, modeling chocolate, gravity defying stringwork and more."

Om Sweet Om opens

PALM HARBOR – Om Sweet Om recently opened at 1017 Illinois Ave.

Om Sweet Om offers classes ranging from art and music to yoga, dance, meditation, and Pilates. Most yoga classes are family-oriented.

"At Om Sweet Om we strive for inclusion," a press release from the new business states.

For information, call 735-2063 or visit oso-yoga.com.



Pine Place Largo celebrates Pinky Jackson for her 25 years of service.

Local stylists attend Redken Exchange

LARGO – Kelly Hyland, Samantha Shaw and Kristina Weck from Salon West on Walsingham recently upgraded their skills at The Redken Exchange in New York City.

Hyland, Shaw and Weck –

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Safe at Home

Our goal at Comfort Keepers is to keep our senior clients independent in their homes. This goal is driven with "safety" as the key component. In a heartbeat, a fall can occur that may or may not result in broken bones but for an elderly person it can be a setback that can be life changing as far as them being able to maintain living in their homes. The effect of falls can be devastating both physically and financially.

Medications are often the culprit for falls. It is a good practice to ask your doctor about the side effects of each drug you are taking so you are aware of what to expect and be sure to report them to him/her. Also share this information with your family and caregiver. Certain drugs can cause the blood pressure to lower which when getting up out of a chair or bed too quickly may cause dizziness or fainting. Try to get up slowly, especially in the middle of the night, sit on the edge of the bed a moment and then rise slowly to get your bearings.

Walkers, canes and other tools of assistance are needed in the prevention of falls. Floppy slippers and shoes with slick soles can be a hazard. Often older adults tend to shuffle more than pick up their feet which makes tripping a real possibility especially on uneven pavement. It is very common for our seniors to attempt to do tasks that they have done their entire life when these very tasks now put them at risk for falling. For example, just one step up on a stool or

Diane Genovese – Owner

ladder is extremely dangerous for older adults, who do not have the strength and balance of previous years. Encourage your loved ones to please ask a family member or caregiver to change a light bulb or reach items in cabinets that are too high. Electrical cords running across walkways, clutter or too many throw rugs are an accident waiting to happen. Railings on stairs, grab bars in the bathroom and adequate light are all easy fixes for prevention. It takes our eyes a while to adjust between darkness and light, therefore, adequate lighting is a must.

Upon sign up for services with Comfort Keepers, a home environment assessment is done to offer the families ideas of how to take precautions against their loved one falling. This is a thorough checklist of potential conditions and/or methods to assist in prevention of injuries due to falls. Living well encompasses many aspects that in-home care can enhance. These aspects include mental, physical, nutritional and "Safety" considerations. We offer technology solutions, such as a Personal Emergency Response System, a fall detector, and a medication management system, all designed to increase safety.

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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.

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LETTERS

No excuse for Seminole City Council's antics

Editor:
The Seminole City Council is a nonpartisan legislative group placed into office by the electors of the city of Seminole. It appears since 2007 that some of the council members are having difficulty understanding the definition of "nonpartisan." With so many issues being decided by a 6-1 vote, one may be asking if a council's member's political preference is interfering with their decision.

If partisan politics are involved it would explain why some issues are being questioned – a practice which may not have occurred in the past. Ignoring or evading the questions only creates more questions. Seminole residents resent the constant bickering taking place at city hall. They are exposed to the antics of our congressional leaders on a daily basis in Washington, D.C., so there is no excuse for the same actions taking place in the local community.

Censure is a political action usually employed on the national level. For a member to initiate such an action on the local level may indicate a lack of legislative experience and ability to solve problems. In addition, it puts the other members in the uncomfortable position of voting on a motion, which should not have been made. Maybe it would better serve the public if the councilor responsible for the censure motion would focus more attention on their unmet campaign promises.

Pat Jordan
Seminole

Plantamura is a disruptive force

Editor:
This is a letter in favor of the Seminole City Council vote for censure of Ms. Plantamura. For years Plantamura has been a disruptive force on the City Council and I applaud the courage of the city council, by a vote of 6 for, 1 against, censure. Finally the City Council is standing up, and pointing out how Plantamura has been so disruptive and harmful to the organized running of our Seminole city government.

Mr. Edmunds is one of the best city managers in America and I am afraid Ms. Plantamura has hastened his departure. Ms. Plantamura does not work well with others, and especially with Mr. Edmunds.

Royal Edmunds
Seminole

Council member: Censure is character assassination

Editor:
I must set the record straight regarding the censure by Seminole Council. This was a baseless attempt to discredit me. I am not so naive as to think that these things don't happen in politics. I am not in this office for a popularity contest, but to serve my city. That said, the censure is character assassination, which has led to unsubstantiated accusations. Should this continue, it will be followed by charges of libel and/or slander.

I am guilty of one thing – asking questions and expecting answers. I recently wrote three yet unanswered letters to City Manager Edmunds. The letters inquired about an employee repeating a death threat on an elected official; unauthorized filing through city records without the clerk's permission and the resultant lock being changed on the official files of the city; and why a candidate who missed an election deadline was qualified by our city to run. I also questioned city policy on threats of violence. The censure is a theatrical distraction from those serious questions.

Citizens should seek out the facts through City Hall, which may become more difficult, as the major issue during censure discussion was Council's motion allowing the city to choose not to fulfill public requests for information. Under this new motion, if a citizen asks our manager for information, which could expose mismanagement, Edmunds can, at his discretion, now simply ask if Council would dismiss the request. Fortunately, video-recordings of meetings are on the city's website and my unanswered letters are posted at www.patplant.blogspot.com.

Patricia Plantamura
Seminole City Councilor

Rights of LGT citizens: a slippery slope for the majority

Re: "Domestic partnerships: not equality," Tiffany Razzano's column, July 24

Editor:
I suppose you deem it your charter to give voice to all representations of our society, albeit even those in the extreme minority. Fair enough. You serve us well by protecting our rights to free speech. The question is: How are we in the majority to respond to pleas like Tiffany's? As lesbians, she and her girlfriend are part of a group of LGBT citizens that make up only 3-4 percent of our population by the latest scientific polls. Yet, their complaints against our government seem to be getting an inordinate amount of press and response in public policy. The problem seems to be a lack of consensus and will in the majority about what we think is essential to protect liberty and what is aberrant behavior. It presents a slippery slope that will continue to subject us to the tyranny of other small minorities lest we sort out what is really constitutionally defensible.

Tiffany says that she and her girlfriend are 'just like any loving couple, that wants – no deserves – to spend their lives together.' There will be public costs to protecting this demand – both fiscal and social. We the people ought to consider carefully whether we can afford them in the long run.

Roger Shell
Redington Shores

Proud to be Madeira Beach residents

Editor:
My husband and I just returned from having breakfast at the Snack Shack at Archibald Park. We thought the food was delicious and the surroundings – well when you can look out from your seat at the beautiful Gulf of Mexico, life is great.

The new Snack Shack recently opened last week and we were excited to check it out. The staff was busy putting extra little touches to the place but they still had time for a smile and a warm welcome to their establishment.

As a resident, I happily commend the city on all of the improvements that have been made possible in the area and the progress is well worth it. We are able to see the community improve and flourish right before our eyes. It makes us proud to say that we live in the beautiful city of Madeira Beach.

Judy Showell
Madeira Beach

What do you think?

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

Here are some more guidelines for letters:

- Letters are printed on a first-come, first-served basis. They may be edited to correct grammar, spelling and factual errors. They also may be edited for clarity.
- Please keep letters to editor to 700 words. Longer letters may be cut due to space limitations.
- Letters should address issues or current events. Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations. The newspaper will not print letters that contain slanderous or racial statements.
- Please do not use profanity.
- We do not publish poetry or songs in letters to the editor.
- Each writer may submit one letter per month.
- We can't return letters to the editor.

To which class do you belong?

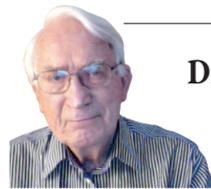
Americans like to think we live in a classless society. I agree. All my life I've bumped into individuals with no class at all. Rude, ill-bred whelps, oozing offensiveness from every unwashed pore. You know the kind, I'm sure.

However, whether we like it or not, the rest of us are scattered into dozens of classes, categories and types. For example, in today's economy we each belong either to the top 1 percent (who have financial assets greater than the net worth of Argentina), or the bottom 99 percent, who wander around in tattered confusion, muttering "Where did my money go?"

Then there are the social classes. The major groupings used to go like this: "Working" class, i.e., persons who earn money with their muscles and carry lunch buckets to work; the "white collar" class, who work in offices and watch Facebook on their computers; and "the professional" class — doctors, lawyers, and auto mechanics who earn \$500 an hour and up. All other workers were divided into dozens of sub-categories such as nurses, long-distance truck drivers and monkey-cage cleaners.

The symbol of social climbing was a ladder, or a greasy pole. This gave rise to sayings such as "Be nice to people on your way up, because you'll meet them again on your way down." Also, "The only thing wrong with reaching the top is that from that point there's only one way to go." These epigrams are credited both to Charlemagne and to Pete Rose.

The chief goal of social climbers was to be (or appear) different or better than those around you. There are about 2,700 ways to do this. In the old days, the most common



Driver's Seat
Bob Driver

climbing techniques included getting rich, getting a better education, owning a big house and a Maserati automobile, or joining a country club where you could eat in a noisy dining room while engaging in intellectual talk, i.e., real estate.

Some of those methods still work, but today's ultimate social climbing device is to become "cool." Once you're accepted as being cool, the sky is your limit, at least for a short time. The trouble is that the meaning of cool is always changing. What's cool today can be regarded as lame tomorrow.

A similar glitch is that what raises your status in the eyes of some people will cause you to become a joke to others. Example: implanting a steel ball in your tongue, or having a dragon tattooed on your forearm. Either of those moves can bring you new friends on the street, but you can say sayonara to your future as a stockbroker.

Another mistake a social climber can make is to appear in public in flip-flops. If Bill Gates, Helen Mirren or Charlie Rose were to step out on the street while wearing flip-flops, they would dive 80 points on the "distinguished" scale. Maybe that's just my prejudice.

Over the years, social climbing and self-improvement have sometimes become entan-

gled. Example: enlarging your vocabulary. In the 1950s, dozens of books offered to teach you bigger, better words such as "egregious" and "misanthropic." The assumption was that if someone heard you use such terms, he would immediately hire you or ask you to marry his rich spinster aunt. Today, of course, anyone using a word more arcane than "awesome" will be shunned as a showoff and a freak.

Another status-raising fad was public speaking. Toastmasters and the Dale Carnegie courses promised, or implied, that if you could get up and express yourself smoothly before a group, your business and social future was assured. I'm sure that often was the case. However, the flaw in that idea was that when your speech ended and you sat down, you were still Homer Hankins from Gulch, Okla. Nothing had changed.

As you can see from all of the foregoing discussion, determining the class in which we belong can be confusing and inconclusive. Today, many ambitious men and women don't climb ladders; they simply move sideways into new playing fields and situations. There they succeed or fail because of their own efforts or, more likely, because of the invisible influence of time, fate, happenstance and dumb luck.

At the center of the effort to join another "better" class is the wish to alter one's basic nature or origins. You can't fault an oyster for wanting to smooth down the rough edges of its shell. But in the process the oyster may accidentally get rid of the piece of grit that, left alone, would turn into a pearl.

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



Photo by JIM LAYFIELD

Tampa Bay Newspapers' animal identification committee voted 3-0 to confirm that the reptile in this picture is an alligator.

Standing his ground against wildlife

I hope I don't dream that I fed a downy woodpecker to a crocodile in the Largo Nature Preserve.

Critters have been on my mind lately. And when I think about critters too much, I tend to have wild dreams about them – from dust mites to Colombian tegus.

A couple of Saturdays ago, I heard a large banging on the side of the roof on my building. The uninvited guest was a downy woodpecker, which ignored me as I began shooting pictures of it. Then I realized that the little bugger had a masonry drill bit for a beak and was creating a cavern in the roof.

I don't think our condo board authorized this work.

"Keep it up and you're going to be a dead downy," I said to the bird, putting down my camera.

I guess the bird got tired of all the attention it was getting – and probably was offended at the names it was being called – because I haven't seen it since last weekend.

I asked our office bug control guy what was the best way to get rid of a woodpecker. One of his suggestions was to put a rubber snake on the roof.

Ahhh – the ol' rubber snake remedy.

Good idea. When I was kid I had a rubber snake, which usually rested on the top of my chest of drawers in my bedroom. One day the housekeeper, Irene, came in and saw the snake. Irene shrieked and fled the room. Hearing Irene's blood-curdling scream was enough to make me flee the room. Wonder what she'd do if she saw a real snake, or something bigger, such as a gator.



Tom Germond

Speaking of which, with fears of a woodpecker peering out of a hole in my roof fresh on my mind, I listened to voicemail from a reader who said that the photographer erred in identifying the subject of a photo as an alligator in a recent edition of our newspapers.

