



## For local blood couriers, saving lives is their bag

Clearwater mayor and longtime OneBlood employee are among the few volunteers who transport lifesaving blood and platelets to those in need ... Page 14A.

# LARGO LEADER

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### ENTERTAINMENT



## Moody Blues bring iconic album to life

The Moody Blues, on the road celebrating the 50th anniversary of "Days of Future Passed," will perform Saturday, Jan. 13, at Ruth Eckerd Hall. The band will reflect back on five decades of some of the most well-loved music in pop culture history when it performs "Days of Future Passed," the iconic album released in 1967.

... Page 3B.

## Band set to 'Let the Sunshine In'

The 5th Dimension, known for hits such as "Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In," will bring its soulful sophistication and smooth harmonies to the Central Park Performing Arts Center for two performances Sunday, Jan. 14, 2 and 7 p.m.

... Page 1B.

## LARGO Event aims to mix beer, chocolate

Craft brewery Arkane Aleworks will join Pinellas Chocolate in Largo on Friday, Jan. 12, for a beer and chocolate-inspired evening. Arkane brewers will visit Pinellas Chocolate's kitchen event space to discuss using chocolate and cocoa nibs in the brewing process and to sample an exclusive beer made using Pinellas Chocolate.

... Page 4A.

## Center to host gem, jewelry show

The 42nd annual Gem and Jewelry Show of the Pinellas Geological Society will be held Friday through Sunday, Jan. 12-14, at the Central Park Performing Arts Center. Admission is free.

... Page 4A.

## Registration open for group wedding

Ken Burke, Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, announced that registration is now open for the 12th annual Valentine's Day Group Wedding that will be held Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the Florida Botanical Gardens.

... Page 8A.

### VIEWPOINTS

## Tom Germond

Ink in his blood for 40 years.

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# City discusses West Bay options

Commissioners favor concept without bike lanes, but also wish to see 2-lane option

By CHRIS GEORGE  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

LARGO - Forward Pinellas Executive Director Whit Blanton presented the Largo City Commission on Jan. 9 with two options for a West Bay Drive improvement project in hopes city leaders would settle on one.

During a work session at City Hall, he received consensus about a concept that includes a reduction in lane widths and a multimodal path, but he also may have inadvertently sold them on a third concept

that wasn't even fully developed yet.

The Complete Streets concept plan is a pilot project that includes safety and accessibility improvements to a nearly 2-mile stretch of West Bay Drive from Clearwater-Largo Road to the Belleair Causeway Bridge. The road has a daily traffic volume of about 17,000 motorists near the Belleair Bridge to 21,500 near 20th Street, and the work would be done in conjunction with Pinellas County's planned resurfacing of the roadway later this year.

"One of the things we identified was

looking at improving the connections between the Pinellas Trail, which is a world-class facility that's been a huge success, and getting people over to Gulf Boulevard and the destinations that they seek over there," said Blanton, who leads the land use and transportation planning agency. "And we have so many gaps."

Some features of the project, such as narrowing the road's four 12-foot lanes to two 10-foot lanes and two 11-foot lanes and the inclusion of bike lanes, had already created concerns for officials from Belleair Beach, Belleair Bluffs, the

PSTA and school district, who said it could cause bus mirrors to strike vehicles.

"My response has been that we don't really have a bumping mirrors problem in Pinellas County," Blanton said, "we have a fatality and crash problem in Pinellas County."

While commissioners had no problem with reducing the lane widths, they did take exception to the addition of bike lanes.

See WEST BAY, page 3A

## A leap of faith into frigid waters



Photos by JEFF ROSENFELD

Within two minutes of the cross - and 55 teenage boys - going into the water of Spring Bayou on Jan. 6 during the 112th edition of Tarpon Springs' Feast Day of the Epiphany, a hand emerged from the icy depths clutching the T-shaped religious symbol tightly. Christosomos "Christian" Chrysakis, an 18-year-old Tarpon Springs High student, was the one who came up with the cross, a ritual that is said to bring good luck to the finder for the next year. Chrysakis was later carried back to the church bearing the Epiphany trophy and cross. "This is unbelievable," he said.



TBN Visit TBNweekly.com to read more about the celebration

## Experts say gas prices trending higher

Prices are expected to average \$2.51, 12 cents more than 2017 average

By SUZETTE PORTER  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

Households planning budgets for 2018 likely should add a bit more money to the fuel category. Experts are predicting that Americans will pay the highest gas prices since 2014.

The upward trend actually began in 2017, with the national average for a gallon of regular unleaded at \$2.39. The average in 2016 was \$2.12, according to AAA's analysts. Motorists paid slightly more in 2015 with the national average coming in at \$2.40, and they paid a lot

more in 2014 when the average price was \$3.34 a gallon.