"That's a crocodile, dude. And you need to let authorities know about it because they are a whole lot more aggressive than alligators are. Look at your picture ... learn your gators ... and crocs," the reader said.

Call the authorities? Good idea – to ask them to get rid of the damn woodpecker on my roof. Crocodile in the Largo Nature Preserve? There's a better chance of seeing a monkey there.

Guess it's possible a crocodile could call the preserve home, since an 11-footer was found in Lake Tarpon a year ago. But a crocodile would have to be adept at charting a course to the preserve from there or anywhere else without ending up as road kill – unless it befriended a coyote that showed it the way.

Somebody's pet? A 10-foot python was found dead in the preserve in 2009. I wonder what Irene would think of that?

Dozens of reports have been made throughout Florida in the past two decades about people encountering, harboring or being attacked by exotic animals, such as tegus, boas, monitors, piranhas and zebra-donkey hybrids. So I don't ignore most calls from readers about wildlife, including a report of a Sasquatch and an Elvis sighting.

We referred the reptile matter to the Tampa Bay Newspapers' animal identification committee, which consists of three editors. Meeting on July 22, we discussed for about a minute whether said reptile was an alligator, crocodile, tegu or just a decoy.

"All in favor of it being an alligator say aye," I said.

Motion passed 3-0.

It's an alligator, dude, unless a wildlife expert says otherwise. Haven't heard back from state yet, but I'd be surprised if we and our photographer were in error.

The animal identification committee was no help with my woodpecker problem. You should also know that I really have no intention of killing it because that would be a violation of the Migratory Bird Act and probably a dozen other laws, treaties, codes of ethics, the Ten Commandments and what not. However, if I did resort to violence, I think I could make a compelling argument that I'd be covered by the Stand Your Ground law.

Where's Irene when I need her? She could scare anything to death.

One shriek from her and it's bye bye birdie.

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

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St. Petersburg General Hospital

ORTHOPEDICS



SPINE CARE YOU CAN TRUST!

presented by Paula Jewell
Florida Spine & Neuro Center Representative
Thursday, August 7 • 11:00 a.m.
Holiday Inn Express • 975 Broadway St., Dunedin
Wednesday, August 13 • 11:00 a.m.
Hampton Inn • 1200 34th Street North., St. Petersburg
Monday, August 25 • 11:00 a.m.
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo

presented by Largo Medical Center



A DECADE LATER, STILL PUTTING YOUR TRUST IN OUR KNEE SURGEONS!

presented by Pat Kosiba, RN
Florida Knee & Orthopedic Pavilion Representative
Monday, August 18 • 11:00 a.m.
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo
Wednesday, August 27 • 11:00 a.m.
Hampton Inn • 1200 34th Street North., St. Petersburg

presented by Largo Medical Center



SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR HIP PAIN!

presented by Pat Kosiba, RN
Florida Knee & Orthopedic Pavilion Representative
Wednesday, August 20 • 11:00 a.m.
Residence Inn Marriott • 940 Court St., Clearwater



MANAGING AND TREATING KNEE PAIN

presented by David Braun, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon, Sports Medicine Specialist
Wednesday, August 20 • 12:00 Noon
Edward White Hospital Auditorium • 2299 9th Ave. N., Suite 1-G, St. Petersburg
(One-story office building on the east side of hospital)



ARTHRITIS AND DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE

presented by Dale Bramlet, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon, Hand Surgery
Monday, August 25 • 12:00 Noon
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building (Boca Ciega Room)
1609 Pasadena Ave. S., St. Petersburg



SEEKING RELIEF FROM SHOULDER ACHES AND PAINS?

presented by Anthony Albert, MD – Orthopedic Surgeon
Tuesday, August 26 • 12:00 Noon
Northside Hospital Auditorium
6006 49th Street N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg
(Located in the Medical Office Plaza on the north end of campus)

HEART



ALL ABOUT ATRIAL FIBRILLATION (A-FIB)

presented by Robert Sheppard, MD – Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Wednesday, August 13 • 12:00 Noon
Northside Hospital Auditorium
6006 49th Street N., Suite 230, St. Petersburg
(Located in the Medical Office Plaza on the north end of campus)



DID YOU KNOW HEART ATTACKS HAVE BEGINNINGS?

presented by Stephen Holcomb, RN, RCIS, CNOR, RNFA
Cardiac Service Line Coordinator, Palms of Pasadena Hospital
Wednesday, August 20 • 12:00 Noon
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building (Boca Ciega Room)
1609 Pasadena Ave. S., St. Petersburg

STROKE



COMMON NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS IN THE MATURE POPULATION

presented by Alberto Vasquez, MD – Neurologist
Director of the Palms of Pasadena Hospital Stroke Program
Friday, August 1 • 12:00 Noon
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building (Boca Ciega Room)
1609 Pasadena Ave. S., St. Petersburg

GENERAL MEDICINE



A MATTER OF BALANCE: MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

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6500 38th Avenue North, St. Petersburg

presented by St. Petersburg General Hospital
and Palms of Pasadena Hospital



UPDATE ON THE SHINGLES VACCINE

presented by David Long, MD – Internal Medicine Specialist
Tuesday, August 12 • 11:30 a.m.

Brentwood Senior Living Community (The Community Room)
6280 Central Ave., St. Petersburg

presented by Palms of Pasadena Hospital



SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CONCUSSION

presented by Andrea Sprankel, MS, ATC, LAT
Certified Athletic Trainer
Wednesday, August 13 • 7:00 p.m.
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW, Largo



EXPERIENCING PAINFUL FOOT CONDITIONS? WE CAN HELP

presented by Douglas B. Moss, DPM, FACFAS – Podiatric Surgery
Friday, August 15 • 12:00 Noon
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building (Boca Ciega Room)
1609 Pasadena Ave. S., St. Petersburg



ASK A DOCTOR: BRING YOUR MEDICAL CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

presented by Tim Carlson, MD – Family Practitioner
Friday, August 29 • 12:00 Noon
Edward White Hospital Auditorium • 2299 9th Ave. N., Suite 1-G, St. Petersburg
(One-story office building on the east side of hospital)

BIARIATRICS

SURGICAL WEIGHT LOSS: GETTING BACK TO A HEALTHIER, HAPPIER YOU!



presented by Robyn Ache, DO – Bariatric & General Surgeon
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center
& Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Saturday, August 2 • 10:00 a.m.
Safety Harbor Resort & Spa • 105 North Bayshore Drive, Safety Harbor
Monday, August 18 • 6:00 p.m.
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building
1609 Pasadena Ave., St. Petersburg



presented by Ernest Rehnke, MD – Bariatric & General Surgeon
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center
& Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Monday, August 4 • 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express & Suites • 975 Broadway Street, Dunedin
Saturday, August 16 • 9:30 a.m.
Palms of Pasadena Hospital Professional Building
1609 Pasadena Ave., St. Petersburg



presented by Richard Gordon, MD – Bariatric & General Surgeon
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center
& Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Monday, August 11 • 6:00 p.m.
Largo Medical Center • 201 14th St. SW., Largo
Wednesday, August 27 • 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express • 2171 54th Ave. No., St. Petersburg



presented by Sebastian Tas, MD – Bariatric & General Surgeon
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center
& Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Wednesday, August 20 • 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express & Suites • 3990 Tampa Road, Oldsmar



presented by Tiffany Jessee, DO – Bariatric & General Surgeon
Florida Bariatric Centers at Largo Medical Center
& Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Tuesday, August 26 • 6:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express & Suites • 2580 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater

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

Briefs

SHINE offers free Medicare counseling

The Annual Enrollment Period – the official period during which changes can be made to Medicare Prescription Drug or Medicare Advantage plans – runs from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, 2014.

This is the time individuals have an opportunity to make adjustments that will complement their health needs. SHINE is a program of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and is operated locally through the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc. Specially trained volunteers help Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to understand their health care options. SHINE volunteers are trained to offer free, unbiased, and confidential information and counseling concerning Medicare. The program encourages beneficiaries to review their benefits and evaluate their health care options each year. Acting quickly can assure a smooth transition into the 2015 benefit year.

To receive help from SHINE, individuals may schedule appointments at designated SHINE counseling sites, attend enrollment events in their local communities, or arrange to speak with a trained SHINE counselor by calling 800-963-5337. For a listing of SHINE counseling sites and enrollment events, visit www.floridashine.org.

Chili's to host blood drive

Select Chili's restaurants will host the Food & A Flick Blood Drive Friday, Aug. 1, 3 to 8 p.m.

Donors can share their power to save lives and receive a \$5 Chili's coupon, plus a voucher for a free movie ticket.

For a complete list of locations, call 888-936-6283 or visit www.oneblood.org/chilis. The following Pinellas locations will participate in the event:

- 5430 East Bay Drive, Clearwater
- 13359 Seminole Blvd., Largo
- 7250 U.S. 19 N., Pinellas Park
- 40584 U.S. 19 N., Tarpon Springs
- 6798 Crosswinds Drive, St. Petersburg

All donors also will receive a wellness check-up of blood pressure, temperature and iron count, including a cholesterol screening.

Generally healthy people age 16 or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can donate blood. To learn more about the importance of blood donation and how donors can target the power of their blood type visit oneblood.org.

Neurologist to discuss insomnia

SEMINOLE – BayCare will sponsor a free program on treat-

Your smile is a window into personal health

BY CAROLE LANDES

What does the dentist really see when peering at our teeth and gums?

Most likely your dentist is looking for clues that go beyond tooth decay. Studies show the mouth is a window into the health of the human body. Diseases that affect the entire body may first be noticed because of mouth sores or other oral problems.

Our mouths are filled with bacteria: some linked to tooth decay and some to gum (periodontal) disease. Plaque, the film of bacteria constantly forming on teeth, initiates gum disease if it isn't removed. When gum tissues become infected, more than tooth loss is at stake. Gum disease also has been associated with serious health conditions, including diabetes, heart attacks, stroke and Alzheimer's.

What can you do to stay healthy? The American Dental Association

recommends that you:

- Gently brush your teeth twice a day with a soft-bristled brush and fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush your tongue, which removes bacteria and freshens your breath.
- Floss your teeth at least once a day to remove bacteria buildup between teeth.
- Eat a healthy, balanced diet and limit snacks between meals.
- Choose dental products approved by the American Dental Association.
- Schedule regular dental visits and cleanings.
- Tell your dentist about changes in your mouth and overall health.

Carole Landes is the lead instructor of the dental assistant program at Everest University-Largo.

ments for insomnia Friday, Aug. 8, noon, at in the fifth floor auditorium at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd.

Neurologist Diana Pollock, M.D., will discuss the diagnosis of and treatments for insomnia. For information, call 392-3932.

Lake Seminole Square to host cooking demo

SEMINOLE – A free program on creating healthy gourmet breakfast for retirees will be presented Thursday, Aug. 14, 9:30 a.m., at Lake Seminole Square, 8333 Seminole Blvd.

The program will feature a cooking demonstration, presenting a healthy breakfast selection for two that is easy to make. A mystery guest will share a family recipe. Seating is limited and registration is required. To RSVP, call 392-3932.

strengthen the blood supply, especially in times of natural disasters such as hurricanes in the south and winter storms in the north, while at the same time create operational efficiencies that bring additional value to our healthcare partners and our blood donors.

"We have entered a new era of blood banking," said Jim Covert, chief executive officer of ITxM. "Hospital consolidation continues to occur and medical facilities need larger scale blood centers to serve multiple locations in broader service regions. As their partner, we must do our part to help ensure the blood is available when and where it is needed while assisting the industry in its efforts to control healthcare costs. Keeping pace with the changing times is not enough. As stewards of the blood supply and trusted community assets we must take proactive and innovative measures now so we are able to meet the blood needs of the future."

The merger would create the largest independent not-for-profit blood center in the United States distributing nearly 2 million units of blood annually, with combined revenues of \$480 million and employing more than 3,500 people. The due diligence period is expected to last for the next several months. In the meantime, the centers will continue operations without any changes in service or leadership.

Back-to-school blood drives set

Select Walmart stores will host Back to School blood drives over the tax free weekend.

Donors can share their power to save lives and enjoy a \$10 Walmart gift card. Walmart blood drives will take place Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 2-3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For a complete list of Florida locations, visit www.oneblood.org/walmart or call 888-936-6283.

The following Pinellas stores will participate on Aug. 2:

- 1111 Missouri Ave., Largo
- 10238 Bay Pines Blvd., St. Petersburg
- 23106 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater
- 1794 22nd St. S., St. Petersburg
- 3801 Tampa Road, Oldsmar

The following Pinellas stores will participate on Aug. 3:

- 2677 Roosevelt Blvd., Clearwater
- 23106 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater

All donors also will receive a wellness check-up of blood pressure, temperature and iron count, including a cholesterol screening.

Generally healthy people age 16 or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can donate blood. To learn more about the importance of blood donation and how donors can target the power of their blood type, visit oneblood.org.

Home Care Assistance to celebrate opening

CLEARWATER – Home Care Assistance Tampa Bay, a provider of non-medical, in-home senior care, will host a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday, Aug. 6, 11:30

ALS Awareness Game set for Aug. 17

ST. PETERSBURG – On Sunday, Aug. 17, Tropicana Field will become Lou Gehrig's house, when the Tampa Bay Rays take on the New York Yankees for the annual ALS Awareness Game at 1:40 p.m.

ALS supporters will sit together in a special section and the ticket purchase price includes a T-shirt. To order tickets, visit www.ALSAFL.org.

Rays fans will root not only for Longoria and Price, but also for those who have fought or continue to fight for their lives – people with ALS live on average only two to five years after diagnosis. The Tampa Bay Rays and The ALS Association Florida Chapter hope that the game will increase awareness of ALS, and the difficulties faced daily by people living with the insidious disease. Nearly 500 supporters of The ALS Association Florida Chapter are expected to attend, all wearing commemorative Lou Gehrig 75th anniversary Strike out ALS T-shirts. Gehrig retired from baseball with an emotional farewell speech on July 4, 1939.

In the 75 years since Gehrig lost his life to the disease that now bears his name, there's still no known cause, treatment or cure for ALS. To kick off the game, Rays' play-by-play announcer, Andy Freed, will read Lou Gehrig's famous farewell speech, player David DeJesus will be featured in a special PSA, and an ALS patient will throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

"The ALS Association Florida Chapter values our wonderful community partner, the Tampa Bay Rays," said Kim Hanna in a press release. Hanna is president and CEO of The ALS Association Florida Chapter. "We are hoping the game will act as a platform to spread awareness and reach those in the community who may not be aware of Lou Gehrig's Disease or its devastating effects."

Bayfront celebrates resident graduates

ST. PETERSBURG – The Family Medicine and OB/GYN Resi-

dency Programs at Bayfront Health St. Petersburg recently hosted a graduate recognition and awards ceremony.

The following are the 2014 resident graduates:

- Family medicine graduates – Lisa Ball, D.O.; Patricia Feito, M.D.; Daniel Gordon, M.D.; Megan Janson, M.D.; Eric Svestka, M.D.; Eilene Weibley, M.D.; Katherine Wojnowich, M.D.; and Kimberly Wollett, M.D.
- OB/GYN graduates – Barry Iguobadia, M.D.; Kenneth Kaufmann, M.D.; Jenny Michael, M.D.; and Sean Tubens, M.D.
- Sports medicine graduates – Ajoy Kumar, M.D.; Patrick Mulroni, M.D.; and Nicholas Peterkin, M.D.

Reich elected to CHA board

ST. PETERSBURG – Bon Secours St. Petersburg Health System recently announced that Karen Reich, chief executive officer, has been elected to a three-year term on the Catholic Health Association Board of Trustees.

Reich was one of seven individuals elected to the board during the 2014 Catholic Health Assembly in Chicago, June 22-24.

The Catholic Health Association is the trade association for more than 600 hospitals and 1,400 long-term care and other health facilities that are in the Catholic health ministry. CHA's board, consisting of 23 trustees, is responsible for developing CHA's strategic direction, ensuring CHA's fidelity to its mission, stewarding CHA's resources, and performing other governance activities to support and strengthen the Catholic health ministry in the United States.

Reich previously served as one of 16 members of the Catholic Health Association's Continuum of Care/Aging Services Committee, which advocates for public policies that promote a high quality, accessible, and affordable continuum of services to address the needs of older persons and those with chronic conditions.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to bring our local perspective to this national-level board and to make sure our concerns are part of the public dialogue," Reich said in a press release. "Working with CHA has broadened my outlook on the effect that changes within the health care industry are having on senior care providers."

Library to host Tools to Quit program

SAFETY HARBOR – Tools to Quit, a free smoking cessation program, will be presented Saturday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Safety Harbor Public Library, 101 Second St. N.

The program will provide guidance on preparing a plan, cravings, physical and emotional symptoms and will provide free cessation products. To participate, please be ready to set quit date for two to three weeks after the class.

For information, call 724-1525, ext. 4112.

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Bayfront names chief quality officer

ST. PETERSBURG – Michael Barozzini, formerly the director of quality, regulatory and infection control, has been appointed chief quality officer at Bayfront Health St. Petersburg.

Barozzini has been at Bayfront since 2006 when he started as a critical care charge nurse. Currently working on his master's degree in nursing, he holds bachelor's degrees in business management and nursing and is certified as a critical care nurse and professional in Healthcare Quality.

Blood centers to merge

OneBlood Inc., the not-for-profit blood center serving most of Florida and parts of South Georgia and Alabama, and The Institute for Transfusion Medicine Inc., the not-for-profit blood center and transfusion services management organization operating in Pittsburgh, Chicago, Virginia and parts of Ohio and West Virginia, recently announced an agreement to pursue a merger of the two organizations.

"The landscape of the blood industry is shifting and it demands a progressive and forward-thinking approach to ensure safe, available and affordable blood for our hospital partners and their patients," said Don Doddridge in a press release. Doddridge is chief executive officer of OneBlood. "By combining the resources of two industry leading blood centers we can further

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John Jarboe, A.R.N.P.
Marianne Fisher, CEO

Ridgecrest student travels to Colorado as youth ambassador

SEMINOLE – Parker Williams, 15-year-old Seminole Middle School eighth grader, traveled to the 2014 Boys & Girls Clubs of America Triple Play Leadership Summit July 12-15, at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast selected Parker as their youth ambassador.

"We are proud of Parker," said Nita Smith, president and CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast. "He is an example of how hard work and commitment leads to success."

Parker has overcome many obstacles in his lifetime to achieve success. He is the 2014 Junior Youth of the Year winner for the Ridgecrest Boys & Girls Club. He also received the Turn-Around Student of the Year award at Seminole Middle School, and he made honor role for the entire 2013-2014 school year.

The Pinellas County Housing Authority purchased new luggage for his trip.

The Triple Play Leadership Club Summit taught participants new ways to eat nutritiously, increase physical fitness and form positive relationships with peers and adults. The summit is sponsored by The Coca-Cola Company and the Amerigroup Foundation, and is part of Triple Play, the signature health and wellness program for Boys & Girls Clubs around the country.

"We are so pleased that exceptional kids like Parker will be able to impact their communities and peers through this opportunity," said Erika Von Heiland Strader, director of community marketing for The Coca-Cola Company and a two-time U.S. Olympian. "We're also so grateful to the United States Olympic Committee for providing such an inspiring backdrop to this event for Triple Play kid-leaders throughout the country."

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast is a registered nonprofit with seven clubs serving Pinellas County: two in St. Petersburg, two in Clearwater and one each in Largo, Tarpon Springs and Pinellas Park. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast serve more than 400 kids with after-school programs and summer camps.

For more information, visit www.bgcsun.org.



At left, Parker Williams, left, poses with Ridgecrest Boys & Girls Club Director Dre Nix. Below, Parker and his mother, Marilyn, center, receive luggage from the Pinellas County Housing Authority in Largo for Parker's trip to the Triple Play Leadership Summit in Colorado Springs.

Photos courtesy of BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE SUNCOAST
Parker Williams, left, who attends the Ridgecrest Boys & Girls Club, poses with former Club kid and Paralympian Blake Leeper at the Triple Play Leadership Summit in Colorado Springs July 12-15.



School notes

BTAG celebrates successes, plans fundraiser

LARGO – Bridging the Achievement Gap Tutoring Program at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 13255 118th St. N. has had another successful school year providing essential tutoring services to students from area high schools from the greater Ridgecrest area.

The staff, teachers and volunteers working for this faith-based after-school tutoring program, in partnership with local community organizations and Pinellas County Schools, served 136 students in the 2013-14 school year. According to a press release, many students earned credit recovery, passed FCAT and end-of-year course exams as a result of the BTAG program. The class of 2014 includes many students who successfully graduated on time as a result of participation in this program. Alumni of the BTAG program are graduating from colleges and universities.

An annual celebration and fundraising banquet will be presented Thursday, Aug. 14, 6 p.m., at the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church. Michael Grego, Pinellas County Schools superintendent, will make brief comments on behalf of Pinellas County Schools at the dinner. Tickets cost \$25, which includes a meal. Call James Fezell at 501-5517.

Local school supply lists available online

Parents from local schools have a new tool in their back-to-school bag of tricks this year, as school supply lists are now posted on TeacherLists.com, the National School Supply Lists Directory.

According to a press release introducing the website, with just one or two clicks, parents can find all of their 2014 lists and get a head-start on this annual back-to-school chore. Parents can print their lists or - for the first time look up their lists right on their smart phones in store aisles. Unlike most school websites, the TeacherLists site is completely optimized for mobile use.

Participating Pinellas schools include the following:

- Azalea Elementary, St. Petersburg
- Bauder Elementary, Seminole
- Belcher Elementary, Clearwater
- Blanton Elementary, St. Petersburg
- Clearwater Fundamental Middle School, Clearwater
- Cross Bayou Elementary, Pinellas Park

- Fuguitt Elementary, Largo
- Madeira Beach Fundamental School, Madeira Beach
- Mildred Helms Elementary, Largo
- Oakhurst Elementary, Largo
- Ridgecrest Elementary, Largo
- Seminole Elementary, Seminole

"For decades, the supply list process has been a frustration for parents," said Tim Sullivan, founder of TeacherLists.com. "Where to find the lists? When are they available? Forgetting the list on the counter at home? All of those issues are solved with TeacherLists.com."

Zilhaver attends DENSI

CLEARWATER – Karen Zilhaver, a media specialist from Saint Paul's School in Clearwater, joined 149 educators from across the United States, Canada and United Kingdom at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, for a weeklong professional development experience hosted by Discovery Education's Discovery Educator Network.

The six-day DEN Summer Institute, presented July 13-18, featured a number of seminars and hands-on workshops designed to support educators as they use the latest technologies to create authentic digital

learning environments that engage students and improve achievement.

In addition, the program provided an opportunity for participants to connect, collaborate and share resources, ideas and strategies for integrating digital resources into classroom instruction.

"I am honored to have been selected to participate in the 2014 DENSI," said Zilhaver in a press release. "This experience has allowed me to learn from and connect with other enthusiastic educators who share a passion for incorporating digital resources in our students' education. I am excited to inform my colleagues in Saint Paul's School about these new, creative strategies and techniques for advancing student achievement, and to apply them in my school for the 2014-15 school year."

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Mary Butler
Realty Executives – Adamo & Associates

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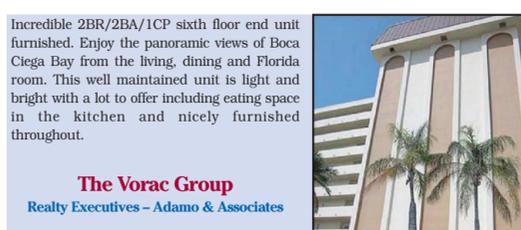
Seminole **\$177,500**
3BR/2BA/1CG



Tropical pool home beautifully renovated inside and out. Spacious living area has open floor plan with lots of natural light. Split bedroom plan allows views of the pool and backyard from most every room. Kitchen has solid wood cabinets, stainless appliances and granite countertops.

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Dolphins take time for lessons

"Gee, thanks, Dad. That's swell," some teenage Biff might have replied as his father handed him the car keys so his son could drive to the big dance.



Dolphin Watch
Ann Weaver

We do not use terms like gee or swell much anymore. That innocence has long given way to an Instagram page filled with pictures of yourself (selfies) and twerking on the dance floor at clubs where showing the online world that you are at the party is as important as being at the party itself.

We are posting from a different part of the world, the dolphins outside your doorstep. The dolphin numbers have been average this summer. Average is encouraging. Dolphin numbers have been below average for the last three years. Let us hope they are recovering.

We also are meeting our bull quota. Bulls travel as bonded pairs or singletons. Gnarly and notable, pair Ouch and Fishlips, and pair Grin and Twin Dip, were here for the spring. Many bulls have moved through. We saw Dune, Shop, Hoffman, Brittle, Dipper, Taxus and Ilex only in passing. Others have stayed around. Remnants of the Punch Buddies super-alliance, Nose and Brick are keeping a sharp lookout for available females along the north stretch of the study area.

Keyhole Plus survived a big bite last fall. His lifetime of scars has earned him our admiring appellation the Old Warrior. Schnoz makes periodic appearances. N and Riptab usually appear with a strange new dolphin in tow (N is no fool!). Xiphos, a massive bull who first appeared here in 2012, is turning out to be a real character.

There is a lot of character in the small groups of smaller dolphins you see dance by. These are nursery groups that include current calves (born last summer, in order of appearance, Echo, Fairuz, Twig, Gody, Jacamo and Labrac) plus X's restless 2-year-old Xanion. Threading mysteriously among them are

new dolphins Platinum, LA Rose, Rainbow, Cryptos and Flame.

There have been just three new dolphin calves born so far this summer, two in May to mothers DD1 and LA Stick, and one in June to NF. That means that the 10-year average of twice as many babies born in June as the other warm months has not manifested this year (I hope!).