The federal Energy Information Administration predicts that gas prices will average \$2.51 in 2018, 12 cents more than the average in 2017, partially due to higher crude oil prices. EIA reports that 2017 ended with crude oil prices at \$60 to \$65 a barrel - the highest prices since 2013. The agency says oil prices are expected to average \$52.77 in 2018, almost \$2 more than last year.

Gas Buddy released its 2018 fuel outlook Jan. 3. The report's authors predict that gas prices will average \$2.57 this year.

On Jan. 3, the national average was \$2.49 a gallon, 13 cents more than the same date last year. The state average

was \$2.45 a gallon, which is 3 cents more than 2016. Motorists in the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater metro area were paying an average of \$2.42 cents, about 1 cent more than last year.

U.S. gasoline spending is expected to reach \$364.6 billion this year, compared to \$339.2 billion in 2017 and \$302.5 billion in 2016, according to Gas Buddy's report. The average cost per household is expected to be \$1,899, which is \$133 more than last year.

The highest pump prices, \$2.70 and \$2.73, coming in April and May, respectively, coincide with the time that refineries stop production of winter blend gasoline and go through an annual maintenance period that occurs before

See GAS, page 4A

## City hopes to turn concerns into cash

Largo leaders focusing their state appropriation requests on hurricane preparedness, recovery

By CHRIS GEORGE  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

LARGO - The Florida Legislature's 2018 session began Jan. 9, and concerns created by Hurricane Irma are expected to be a hot topic that Largo aims to capitalize on.

With the addition of an intergovernmental relations coordinator, the city has bolstered its efforts to secure funding from and build relationships with state legislators.

Part of that effort has been a series of meetings city leaders held with Sen. Jeff Brandes and Reps. Chris Latvala, Larry Ahern and Ben Diamond.

"We've had several legislators tell us that hurricane preparedness and recovery will be a top priority of the Legislature this coming session," said Cheryl Reed, who started her role as intergovernmental relations coordinator in December.

The massive storm that lashed the state in September ended up costing the state billions and the city about \$2 million, according to OMB Manager Meridy Semones. It also helped the city identify any deficiencies it had.

See REQUESTS, page 4A

## Project to fix roads damaged by hurricane moves forward

By CHRIS GEORGE  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

LARGO - Almost 16 months after Hurricane Hermine drenched Largo, city leaders are still working on cleaning up the mess it left behind, awarding a contract for the repair of several roads damaged by the storm.

City commissioners voted 7-0 during a meeting Jan. 2 to award an \$854,967 contract to Ajax Paving Industries of Florida for the repair of 11 of the 12 roads damaged during the September 2016 storm that dropped more than 15 inches of rain on the city.

"With Hurricane Hermine, there was a lot of rain, which caused the water table to rise and caused a lot of damage to the roadway base, which caused a lot of roads to have pothole damage, structural damage," said Rafal Cieslak, assistant

See ROADS, page 4A

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## Giving back



Photo by TOM GERMOND

Kevin Smith, a Largo resident, scoops up trash along the shoreline of Taylor Lake on the chilly morning of Jan. 6. He has been coming to Taylor Lake Park about every other week since November to help keep the lake clean, saying that his volunteer work is his contribution to the community. Despite the temperatures being in the mid-50s that morning, Smith said he wasn't underdressed; he was sweating earlier.

### WEST BAY, from page 1A

"I think that if you put bike lanes on either side right next to traffic lanes, they are going to be used by two guys in tight pants and that's about it," Mayor Woody Brown said. Safety and speeding concerns also led commissioners to opt for the second concept, which would feature a two-way left-turn lane, 12-foot multimodal path, a landscaped separation between the roadway and the path, enhanced lighting, landscaped areas at the median and additional pedestrian crossings.

The project, however, also comes with a much bigger price tag than the initial concept with bike lanes. "This would entail moving the curb, so it's a more expensive option," Blanton said. "You're looking at anywhere from \$3.5 (million) to \$4.5 million from a planning level cost, and that may be beyond what Pinellas County has budgeted for its resurfacing project."

Rahim Harji, director of Pinellas County Public Works, agreed with Blanton's figures. "With the anticipated cost for Concept 2 right now, we don't have the budget for it," he said. "That being said, things can get reprioritized, but it's competing with other projects that we have on

our books too."

Harji, however, said the county has put the project on hold for a few months until the local governments can reach a consensus, so there is still time to work out a budget and possibly seek out grants.

### 'Why not be bold?'

While mentioning the economic benefits of improving safety and accessibility, Blanton cited a similar project on Edgewater Drive in Orlando, which went from four lanes to two with a center turn lane. After making the changes, he said the road saw an influx of 77 new businesses and a huge increase in property values.

"You get more economic benefit the more bold you are with the Complete Streets concept, so if you went down to one lane in each direction and did more, you would probably have more benefit economically," he said. "But I still think just creating a safe crossing and midblock crossing with landscaped medians would do a heck of a lot to incentivize property owners along that corridor to invest in their properties."