For a time, moms DD1 and LA Stick forged a brief partnership. They swam together with their calves, tiny tykes at 6- and 5-weeks-old, respectively. They did not swim together just because they had newborns of similar age. DD1 and LA Stick were friends a long time before this.

The other day, Capt. John Heidemann and I found them leaving a sheltered cover. They wandered across into a shallow section of the estuary, heading south in that rhythmic new-mother pace with delicate new charges at their sides.

At 6 weeks old, DD1's calf had almost lost its baby body wrinkles called fetal folds. As the calf fills out on mother's milk, the wrinkles inexorably retreat until the calf's body achieves the sleek form of the well-padded dolphin. DD1's calf had also lost some of its newborn clumsiness. It now managed to match its mom's smooth swimming stride about half the time.

LA Stick's calf was by far the smallest newborn among the 94 newborns we have seen. At 5 weeks old, it was still largely drawn along on its mom's smooth stride. Its fetal folds were still plainly visible. It ended most of its lurching surfaces by dropping back into the water flatly on its chin, in standard "splash landing" style!

The quartet of two moms and two tender (and tenuous) babies meandered over the shallows, paralleling the "road." The road is the strip of water between channel markers where prudent boaters set their course.



Photo by ANN WEAVER

It is never too early to begin being what you are, as DD1's tiny 2-week-old dolphin demonstrates.

It was almost noon. That meant boat traffic was picking up. Indeed, a series of particularly heavy boats flowed out of the no wake zone, heading south like the dolphin quartet. Unlike the quartet, the heavy boats came abreast of the sign advising boats to "resume normal speed" and hit the gas.

One after another, these beastly boats left wake waves rippling across the shallows as big rollers, as if imported from southern California.

The first of these beastly boats accelerated past the dolphins. LA Stick steered her young charge toward it. But schoolmate DD1 did not follow. LA Stick resumed their slow southward crawl, parallel to the road.

The two moms seemed to ignore that next couple of boats as well, just as they had ignored the trio of bulls who had recently swung over in faint interest. The moms took their tiny babies below the swells, to ride out the rollers by swimming beneath them and tickling their bellies on seagrass.

Perhaps the grass tickled too much or an extra fine set of swells rippled over. For both mothers turned and, positioning with a perfection envied by body surfers the world over, showed their babies how to slide on swells - body surfing into the shal-

lows like sliding down a snowy hill on your stomach.

The dolphin babies, accustomed to living as appendages off their mothers' sides, slid with them down the faces of one handsome roller after another.

Human body surfers know how tough these swell lessons can be. But this was not the first swell lesson for LA Stick's newborn. At a scant 9 days of age, it had surfed the voluptuous wake waves behind a yacht at mom's side - even able to leap clear of the water (at mom's side) - the first of a lifetime of swell lessons. And we do not expect our human babies to sit up unaided for months after birth.

It is never too early, or too late, for swells lessons. So too it is never too early for vigilance against natural enemies. The week after the swell lessons, both babies showed signs of being grabbed by something with teeth. Guess it is never too late to start in on a lifetime of scars either.

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

Volunteers sought for Great Bay Scallop Search

TIERRA VERDE - Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteer boats to participate in the Great Bay Scallop Search, set for Saturday, Aug. 23.

The event is a resource-monitoring program where community volunteers snorkel to search for scallops in select areas within Boca Ciega and Lower Tampa bays. The event has been conducted annually since 1993 with the goal to monitor and document the health and status of the local bay scallop population.

Tampa Bay Watch will coordinate 45 volunteer boaters with more than 180 participants to search selected sites for the elusive bay scallops. Volunteers with shallow draft boats are still needed for the event. For information, visit tampabaywatch.org.

"We can witness the health of the bay by tracking the number of scallops found each year," said Peter Clark in a press release. Clark is president of Tampa Bay Watch. "Every year we hope the number of scallops found increases, which means that water quality and habitat are also improving in our estuary."

Some years, volunteers find many scallops and other years they don't.

Factors that may affect the scallop population include red tide, high rainfall and storms. An all-time high for the event was 674 scallops, found in 2009. Bay scallops disappeared from Tampa Bay in the early 1960s when the bay water was highly polluted from dredging operations and industrial and municipal wastes. Tampa Bay's water quality and seagrass beds have since improved to levels that will once again support the bay scallop population. In fact, 2013 research by South-west Florida Water Management District's Surface Water Improvement

and Management Program states that Tampa Bay now supports 34,642 acres of seagrass beds, the largest amount of seagrass measured since the 1950s.

Reservations are required for the Great Bay Scallop Search. Registered scallop searchers will meet Saturday, Aug. 23, at 9 a.m., on the eastern side of the Fort De Soto Boat Ramp in Tierra Verde to receive survey equipment and instructions for the monitoring event. At each site, a weighted transect line 50 meters in length is laid along seagrass beds. Snorkelers count scallops along each side of the transect line, within one meter of each side, creating a 100 square meter survey area.

Bay scallops or Argopecten irradians are secretive bivalves in the same family as clams and oysters. They may reach a shell size of 3 inches, and they spend their short 12- to 18-month lifespan hiding in waters with seagrasses like those of Tampa Bay. Scallops are filter feeders; therefore they are highly sensitive to changes in water quality and can be used to measure an ecosystem's health and signal changes in water quality. Adult bay scallops can pump as much as 15.5 quarts of water per hour, improving water quality that results in long-term growth of seagrass beds. Although bay scallops are edible, it is illegal to harvest scallops in Tampa Bay in order for restoration efforts to be successful.

Tampa Bay Watch is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) stewardship program dedicated exclusively to the charitable and scientific purpose of protecting and restoring the marine and wetland environments of the Tampa Bay estuary encompassing over 400 square miles of open



Photo courtesy of TAMPA BAY WATCH

Members of the Bulleit family participate in the Great Bay Scallop Search, an annual resource-monitoring program where community volunteers snorkel to search for scallops in select areas within Boca Ciega and Lower Tampa bays. Sponsored by Tampa Bay Watch, this year's event will take place Aug. 23.

water and 2,300 square miles of highly-developed watershed. Tampa Bay Watch involves more than 10,000 youth and adult volunteers each year in hands-on habitat restoration projects.

For information on upcoming events, or to become a volunteer or member, visit www.tampabaywatch.org or call 867-8166.

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Diversions

Events • Movies • Classifieds

Largo Leader, Section B, July 31, 2014 • Visit www.TBNweekly.com

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Top five diversions

• **"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest,"** by Dale Wasserman, adapted from the novel by Ken Kesey; Aug. 1-31, at FreeFall Theatre, 6099 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Performances are Thursday, 7 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. Matinees are Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Call 498-5205 or visit www.freefalltheatre.com.

• **The Tampa Bay Comic Con,** Aug. 1-3, at the Tampa Convention Center, 333 S. Franklin St., Tampa. Hours will be Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There also will be after hours programming, from 6 p.m. to midnight, on Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$20 for one day or \$45 for three days. Visit www.tampabaycomiccon.com. Celebrity guests will include appearances by Marc Summers, Richard Madden, Pedro Pascal, John Rhys-Davies, Evan Peters, Caitly Lotz, Brighton Sharbino, Daniel Cudmore, Kyla Kenedy and others. Jim Steranko and Marv Wolfman will be the guests of honor with other comic book creators featured such as Mike Zeck, Cullen Bunn, Frank Brunner, John Beatty and Bob Camp.

• **Maxwell,** Friday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$41. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. In concert, the artist is lauded for his impeccable vocals, his connection to his audience and the sheer physicality of his performance. Maxwell signed to Columbia Records at the tender age of 21. He had already composed more than 300 songs before signing on to the major label. The Brooklyn born phenomenon soon took the music world by storm with his debut album, "Maxwell's Urban Hang Suite." The Grammy Award winning singer/songwriter, record producer and multi-instrumentalist began re-defining classic soul music for a new generation with the release of the critically acclaimed debut in 1996. Fueled in part by the certified gold single "Ascension (Don't Ever Wonder)," the album achieved double platinum status. The debut also received a Grammy nomination for Best R&B Album.



Photo by ERIC JOHNSON/
SHORE FIRE MEDIA
Maxwell performs at Ruth Eckerd Hall Aug. 1.

• **Yes,** Saturday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$49.50. Call 893-7832 or visit www.themahaffey.com. Yes, the iconic British progressive rock band from the 1970s, comes to The Mahaffey Theater for its 2014 summer tour. They will perform their first two classic albums in their entirety and more. It will be a first-time ever event when Yes performs every song on "Fragile," the 1971 groundbreaking album. Following "Fragile," the group will perform a run-through of 1972's "Close to the Edge" and an encore of the band's greatest hits. During the night's encore, the group - bassist Chris Squire, guitarist Steve Howe, drummer Alan White, keyboardist Geoff Downes and singer Jon Davison - also will perform material from their July 8 release "Heaven and Earth."

• **Under The Sun,** Sunday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$49.50. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. Under The Sun, the annual festival tour celebrating the golden age of alternative pop rock and roll, will return for another summer run, this time starring a spectacular lineup that includes Blues Traveler, Sugar Ray, Uncle Kracker and Smash Mouth. In 2013, the inaugural Under The Sun tour was among the most popular and acclaimed events, earning ecstatic media attention with each stop along the way. Critical applause also came from all corners, with Entertainment Weekly officially declaring UTS13 to be "the coolest tour of the summer."



Photo courtesy of WALT DISNEY PICTURES/MARVEL STUDIOS
Zoe Saldana, left, stars as Gamora and Chris Pratt as Peter Quill - aka Star-Lord - in Walt Disney Pictures/Marvel Studios' "Guardians of the Galaxy."

Opening this weekend

Pratt, Saldana, Diesel star in Marvel Studios' 'Guardians of the Galaxy'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

'Guardians of the Galaxy'

Genre: Action and adventure
Cast: Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper, Lee Pace, Michael Rooker, Karen Gillan, Djimon Hounsou, John C. Reilly, Glenn Close and Benicio del Toro
Director: James Gunn
Rated: PG-13

From Marvel, the studio that introduced the global blockbuster franchises of "Iron Man," "Thor," "Captain America" and "The Avengers," comes a new team: the Guardians of the Galaxy.

An action-packed, epic space adventure, Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy" expands the Marvel Cinematic Universe into the cosmos, where brash adventurer Peter Quill finds himself the object of an unrelenting bounty hunt after stealing a mysterious orb coveted by Ronan, a powerful villain with ambitions that threaten the entire universe.

To evade the ever-persistent Ronan, Quill is forced into an uneasy truce with a quartet of disparate misfits - Rocket, a gun-toting raccoon; Groot, a tree-like humanoid; the deadly and enigmatic Gamora and the revenge-driven Drax the Destroyer. But when Quill discovers the true power of the orb and the menace it poses to the cosmos, he must do his best to rally his ragtag rivals for a last, desperate stand ... with the galaxy's fate in the balance.

'Get on Up'

Genre: Drama and musical
Cast: Chadwick Boseman, Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer, Nelsan Ellis, Lennie James, Jill Scott and Dan Aykroyd
Director: Tate Taylor
Rated: PG-13

In his follow-up to the Academy Award-nominated blockbuster "The Help," Tate Taylor directs Chadwick Boseman as James Brown in "Get on Up."

Based on the incredible life story of the Godfather of Soul, the film will give a fearless look inside the music, moves and moods of Brown, taking audiences on the journey from his impoverished childhood to his evolution into one of the most influential figures of the 20th century.



Photo by D. STEVENS
Dan Aykroyd, left, stars as Ben Bart and Chadwick Boseman as James Brown in "Get on Up."

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

'War Story'

Genre: Drama
Cast: Catherine Keener, Ben Kingsley and Hafsa Herzi
Director: Mark Jackson
Not rated

Lee (Catherine Keener) is a war photographer who has spent her adult life in the world's most treacherous conflict zones, documenting the catastrophes of others.

See **OPENING**, page 4B

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Upcoming events

Largo

• **The Dave Smith Jazz Trio**, part of the Candlelight Cabaret Jazz Concert Series, Wednesday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m., at Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road, Largo. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. The Dave Smith Jazz Trio will present an evening of Latin Jazz favorites. A cash bar will be available.

• **Book signing**, Saturday, Aug. 16, 1 to 4 p.m., at Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive, Largo. Call 587-7353. Author J.J. Scoushboe will be on hand to introduce and market the book "Beenie's Search" to the local community.

• **"August: Osage County,"** by Tracy Letts, presented by Eight O'Clock Theatre; Aug. 22-31, at Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25.50 for adults and \$12.50 for students. A city of Largo handling fee of \$3.50 will be added to each ticket. Call 587-6793 or visit largoarts.com. This production features adult language and content and is recommended for mature audiences only.

Clearwater

• **The '70s Movie Series**, Saturday, Aug. 2, 7 p.m., at the Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets are \$7. Call 791-7400 or visit www.atthecap.com. The double feature will include "Earthquake" and "Jaws."

• **Ken Ludwig's "Moon Over Buffalo,"** Aug. 8-24, at West Coast Players Theatre, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Matinees are Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$19. Call 437-2363 or visit www.wcplayers.org. Charlotte and George Hay are on tour in Buffalo in 1953 with a repertoire consisting of "Cyano de Bergerac" - "revised, one nostril version" - and Noel Coward's "Private Lives," when they receive word that they might just have one last shot at stardom: Frank Capra is coming to town to see their matinee.

• **Crosby, Stills & Nash**, Saturday, Aug. 9, 7:30 p.m., at Ruth Eck-

erd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$54.75. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. On the heels of their sold out March 2014 tour, Crosby, Stills & Nash have announced additional U.S. summer tour dates which includes a stop at Ruth Eckerd Hall. The group will perform songs from their extensive catalogue, as well as new material from each member. Once again, CSN will be accompanied by its backing band featuring Shane Fontayne (guitar), Steve DiStanislao (drums), Kevin McCormick (bass), James Raymond (keyboards), and Todd Caldwell (organ). More than four decades since CSN first harmonized in Laurel Canyon, and played its first-ever concert as a trio at the legendary Woodstock festival, its members continue a creative partnership that is one of the most influential and enduring in music. David Crosby, Stephen Stills, and Graham Nash have each been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame two times - with Crosby, Stills & Nash, and a second time with The Byrds, Buffalo Springfield and The Hollies, respectively. They are also in the Songwriter's Hall of Fame, honored both for CSN as a group, and as individual solo artists.

• **Late Nite Catechism**, Saturday, Aug. 9, 2 and 8 p.m.; at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets start at \$38. Call 791-7400 or visit www.atthecap.com.

• **Late Nite Catechism**, Sunday, Aug. 10, 3 p.m.; at Capitol Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Tickets start at \$38. Call 791-7400 or visit www.atthecap.com.

• **Rock 'N' Blues Fest** featuring the Edgar Winter Band, Vanilla Fudge, Peter Rivera formerly of Rare Earth, and Savoy Brown's Kim Simmonds; Saturday, Aug. 16, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$45.75. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com.

Indian Rocks Beach

• **Art Teachers' Art Show**, through Aug. 1, at the Beach Art Center,

1515 Bay Palm Blvd., Indian Rocks Beach. The center will present artwork by members of the Pinellas Art Education Association. This exclusive exhibit features more than 60 pieces of mixed medium artwork created by artists who teach art at Pinellas County's elementary, middle and high schools. Summer hours are Monday through Friday, 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 a.m. Call 596-4331 or visit www.BeachArtCenter.org.

Pinellas Park

• **Movies in the Park**, Saturday, Aug. 9, dusk, at England Brothers Park, 5010 81st Ave. N., Pinellas Park. Pinellas Park Firefighters host this event every month for their Benevolent Fund by selling hot dogs and hamburgers. Candy, popcorn, nachos and drinks are also for sale. The Benevolent Fund is used to help victims and families in our community throughout the holidays. For information, call 687-4494.

St. Petersburg

• The seventh annual **Dinner and Jazz Series** at the MFA featuring New York Guitar Cats, Friday, Aug. 1, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., in the Mary Alice McClendon Conservatory, at the Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg. Admission is \$5 for museum members and their guests and \$10 for nonmembers. Cost includes admission to the entire museum, as well as to the world premiere of My Generation: Young Chinese Artists. Visit www.fine-arts.org. The series spotlights some of the best jazz in the area. The MFA Café will be open for dinner, and beer and wine will be available. Table reservations are strongly recommended. Call the café at 822-1032. An audience favorite throughout the area, the New York Guitar Cats - Gary Relkin and Greg Smith - favor contemporary jazz and modern harmonies, with bebop, rhythm and blues, Brazilian, and pop added for good measure. They have been greatly influenced by the likes of Pat Metheny and Chick Corea. Both attended the illustrious Berklee College of Music in Boston, with its superlative jazz program.

• Third Generation Theatre's production of **"Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead,"** by Tom Stoppard, Aug. 3-5, 7 p.m., at Studio@620, 620 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Visit www.thestudioat620.org. Two alumni of the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School have returned to St. Petersburg, the city in which their artistic journeys began, to create innovative, collaborative theater. 3GT (Third Generation Theatre) was founded by Dylan Barlowe and Anthony L. Gervais, who now attend Columbia College Chicago and The Boston Conservatory, respectively. "Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead" is equal parts hysterical, absurd, and touching. It features the misadventures of two minor characters from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" who now take the leading roles. The entire cast and crew is comprised of alumni and current students of PCCA, making this production a reflection of the vibrant community of young artists emerging from St. Petersburg.

• **The Marly Music Series** featuring Gary Schocker, flute, and Jason Vieaux, guitar; Sunday, Aug. 3, 2 p.m., in the Marly Room at the Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Drive NE, St. Petersburg. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$10 for students 22 and younger with current ID. Visit www.fine-arts.org. Admission to the entire museum is included in the ticket price. For information, call 896-2667. These two museum favorites demonstrate extraordinary rapport. Both have pursued exciting solo careers and bring the very best of their talent and their eclectic musical interests to their joint concerts. Their inventive program includes Vivaldi's Sonata in G Minor, Op. 13, No. 6 ("The Faithful Shepherd"), "Café 1930" and "Bordel 1900" from Astor Piazzolla's L'histoire du Tango, António Carlos Jobim's A Felicidade (arranged by Roland Dyens), and three works by Mr. Schocker, including the world premiere of Mysterious Barcodes.

• **Memphis Music Fest**, Friday, Aug. 8, 8 p.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$39. Call 893-7832 or visit www.themahaffey.com. This concert will feature a triple-header of soul and blues men: Booker T. Jones, The Bar-Kays and William Bell. Multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, record producer and arranger Booker T. Jones is a 1992 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, Musicians Hall of Fame inductee, 2007 Grammy Lifetime Achievement recipient and four-time Grammy® winner. Best known as the front man for Booker T. and the MGs, Jones had an early start in the music industry from high school days. He played the oboe, saxophone, trombone, bass and piano, served as organist at his church and worked as a staff musician at the age of 16 for Stax Records in Memphis, co-writing the classic instrumental "Green Onions." He released his 10th album, Sound the Alarm, featuring a group of guest artists including his son Ted Jones last year. The funk-o-matic Memphis group The Bar-Kays originated as the Stax Records' house band in 1966 and developed a raw soul sound that resonated with a young African-American audience. Their purposeful soulfulness carried them to a chart-topping perch in 1967 with the hit "Soulfinger." The band has a career total of 29 albums including one platinum album, five gold albums and 20 Top 10 singles. Band members are Lead Singer Larry Dodson, found of The Bar-Kays and Bass Player James Alexander, Guitarists Tony Gentry and Mike Anderson, Keyboardists Ezra Williams and Mark Bynum, Drummer Carlos Sargent and Background Vocalists Darrel Stanly and Archie Love. Singer/songwriter William Bell has come to define the essence of "soul" during a distinguished 40-year career that started with the band The Del-Rios in the late 1950s. He is probably best known for his debut single, 1961's "You Don't Miss Your Water." His Top 20 hit single, "Everybody Loves a Winner" came out in his first full-length album. Bell and Jones co-wrote "Born Under a Bad Sign" which became the signature tune for blue great Albert King and was later recorded by Cream. His 1967 "Every Day Will be a Holiday" was featured in the 2010 sci-fi thriller Repo Man.

• **Ellis Paul**, Saturday, Aug. 9, 8 p.m., at The Hideaway Cove, 1756 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Tickets are \$25. Call 644-7895.

Dunedin

• **Herd of Cats**, Friday, Aug. 1, 6 to 10 p.m., at City of Imagination, 2726 54th St. S., Gulfport. Admission is free. Call 321-1786. This exhibition will feature printed works by Tampa Bay area artists. Herd of Cats will explore the realities of being inhabitants of the earth and understanding our place on it.

Crossword

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

Across

- Fuzzy-skinned fruit
- Exodus figure
- Fireman's water source
- Having affectionate characteristics
- Football play
- Al fresco (2 wds)
- "All kidding ____"
- Backstabber
- Compass brand name
- "Eh" (hyphenated)
- Provides an upper interior surface to a room
- Dirty
- "__ we having fun yet?"
- A place where a boat can be secured
- "20,000 Leagues" harpooner __ Land
- Someone who grants a lease
- Those who pry into others' private affairs
- Abundant
- The last resort (2 wds)
- Druid, e.g.
- "C__ la vie!"
- Let water out through a floodgate and channel
- "Malcolm X" director
- Comparative word
- Angry
- Sacred Hindu writings
- Capital of Jordan
- "__ the fields we go"
- Oral exams (British)
- Parents, e.g.
- Stress, in a way
- Ancient Roman silver coins
- Person who greets
- Goes downhill
- Back-to-school purchases

Down

- Composed of word sequences
- Blight
- Counsels
- Belief
- Aesop's also-ran
- "Star Trek" rank: Abbr.
- Dorm room staple
- The story told in a novel or play (2 wds)
- Bounce
- Ancient greetings
- Hindu princesses
- Marine rock-clinger
- Sir Laurence __, British actor
- Announces publicly
- Bombing by military planes (2 wds)
- Franco __, Italian tenor
- Pried into others' private affairs
- Gangsters' girlfriends
- Noggin
- Marienbad, for one
- Telekinesis, e.g.
- Freudian topic
- Small, bell-shaped bombs
- Narrator of "Moby Dick"
- Marathoner's need
- Better
- Cooler
- TV programs' cold opens
- Red shade
- Twangy, as a voice
- Computer woe
- "I, Claudius" role
- The Sail, a southern constellation
- Backboard attachment
- Toni Morrison's "__ Baby"

Sudoku

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

Place a Number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Sudoku answers

from last week

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

Crossword answers

from last week

S	P	A	T	H	E	M	E	A	N	O	V	A
P	U	R	E	S	L	I	A	P	O	P		
A	L	B	E	I	T	S	I	M	U	L	A	T
P	I	N	N	P	A	T	S	A	L	E	S	
L	E	T	T	E	R	O	P	E	N	E	R	
F	E	R	R	S	A	L	P	E	N	A	G	E
F	R	A	I	P	G	A	R	O	T	T	O	V
S	N	O	C	A	T	P	R	E	S	T	O	N
T	R	A	L	A	R	U	G	U	G	L	I	
C	H	A	R	M	O	A	K	F	A	L	L	
H	E	L	I	P	O	R	T	E	M	A	I	L
F	A	I	L	H	O	S	E	T	R	E	D	S
T	R	Y	S	H	O	D	A	D	V	I	T	U

Horoscopes

July 31, 2014

Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

Focus, Capricorn. The week will be harried, and you'll have to knuckle down to clear off your desk. The rewards will be worth it in the end.

Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

Pleasant surprises are in store this week. Enjoy, Aquarius. A challenge is presented at work. Take a stab at it. An heirloom could use a facelift.

Pisces

February 19 - March 20

The to-do list grows. Divide and conquer, Pisces. A pact is made among friends. Don't be the one to break it. An auto issue requires the expertise of a pro.

Aries

March 21 - April 19

A mystery at work deepens. Don your detective hat if you dare, Aries. Furry friends provide a much-needed distraction and lighten the mood at home.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20

Money matters come to the forefront, and future plans may be have to put on hold, Taurus. The web of deceit builds at work. Be careful what you say and do.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Clutter takes hold, and it is up to you to stop it, Gemini. Don't forget. One person's trash is another's treasure. A phone call offers valuable insight.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Fall back, Cancer. You're way too invested in a project. Pass the reins to someone else. A change in weather signals it's time to switch modes.

Leo

July 23 - August 22

Heads up, Leo. An announcement is about to be made. React with caution. There is more to it than meets the eye. The budget comes together for a project.

Virgo

August 23 - September 22

Passion ignites, and plans get underway for a getaway. A friend makes an interesting proposal. Review the terms carefully, Virgo. Drama plays out at work.

Libra

September 23 - October 22

Savvy Libra. You always seem to have some tricks up your sleeve, and that will come in handy this week at a last-minute meeting. A senior is lonely.

Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

Make time for others this week, Scorpio. They will pay it forward. A clash of opinions at work uncovers the need for further investigation.

Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

Sweet Sagittarius. You put yourself out there time and time again, and it finally pays off. A relative's pleas are genuine. Help if you can.



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Under the Sun

Festival tour returns with Blues Traveler, Sugar Ray, Uncle Kracker and Smash Mouth

CLEARWATER – Under The Sun, the annual festival tour celebrating the golden age of alternative pop rock 'n' roll, will return for another summer run, this time featuring a spectacular lineup that includes Blues Traveler, Sugar Ray, Uncle Kracker and Smash Mouth.

The tour makes a stop in the Tampa Bay area Sunday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater.

Tickets start at \$49.50. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhal.com. Doors will open two hours before show time for the Under the Sun Marketplace.

The inaugural Under The Sun tour was among last year's most popular and acclaimed events, earning ecstatic media attention with each stop along the way.

"Looking forward to once again spending the summer with my friends, performing the hits we all love," said Sugar Ray's Mark McGrath in a press release promoting the tour. "This is one of the strongest lineups we have put together so far. All four bands are capable of headlining Under The Sun, so get there early."

"This is going to be the party of the summer," said Uncle Kracker. "Can't wait to hit the road with some of my old friends, looking forward to making some new ones."

Under the Sun lineup

For nearly three decades, Blues Traveler has embraced a wide array of musical styles – from pop, folk and R&B to psychedelic soul and Southern rock – and transformed them into their own inimitable brand of free-spirited rock 'n' roll.

In addition to worldwide album sales in excess of 13 million, the New Jersey-based band has performed close to 6,000 live shows, bringing crossover hits like the Grammy Award-winning, Billboard top 10 smash "Run-Around" to nearly 30 million ecstatic fans worldwide.

Like any outfit active for more than 25 years, Blues Traveler has weathered its share of obstacles, including frontman John Popper's near fatal motorcycle accident and the tragic loss of founding bassist Bobby Sheehan. But true to its moniker, the band traveled on, maintaining an average touring pace of 250 shows each year and regularly releasing



Blues Traveler takes the stage Aug. 3 at Ruth Eckerd Hall as part of the Under the Sun Tour lineup.

a series of compelling and creative new releases.

Blues Traveler's most recent studio outing, 2012's acclaimed "Suzie Cracks The Whip," saw bright new colors added to the band's already jam-packed palette, fusing a gloriously modern pop energy to their masterful musicianship and ever-expanding creativity.

The band's current lineup features John Popper on vocals and harmonica, Chan Kinchla on guitars, Tad Kinchla on bass, Ben Wilson on keyboards and Brendan Hill on drums and percussion.

According to the band's biography at UD Factory artist management, the members of Blues Traveler had a blast working for the first time ever with a handful of dynamic outside songwriting collaborators and the powerhouse production team of Sam Hollander and Dave "Sluggo" Katz, aka S*A*M and Sluggo—who have worked their studio magic for everyone from rap rock band Gym Class Heroes to pop princess Katy Perry.

"Working with S*A*M and Sluggo was like being in a Tarantino movie, where the vibe is the primary thing and the focus is on the importance of telling a story," said Popper. "Sam Hollander told us he saw Blues Traveler as three unique disciplines working together – my approach, alongside Chan doing his own thing, and then the rhythm section led by Brendan."

Best known as lead singer/

songwriter for Sugar Ray, Mark McGrath – a Southern California native – can lay claim to a stunning string of top 10 hits, including "Someday," "When It's Over," and the twin No. 1 classics, "Fly" and "Every Morning." McGrath and Sugar Ray proved worldwide fan favorites, with multiple multi-platinum albums, countless sold-out tours, innumerable television appearances, and starring roles on the covers of such national publications as "Spin" and "Rolling Stone."

More than two decades since their foundation, the members of Sugar Ray remain devoted to the cause that united them, the pursuit of good times, sunshine, and great rock 'n' roll.

The Southern California-based band's most recent album was 2009's "Music for Cougars," an exuberant reiteration of the band's signature sound, with particular focus on song-craft and sonic invention.

As ever, musical styles – from dancehall to disco, punk to pure pop – are mixed and matched, resulting in a celebratory, swaggering collection that is distinctively and delightfully Sugar Ray. Songs like the buoyant single "Boardwalk" and "Love Is the Answer" are fit to burst with the wit and energy that once saw the band rule over the Top 10.

"Music for Cougars" sees this band of brothers operating at the very peak of its powers, with the skills, strengths, and smarts that only two decades together can provide.

"I'm not going to say we made the best record of our career," said McGrath in the band's bio provided by Kingdom Entertainment. "That's just so clichéd. But we did!"

Initially known for his role as DJ in Kid Rock's legendary Twisted Brown Trucker band, Uncle Kracker soon staked his own claim for greatness via a unique stylistic synthesis of pop, rock, country, soul, blues, and even doo-wop.

Known to his parents as Matt Shafer, the Detroit-based singer/songwriter made his stunning solo debut with 2001's No. 1 smash "Follow Me," kicking off a run of top 10 multi-format hits like "In A Little While," "Smile" and 2003's record-setting cover of Dobie Gray's "Drift Away." As if that weren't enough, the following year saw Uncle Kracker topping Billboard's Hot Country Songs chart for five consecutive weeks with "When The Sun Goes Down," his RIAA gold certified collaboration with country superstar Kenny Chesney.

In 2012, Uncle Kracker released his fifth studio album, "Midnight Special."

According to his biography at Sugar Hill Records, Uncle Kracker believes the most powerful thing you can do is celebrate the now – and the tracks on "Midnight Special" echo that sentiment. Whether it's the dumped-but-loving-the-future "Nobody's Sad on a Saturday Night," the gone for the weekend "In Between Disasters" or the Tom Petty-feeling small town truth behind what people reveal "It Is What It Is," Uncle Kracker's conversational baritone cuts through the mix to put life in perspective.

"I laugh all day seems like," said Shafer in the biography. "I think I laugh all the time. From the time I wake up 'til I go to bed,

it seems like there's always something to laugh about! People are funny; the way they do the things they do. Things are funny. I think living is funny to be honest."

With their indelible, organ-powered style, Smash Mouth has long provided the sun-dappled soundtrack to summertime fun.

The Southern California-based combo has earned sales exceeding six million albums in the United States alone, fueled by a streak of unforgettable chart-topping hits including "Can't Get Enough Of You, Baby," "Then The Morning Comes" and the No. 1 classics, "Walkin' On The Sun" and "All Star."

Furthermore, the band's songs – including distinctive covers like "I'm A Believer" and "Why Can't We Be Friends," performed in the inimitable Smash Mouth style – have been featured in a breathtaking array of film and television programs, including "The Simpsons," "Can't Hardly Wait," "Half Baked," "Duce Bigalow: Male Gigolo" and "Shrek."

In 2012, the band released its sixth studio album, "Magic,"

which features founding members Steve Harwell and Paul De Lisle at the helm.

"We've got so many hits on this new record it's ridiculous," said Smash Mouth lead singer Steve Harwell in a press release from Monterey International promoting the album.

Produced by neophyte guitarist Mike Krompass, "Magic" opens the curtain on a more mature Smash Mouth. On tracks like "Better With Time" and "Out of love," it's evident how much Harwell's voice has developed from the rantin'-chantin' approach he favored on early Smash Mouth offerings. He's equally strong on "Future Ex-Wife." Meanwhile, founding bassist Paul Delisle and longtime keyboardist Michael Klooster lay down their time-tested, solid foundation on tracks such as "She's Into Me" and "Perfect Planet." Newcomers Mike Krompass and Randy Cooke both shine on tracks such as "The Game" where we find Cooke simultaneously bone-breaking and greasy-groovy.

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Poetry and Prose

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As little raindrops patter down,
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 Just spread a big umbrella up,
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 The saucy little drops will fall,
 And on its surface hit, but,
 They will splash & scatter there,
 Not trouble you a bit.

When little, teasing trials come,
 And pelt you every hour, just
 Spread your many blessings out
 To keep you from the shower.
 A big umbrella make of them,
 And as the trials fall, they'll
 Strike your shield, scatter there
 And not reach you at all.

When you find that this is true,
 Please pass the word along, so
 Others, too, may shelter find,
 When things are going wrong.
 When they see your smiling face
 So free from care and fret,
 They'll also lift their blessings up
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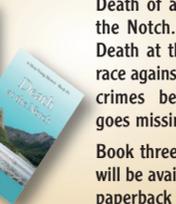
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Steranko, Wolfman set to appear at Tampa Bay Comic Con

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

TAMPA – One week after more than 100,000 fans congregated in California for the San Diego Comic-Con, Tampa Bay area residents will have an opportunity to gather at the Tampa Bay Comic Con, running Aug. 1-3, at the Tampa Convention Center, 333 S. Franklin St., Tampa.

Hours will be Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There also will be after hours programming, from 6 p.m. to midnight, on Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$20 for one day or \$45 for three days. Visit www.tampabaycomiccon.com.

The Tampa Bay Comic Con – Tampa's own comic book get-together – is widely considered as Florida's premiere family-friendly and fan-owned comic book convention. The annual event originated in 2002, though it can trace its roots back to 2000 when it existed under a different name and was operated through different ownership. Today, the Tampa Bay Comic Con is owned and operated by Action 3 Events & Promotions, founded by Stephen Solomon and Bill Rocker.

Event organizers provide a variety of exhibitors

that cater to a wide-spectrum of comic fandom interests. Attendees will find vendors selling comic books, magazines, toys, games, anime, manga, cosplay, artwork, sketches and apparel.

It isn't just about spending cash acquiring cool collectibles, though.

The Tampa Bay Comic Con also strives to bring in a roster of guest creators and/or celebrities for attendees to meet. Special attention is given to keeping the convention fun and accessible to families with low admission for adults and free admission for children.

In 2013, the convention drew an estimated 28,000 attendees throughout the weekend. According to event organizers, this year's event is expected to attract more than 30,000 attendees.

Celebrity guests will include appearances by Richard Madden and Pedro Pascal ("Game of Thrones") and John Rhys Davis ("Lord of the Rings").

"It's certainly exciting having Richard [Madden] on-board for the upcoming Tampa Bay Comic Con," said Solomon in a press release. "We are already well known by Game of Thrones fans from our guests last year. Solidifying TBCC as an event that draws

big names from around the world, that no other similar event has ever drawn, is a big positive."

In addition to those stars, TBCC has already secured several stars of film and television, including Evan Peters and Daniel Cudmore of "X-Men: Days of Future Past," Caitly Lotz of "Arrow" and Brighton Sharbino and Kyla Kenedy of "The Walking Dead."

The convention also will feature a number of creative forces in the comic book world, including legendary artist and writer Jim Steranko and writer Marv Wolfman – both listed as guests of honor. Many other comic book creators will making appearances at this year's event, such as Mike Zeck, Cullen Bunn, Frank Brunner, John Beatty, Mike Grell, Rob Hunter, Joe Rivera, Paolo Riera, Bernie Wrightson, Bob Camp and many others.

Steranko is one of the most colorful characters in comic book history. Over his lifetime, he has been an illustrator, musician, art director, magician, fire-eater, designer, escape artist, filmmaker, pop-culture lecturer and publisher. According to the biography provided by TBCC, Steranko was responsible for more than 100 innovations as artist-writer on Marvel titles such as S.H.I.E.L.D., Captain America and X-Men. The techniques he introduced revolutionized the comic book form.

As an illustrator, Steranko painted a multitude of book covers, record jackets and movie posters, including 30 Shadow paperbacks. He has shown his

work at more than 200 exhibitions worldwide, including the Louvre in Paris and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

Wolfman is best known for a lengthy run on the Marvel Comics title The Tomb of Dracula – for which he and artist Gene Colan created the vampire-slayer Blade; as well as his work on DC Comics' The New Teen Titans.

His first published work for DC Comics appeared in Blackhawk, Issue No. 242, in 1968. He and long-time friend Len Wein created the character Jonny Double in Showcase, Issue No. 78, that same year. The two co-wrote "Eye of the Beholder" in Teen Titans, Issue No. 18 in 1968. Wolfman and Gil Kane created an origin for Wonder Girl in Teen Titans, Issue No. 22, which also introduced the character's new costume.

In 1972, Wolfman moved to Marvel Comics, where he went on to work on titles including The Tomb of Dracula, Daredevil and Marvel's adaptation of Edgar Rice Burrough's John Carter, Warlord of Mars.

The convention will offer a wide variety of panels, including question-and-answer sessions with various guests, makeup and costume programs, a zombie costume contest, roleplaying and gaming, speed dating and discussions on everything from "Doctor Who" to comic book publishing.

For information and a schedule of events, visit www.tampabaycomiccon.com.

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OPENING, from page 1B

As the film opens, she has recently experienced her own horror after being taken hostage and brutalized in Libya. Instead of returning to New York where her concerned colleagues and loved ones anxiously await her, Lee detours to Sicily instead, where she holes up in a small hotel to weather her PTSD on her own terms, not far from the home of her former lover and mentor Albert (Ben Kingsley).

As Lee struggles to recover from her psychic and physical wounds, she crosses paths with Hafsia (Hafsia Herzi), a young Tunisian migrant in need of an abortion and safe passage to France, who bears a striking resemblance to a Libyan girl Lee photographed just before her capture. Desperate to connect, Lee tries to help Hafsia, and conquer her own formidable demons in the process.

'Cabin Fever: Patient Zero'

Genre: Horror and thriller
Cast: Ryan Donowho, Brandon Eaton, Jillian Murray, Mitch Ryan, Lydia Hearst and Sean Astin
Director: Kaare Andrews
Not rated

A flesh eating virus spreads throughout a cruise ship in the Caribbean after it crashes into an abandoned scientific research boat. Passengers must find a way to survive before the flesh eating disease consumes them all.



Photo by REED MORENO/IFC FILMS
Catherine Keener stars as Lee in Mark Jackson's "War Story," an IFC Films release.

'Calvary'

Genre: Comedy and drama
Cast: Brendan Gleeson, Chris O'Dowd, Kelly Reilly, Aidan Gillen, Dylan Moran, Isaac De Bankolé, M. Emmet Walsh, Marie-Josée Croze, Domhnall Gleeson, David Wilmut, Pat Shortt, Gary Lydon, Killian Scott, Orla O'Rourke, Owen Sharpe and David McSavage
Director: John Michael McDonagh
Rated: R

In "Calvary," Father James (Brendan Gleeson) is a good priest who is faced with sinister

and troubling circumstances brought about by a mysterious member of his parish.

Although he continues to comfort his own fragile daughter (Kelly Reilly) and reach out to help members of his church with their various scurrilous moral – and often comic – problems, he feels sinister and troubling forces closing in, and begins to wonder if he will have the courage to face his own personal Calvary.

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ADOPT - A loving married couple seeks to adopt, will be hands-on Mom and Dad. Financial security, expenses paid. Dawn & Domenick. (855)985-4592. Adam Sklar, #1050789. (F)

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GEORGIA LAND SALE! Escape Storms, Hurricanes, Heat & High Taxes! 1 acre - 30 acre homesites and mini-farms. Amazing weather, Augusta area. Low taxes, soil tested, county approved. Starting \$3,200/acre. Financing w/low down from \$195/month. Owner: (706)364-4200. (C)

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ADOPTION Give your baby a loving, financially secure family. Living expenses paid. Call Attorney Charlotte Danciu, 28 years experience. (800)395-5449 www.adoption-surrogacy.com FL Bar #307084. (C)

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WANTED: A used Tin Lizzie, 18-inch Quilting Machine with built-in stitch regulator. (352)362-7350. (C)

GA/SC DOCKABLE LAKEFRONT 3.25 ACRE TRACT: Willing to sell for \$39,900 on a 71,000 acre lake bordering SC & GA. Call (877)717-5263, x915. (C)

ADOPTION: A childless, loving couple seeks to adopt. Large family, financial security, expenses paid. Eileen & Kim. kimandeleenadot@gmail.com. or (800)455-4929. (F)

Safe Step Walk-In Tub Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4-Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call (800)605-6035 for \$750 Off. (F)

DISH TV Retailer. Starting \$19.99/mo. (for 12 months). Find out how to SAVE up to 50% today! Ask about SAME DAY Installation! Call (800)605-0984. (F)

DirectTV - 2 Year Savings Event! Over 140 channels only \$29.99/mo. Only DirectTV gives you 2 YEARS of savings and a FREE Genie upgrade! Call (800)481-2137. (F)

Mountains of NC New custom-built 1,232SF unfurnished log cabin on 1.59 acs. \$74,900. Covered front and back porches with private setting. EZ access. (866)738-5522. (F)

ATTN: DRIVERS Be a Name, Not a Number. \$\$ Up to 50cpm. BCBS, 401K, Pet & Rider. Full Benefits. Quality Hometown. Sign-on Bonus. CDL-A Req. (855)969-4952. www.ad-drivers.com. (C)

A childless couple seeks to adopt. Will be a full-time mom & devoted dad. Financial security. Expenses paid. Call/text. Christa & Adam. (800)790-5260. Atty #1050789. (C)

A childless, successful Christian Florida woman seeks to adopt. Will be hands-on mom with supportive family & friends. Financial security. Expenses paid. Tonya. (855)977-4140. Represented by Adam Sklar, Esq. #0150789. (C)

IRS PUBLIC AUCTION COCONUT CREEK, FL 2BR/2BA Condominium, 1,200SF, 3rd floor corner unit. Sale: 8/19/14, 10AM, West Regional Courthouse, Plantation, Sharon Sullivan, (954)740-2421. www.irsauctions.gov. (C)

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Classifieds Index

- 1-130 Real Estate Sales
- 135-290 Rentals
- 300 Notices
- 302 Tickets
- 305 Fun Things To Do
- 310 Good Things To Eat
- 315 Personals
- 320 Religious Personals
- 340 Happy Ads
- 345 Lost & Found
- 355 Adoption
- 360 Legal Services
- 370 Instructions/Tutors
- 375 Career Training
- 385 Beauty Services
- 390 Counseling
- 400 Health & Fitness
- 410 Massage Therapy
- 420 Babysitting
- 425 Child Care
- 430 Wheelchair & Sr. Transport
- 435 Adult Care & Services
- 455 Travel Services
- 470 Entertainment
- 485-530 Help/Work Wanted
- 535 Business Opportunity
- 545-582 Financial & Insurance Services
- 585 Auctions
- 590 Antiques & Collectibles
- 597 Coins & Stamps
- 599 Rental Equipment
- 600-750 Merchandise to Buy/Sell
- 755-805 Campers/RVs/Trailers
- 810-885 Automotive
- 890-915 Boats & Marine
- 970-980 Estate, Garage, Yard, Moving Sales
- Professional Services Directory

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

1. House Sales



SEMINOLE - 9231 124TH ST
 Price just reduced to \$269,900.
 Great Value!
 3BR/2BA/2CG, 1,617SF, Pool, Screened Lanai, New Roof, A/C, Windows, Sliders, Fireplace, Many Upgrades & Features.
 No Flood Insurance.
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SEMINOLE HOME, 11526 109th St
 4BR/2BA/2CG, 2,104SF, C/H/A, Breakfast/ Snack Bar. Great Room, Sun Room & Living Room. Newer Roof, Patio and Deck. No Flood Zone. Must See Inside! No Realtor's Please! \$189,900. (727)768-3412

SEMINOLE GREAT BUY!
 SEMINOLE GREAT BUY!
 3BR/1.5BA Fixer In Great Areal 1,464SF, Newer Kitchen, Roof. \$102,000. Under FMV FSO. (727)643-2391

BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIALS

NEED SPACE FOR A BOAT OR RV.
 This 3BR/2BA Home sits on the end of a CUL-De-SAC, Huge Yard. Walk Seminole Middle and High School. Priced right.....\$269,500

WALK TO OAKHURST ELEMENTARY
 4BR/2BA Pool Home, Small, Quiet Subdivision Well Maintained. Ideal for Active, Busy Family \$289,500

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 Owner Says "MAKE OFFER" Large Family Room with Pool Table, Close to Clubhouse \$284,500

Maureen Stilwell, Jean Rowe, Rutenberg Realty (727)596-2965 or (727)773-0356

5. R.E. Sales

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 Down Payment Assistance Available

Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County

(727)223-6418

www.pinellascounty.org/community/hfa

Programs available in Pinellas, Polk and Pasco counties.
 * If you have not owned a home in the last 3 years

10. Waterfront Sales

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH 2BR/1BA/1CG HOME
 Tiled, New Roof/ Pavers, Waterfront, Deep Water, Open Canal, Dock w/Electric Lift. \$349,900. Florida Dreams Real Estate, (727)504-9490.

\$109,900! 2BR/2BA, 2ND FLOOR Condo, Panoramic Water Views of Lake Seminole. Don't Miss This One! Virgil Sweet, Charles Rutenberg, (727)410-1205.

20. Condo Sales

SHIPWATCH: 2BR/2BA
 Vaulted Ceilings, Glass Lanai, Garage, on Conservation Area. Only \$174,900! Shipwatch Realty, www.ShipwatchRealty.com (727)596-6508.

ULTIMAR I, 3BR/2.5BA/1CG FOR SALE BY OWNER
 Extensive Wrap Balcony, Direct Gulf SW Corner, 1,942SF, Pristine, \$779,000. (727)277-4988. Diane Warder, RE Agent. Co-Brokers Welcome.

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

1BR/1BA 1,012 sq. ft. New Carpet Great View \$43,900

2BR/2BA 1,056 sq. ft. Corner Unit Water View \$64,900

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

20. Condo Sales



WATERFRONT 2BR/2BA
 Impeccably Maintained Unit. Desirable Park Street Location. Heated Pool, Tennis Courts & Clubhouse. \$164,900.
 For More Information Visit: www.540parkstreet311.com or Call Jared Salzman, CENTURY 21 JIM WHITE & ASSOCIATES (727)515-3462.

SEMINOLE, THE LINKS 3BR/2.5BA/2CG. Updated, Move-in Ready. Near 5th Green. Stunning View of Golf Course & Lakes. \$209,900. Smith Realty (727)544-8000

BY OWNER

KEY WEST CHARM
 Located In A County Club Atmosphere. 2BR/2BA, 55+, Attached Garage, Large Lanai Including Fountain and 2 Person Spa. Appliances Included, 1,350/SF Under Air, New Roof With 20 Year Warranty, New AC/Heat Pump With 10 Warranty. Asking \$159,000
 6574 Green Valley Drive, Seminole (727)492-5732 By Appointment.

35. Mobile Home Sales

Affordable Living! GLENWOOD ESTATES:
 5 Star, 55+, Land Owned.

NEW LISTING: #42 - 2/2, Carport, Screened Lanai, Fully Furn., Mint Cond., '93 Jacobsen, \$97,888

#5 - 2/2/2, Lake View, Furn., \$65,888. \$175/Mo. Maintenance No Flood Insurance Required! 12501 Ulmerton Rd., Largo. Brochures Available At Clubhouse.

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

LARGO FAMILY PARK 3BR/2BA, Split Floor-Plan, 1,440SF, 15'x12' Master Bedroom. Newer Roof, Floor, And Windows. \$28,888. (727)458-0847

95. Property Mgmt.



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 Let Us Fill & Manage Your Properties. Seasonal & Annual. Staging Services Available. Florida Dreams R.E. Sales & Rentals, (727)266-3767.

100. R.E. Wanted

\$\$\$ WE BUY HOUSES \$\$\$
 And Fix Problems!
 See If We Can Help YOU!
 (727)537-6150

130. Cemetery Lots

TWO NICHES
 Side-By-Side. Eye Level. Royal Palm North in Chapel. \$300 OBO. (727)481-0193

175. Unfurnished Apts.

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727-447-5701

RENTALS

145. Unfurnished Houses

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 Laundry Room, Tiled Floors, Large Backyard. Quiet Seminole Neighborhood, Walk to Mall. Pets Okay. \$1,100/Month Annual. (727)488-1111.

PINELLAS PARK, 3BR/1BA
 Quiet Neighborhood. \$900/Mo. First, Last, Security Required. (727)479-6812 or (727)526-3103.

155. Furnished Condos

SEMINOLE GARDENS 1BR/1BA, 608SF,
 Any Age, Furnished, \$750/Month-Yearly. Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp. (727)397-2534

SEMINOLE, VILLA MILAN 2BR/2BA, 2nd Floor,
 3rd Floor Pool View. No Pets. Annual lease. \$850/Month.
Guetzlaff Realty (727)204-0829

160. Unfurnished Condos

SHIPWATCH 2BR/2BA,
 Vaulted Ceilings, W/D, Freshly Painted, Garage. \$1,350/Mo. www.ShipwatchRealty.com Shipwatch Realty, (727)596-6508.

SEMINOLE: Deerwood Gardens
 Refurbished 2BR/2BA, 2nd Floor, New Kitchen Appliances, Vaulted Ceiling, Patio, Balcony, Covered Parking, W/D, Pool, Clubhouse. \$1,000/Mo. (727)397-5571.

170. Furnished Apts.

CLEARWATER STUDIO
 Starting at \$189/Week. No security. No Credit Check. Free WiFi access. Pets OK. MOVE IN TODAY!! (727)445-7134. precisionpropertymanagement.net

175. Unfurnished Apts.

DOWNTOWN DUNEDIN APT,
 \$175/Wkly. Dunedin Dim, \$85/Wkly. Clearwater Studio, \$495/Mo. Free Water, Electric. Won't Last! Call Or Click www.586-2412.com

BELLEAIR BLUFFS
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 C/H/A, Includes E/W/S, Beach Access. 19235 Whispering Pines Drive. \$1,000/Month. (727)599-5814, (727)623-4443. Owner/ Agent.

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 Our Specials Don't Last Long So Act Quick.
 Book A Tour Today To See All We Have To Offer!
 Screened-In Lanais, Resort Sized Pools, Monthly Calendar FULL OF Activities & Much Much More!
 *Specials Are Run On Specific Units, Limited Availability
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175. Unfurnished Apts.

185. Beach Rentals

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

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

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 Walking Distance To Beautiful Madeira Beach. Most Utilities Included. Call For Availability, (727)397-4130.

SUNSET BEACH 1BR
 Plus Deck, Furnished, Walk to Beach/ Restaurants. \$850/Month. (704)648-8247.

INDIAN SHORES!

TOTALLY RENOVATED 2BR/2.5BA
 Furnished Townhome with Private W/D and Garage. Walk to Beach! No Pets/No Smoking. Pool Weekly or Monthly. (877)518-9190

ISLAND ESTATES:
 Remodeled, Furnished, 1BR/1BA. Pool, Tennis. 6/Month Minimum. Available 09/1/14. \$1,200/Month. No Smoking/ Pets. Great Intracoastal View. (727)480-8191.

195. Seasonal Rentals

SAND KEY, CLEARWATER BCH
 Furnished 2BR/2BA Condos Available 1-12 Months. Florida Dreams RE Sales & Rentals, Inc. (727)266-3767.

225. Duplex/Triplex Rentals

LARGO, BY BEACH 3BR/2BA, 1,400+SF,
 Workshop, Kennel, W/D Hook-Ups, Tile, Ceiling Fans, Large Fenced Yard, Carport. W/S/G, Lawn Included. \$1,150/Mo. (727)542-7571.

LARGO - SPACIOUS 2BR/2BA/1CG
 Adults Only, C/H/A, Pets Okay, Fenced Yard, W/D Hook-up. Includes Sewer, Water \$950/MO. (727)776-7765

245. Room For Rent

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

SEMINOLE, LIVE IN A \$550,000
 Home. Furnished, Use of Kitchen, Single Person. W/D, \$100/WK \$200 Security Deposit. Background Check. 2 References. (727)595-0727.

255. Accom. To Share

PALM HILL, LARGO
 Private Master Bedroom, Bathroom, Living Room. Common Full Kitchen. W/D. All Amenities Including Pools. \$450/Mo. +Electric. (727)674-5951.

265. Commercial Rentals

OFFICE SPACE
 Starting At \$482 Per Month. Ample Parking, Madeira Beach. (727)641-6465.

MISCELLANEOUS

345. Lost & Found

LOST DOG: Young, tan, mixed breed female, no collar, lost 7/27, vicinity of 58th St. and 87th Ave., Pinellas Park. Owner heartbroken. REWARD. (727)545-1450 or (727)215-2923 anytime.

FOUND MEN'S WEDDING RING
 Indian Rocks Beach, Sunday, July 27th. (727)460-3551



355. Adoption

ARE YOU PREGNANT?
 A Childless, Married Couple, (in our 30s) seeks to adopt. Will be hands on Mom and devoted Dad. Financially secure. Expenses paid. Nicole & Frank. Call/ Text (1888)969-6134. FL BAR #150789

485. Help Wanted

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355. Adoption

PREGNANT?
 Thinking about Adoption? Choose the Perfect Family For Your Baby Benefits may include: Free Apartment Free Medical Care Free Counseling Experienced Adoption Entity (727)421-2514 FL BAR #0967841

435. Adult Care & Svcs.

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DO YOU NEED A CAREGIVER?
 I'm Available For Live-In: Mondays-Wednesdays. Hourly: Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays. Excellent References. Call Angie, (727)225-2451.

EXPERIENCED CARE PROVIDER
 Available As Companion. Mature, Professional, Non-Smoker, Light Housekeeping, Cooking, Transportation. (727)637-7457

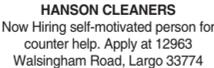


485. Help Wanted

EARN \$1000s From Home? Be careful of Work-At-Home Schemes.
 • Hidden costs can add up
 • Requirements may be unrealistic.
 Learn how you can avoid Work-At-Home Scams. Call: Federal Trade Comm. 1-877-FTC-HELP. A message from Tampa Bay Newspapers and the FTC.

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 Pincrest Place Retirement Community is looking for "mature" candidates to work in our Dining rooms, to include Assisted Living and Memory Care. P-T multiple positions open; various hours including weekends & holidays. We are looking for candidates to provide quick, efficient, and pleasant delivery of food to our residents & guests, ensuring all quality standards of food service are being met. Position requires Level II background screening; EOE; Drug-free workplace. Please apply in person at 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo, FL.

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LPNs: PINECREST PLACE
 A Premier Brookdale retirement community, is seeking a Full-Time LPN for our Memory Care 2nd Shift, Monday-Friday 2pm-10pm & A Part-Time LPN for 3rd Shift 10pm-6am. Candidate should have previous experience working in a geriatric environment and have a commitment to making a difference in the lives they touch. We are looking for enthusiastic, energetic and caring people to become a part of our team. Candidates can apply in person at 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo. Send resume to Margaret.Kristall@Brookdale.com or fax to (727)581-8409. EOE, DFWP.

505. Part-Time Help

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 \$800-\$1,700/month Paid Weekly
 Opportunities throughout Pinellas County
 Early Morning Hours
 Must be at least 18
 Valid driver's license
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485. Help Wanted

WAITRESS: Experienced Only,
 All Shifts. Apply At Venus Restaurant, 2441 West Bay Dr, Largo. (727)581-3849.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE
 Grounds/building. Small Trailer Park. Send Resume: RTTP Personnel, PO Box 4642, Largo, FL 33775

485. Help Wanted

BAIT HOUSE CASHER,
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 Safe Enjoyable Route. Largo Area. CDL Required. \$9.25/Hr. Anona Child Development Center, (727)593-5437 Ext. 249.

515. Hospitality Help
CLEARWATER HOTEL NOW
 Hiring Breakfast Ambassador & Room Attendant. Great Atmosphere, Competitive Wages! Apply In Person: Springhill Suites By Marriott, 3485 Ulmerton Rd, Clearwater.

505. Part-Time Help

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485. Help Wanted

Deliver the Tampa Bay Times Home Delivery Independent Distributor Opportunities
 \$800-\$1,700/month Paid Weekly
 Opportunities throughout Pinellas County
 Early Morning Hours
 Must be at least 18
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 Tampabay.com/distributor
866-498-4637

WAITRESS: Experienced Only,
 All Shifts. Apply At Venus Restaurant, 2441 West Bay Dr, Largo. (727)581-3849.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE
 Grounds/building. Small Trailer Park. Send Resume: RTTP Personnel, PO Box 4642, Largo, FL 33775



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522. Careers



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- Easy Qualifying School Loans

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...a program beyond grooming
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academyofanimalarts.com

585. Auctions



Granny's Auction

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Music scene

Rock 'n' Blues Hippiest returns to REH; Mahaffey hosts Memphis Music Fest

By LEE CLARK ZUMPE

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

Under The Sun, the annual festival tour celebrating the best of alternative pop rock 'n' roll, will return for another summer run Sunday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$49.50. Call 791-7400 or visit www.ruth EckerdHall.com.

The concert will feature performances by Blues Traveler, Sugar Ray, Uncle Kracker and Smash Mouth. 2013's inaugural Under The Sun tour was among last year's most popular and acclaimed events, earning ecstatic media attention with each stop along the way.

The **Memphis Music Fest** will be Friday, Aug. 8, 8 p.m., at The Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Tickets start at \$39. Call 892-5767 or visit www.themahaffey.com.

The concert will feature modern music-makers who brought "soul" into the mainstream, including soul and blues men Booker T. Jones, The Bar-Kays and William Bell.

Rock and blues fans are certainly in for a tasty musical treat this summer as the popular **Rock 'n' Blues Hippiest** tour returns to the Tampa Bay area Saturday, Aug. 16, 7 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall. Tickets start at \$45.75. Call 791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdHall.com.

This year's line-up features the Edgar Winter Band and Savoy Brown's Kim Simmonds, along with special guests Vanilla Fudge and Peter Rivera, formerly of Rare Earth.

Headlined by the Grammy Award-winning Anthony Hamilton, the **Tampa Urban Music Fest** will be Saturday, Aug. 23, 8 p.m., at The USF Sun Dome, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa. Tickets start at \$35. Call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000 or visit www.sundomearena.com.

Accompanying Hamilton at this can't-miss music event is Lyfe Jennings, Mali Music and Jazmine Sullivan. Comedian Kevin "Damn Fool" Simpson will host this night full of urban music's most beloved performers.

98Rock's **Uproar Festival** is set for Saturday, Aug. 30, 1:30 p.m., at the Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre, at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Tickets start at \$32.80. Call 813-740-2446 or visit www.livenation.com.

This year's lineup will include performances by Godsmack, Seether, Pop Evil, Buckcherry, Red Light King, Escape The Fate, Skillet, 3 Year Hollow, Suicidegirls, New Medicine, Tattered, Sons of Revelry, Within Reason and These Raven Skies.

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

Crowbar

- O'Brother and Royal Thunder, Friday, Aug. 1, 10 p.m.
 - Miniature Tigers and The Griswolds, Tuesday, Aug. 12, 7:30 p.m.
- Crowbar is at 1812 N. 17th St., Tampa. Call 813-241-8600.

George Steinbrenner Field

- Linkin Park, Saturday, Aug. 9, 6:30 p.m.
- George Steinbrenner Field is at 3802 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Tampa. Call 813-879-2244.

Jannus Live

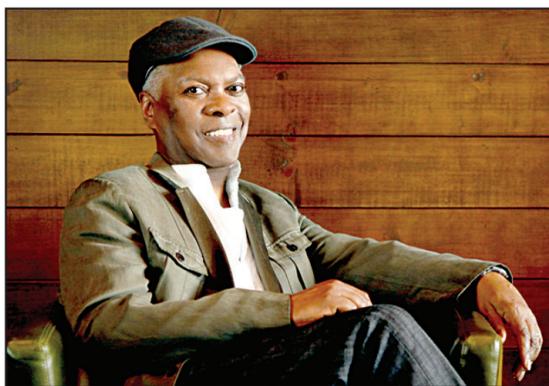
- Dirty Heads & Pepper, Friday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m.
 - Tribal Seeds with New Kingston and The Expanders, Sunday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m.
 - Umphrey's McGee, Sunday, Aug. 31, 5:30 p.m.
- Jannus Live is at 16 Second St. N., St. Petersburg. Call 565-0550 or visit www.jannuslive.com.

The Local 662

- Off!, Friday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m.
- The Local 662 is at 662 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 258-4829.

The Mahaffey

- Yes, Saturday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m.



Above, Blues Traveler performs at Ruth Eckerd Hall Aug. 3 as part of the Under the Sun Tour. At right, The Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheater welcomes Brad Paisley Aug. 15. Below, Nine Inch Nails performs Aug. 11 at the Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheater.



Photo by JIM SHEA/WME



Photo courtesy of WME

- Memphis Music Fest, Friday, Aug. 8, 8 p.m.
- The Mahaffey is at 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg. Call 892-5767 or visit www.themahaffey.com.

Mid Florida Credit Union Amphitheatre

- Nine Inch Nails and Soundgarden, Monday, Aug. 11, 7 p.m.
 - The Offspring, Bad Religion and Pennywise; Thursday, Aug. 14, 8:30 p.m.
 - Brad Paisley, Friday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m.
 - OneRepublic with The Script, Saturday, Aug. 16, 7 p.m.
 - Motley Crue, Sunday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m.
 - 98Rock's Uproar Festival with Godsmack, Seether and Buckcherry; Saturday, Aug. 30, 1:30 p.m.
- The Amphitheatre is at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 4802 U.S. 301 N., Tampa. Call 813-740-2446 or visit www.livenation.com.

The Orpheum

- Curren\$, Friday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m.
 - Peter Murphy of Bauhaus, Wednesday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m.
- The Orpheum is at 1915 E. Seventh Ave., Ybor City. Visit www.theorpheum.com.

The Ritz Ybor

- Feed Me with Teeth, Sunday, Aug. 10, 9 p.m.
- The Ritz Ybor is at 1503 E. Seventh Ave., Tampa. Call 813-247-2518.

Ruth Eckerd Hall

- Maxwell, Friday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m.
- Under the Sun featuring Blues Traveler, Sugar Ray, Uncle Kracker and Smash Mouth; Sunday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m.
- Crosby, Stills & Nash, Saturday, Aug. 9, 7:30 p.m.

Skipper's Smokehouse

- Delta Swamp Rats, Saturday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m.
 - Come Back Alice with the Corbitt Brothers, Friday, Aug. 8, 8 p.m.
 - Krewstock featuring The Lint Rollers, Big Daddy and Mark Barrios Band, Sunday, Aug. 17, 4 p.m.
 - Ellie Lee & Blues Fury, Tuesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m.
 - The Mojo Gurus, Saturday, Aug. 30, 8 p.m.
- Skipper's Smokehouse is at 910 Skipper Road, Tampa. Call 813-971-0666 or visit www.skipperssmokehouse.com.

State Theatre

- Filter, Saturday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m.
 - Thee Sammy Davis Jr. Band, Friday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m.
 - Donavon Frankenreiter, Friday, Aug. 22, 9:30 p.m.
- State Theatre is at 687 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. Call 895-3045 or visit www.statetheatreconcerts.com.

The Straz Center for the Performing Arts

- The Whispers and The Manhattans, Sunday, Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m., in Carol Morsani Hall
- The David A Straz Jr. Center - formerly the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center - is at 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Call 813-229-7827 or visit www.strazcenter.org.

Tampa Theatre

- A Hot & Saxxy Night featuring Eric Darius, Shawn Brown and BK Jackson, Saturday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m.
- Tampa Theatre is at 711 N. Franklin St., Tampa. Call 813-274-8982 or visit www.tampatheatre.org.

USF Sun Dome

- The Tampa Urban Music Fest featuring Anthony Hamilton, Lyfe Jennings, Jazmine Sullivan, Mali Music and Kevin "Damn Fool" Simpson, Saturday, Aug. 23, 8 p.m.
- USF Sun Dome is at 4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa. Call 813-974-3004.

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

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