The case study led Brown to ask, "Why not be bold?"

He suggested assessing a concept that takes the road down

to two lanes.

"I hate to stall the situation or put the county on hold any longer, but I would hate to look back in a few years thinking we really should've done something better," he said.

Blanton said the plan was never developed because business owners and city officials had a negative reaction to the idea early on in the process.

Nevertheless, commissioners said they would like to get an idea of what it might look like.

"I don't know whether the capacity is there to go down to one lane east of Indian Rocks Road or not," Brown said. "I don't crunch those kind of numbers, but when you told me that Edgewater in Orlando had 70 new businesses come along the corridor, had a huge economic boon to the area, I think that's an opportunity. And if you can take advantage of that opportunity without negatively affecting traffic flow or significantly affecting traffic flow, I think it'd be irresponsible not to consider that."

Blanton, who meets with Belleair Bluffs officials Jan. 22, said he would work with the county on the feasibility of it before coming up with a design concept and report back his findings.

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# New Year's resolutions are genealogist's friend

OK, it's that time of year again. It's New Years, it's time for resolutions. I admit that this is a recurring theme for me in this column. Each year I bring the subject up, but that is only because I consider it such an important one, so please forgive me any repetition.

New Years is simply a convenient time to reassess our genealogical challenges and do something about them. During the year when normal life activities compete for attention along with our research, it is often easy to lose our way... to lose track of what is most important to us in our research quests. Some well-considered New Year's resolutions can do a lot to maintain needed focus during the year. And no small reward is the good feelings that come along with being able to cross a completed resolution off the list.

An important side benefit of coming up with resolutions is the thought process that by necessity has to come before the writing of any resolutions. This is the assessment that must be made of the state of our research to date, the review of the data that we have amassed already, the documents that we have collected, the interviews we have conducted, etc. Only through this assessment are we able to see where the holes in our research are, what the overlooked or ignored tasks are that keep us from moving forward. And it is those items, of course, that can benefit from the resolution-making process.

The list does not have to be long,



## Genealogy exposed

Peter Summers

but it does have to contain items that are important to our research. Typically, they are items that contain a degree of difficulty and hence may be ones that we would naturally neglect. That is why we benefit from writing them down and keeping them visible as the year progresses.

I won't bore you with the mechanics of writing good resolutions, but suffice it to say that as much as possible the items should be specific, their accomplishment measurable, and they should have a time limit set for them. That ensures that they are doable, and you will be able to tell when you have completed the items. After all, it is only when you have completed them that you get the satisfaction of crossing them off the list.

Let me share with you three of my 10 or so resolutions. One is to read at least one genealogy how-to book each quarter and write a review of it. It is important for me because I could include that review in this column, and most surely include it in a newsletter that I write, and even in a genealogy blog to which I contribute. This item appears on my list every year, and doing it keeps me informed about research techniques that I can share with others as well as

use myself.

Another is to research my mother's brother and his line of descendants. I want to uncover as many cousins as I can in this task, as well as learn about my uncle's life. I just located a descendant of his that I need to interview. I usually get so wrapped up in finding ancestors (researching back in time) that I can use the nudge of a resolution to help me adjust my usual focus. In this case I want to start with my uncle and work forward in time to the present through all those lines of descendants.

The final resolution I will share is to attend at least two genealogy seminars during the year. This requires a bit of planning and preparation: choosing the seminar, arranging travel if needed, budgeting the expenses, etc. This is something that I could easily put off doing until the opportunity has passed and I have missed the event completely. It will require a timely survey of conferences to be sure I identify ones that will be most beneficial to me, and ones that are feasible to attend in light of other obligations I have.

So, there you have three from my list. They are not necessarily unique to me, but they are important, and that is what counts. I hope you have been motivated to do a bit of assessment and planning after reading this. Like most travels, our research journey will not end up where we intend without some serious consideration and forethought. Resolutions can give us a roadmap we need

to successfully guide our family history research.

As an end note, and just in case attending a seminar may be on your list also, let me give a plug for the Pinellas Genealogy Society seminar coming up on Feb. 24. It is co-sponsored by the Largo Public Library, and will take place there (120 Central Park Drive, Largo) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It features a professional genealogist and noted speaker, Judy Russell, who will make four presentations during the day. In addition, two other noted professionals will be break-out speakers: George G. Morgan and Drew Smith. In addition to the speakers, the registration fee also includes a continental breakfast, box lunch, and beverages throughout the day. You will also find a huge book sale, door prizes, and a wonderful opportunity to network with other researchers, both new and experienced.

You can read more about the speakers' topics and get a registration form by going to [www.fipgs.org/NMbrs/seminar/2018/Sem18.aspx](http://www.fipgs.org/NMbrs/seminar/2018/Sem18.aspx) (at the top and bottom of the information page is a link to a downloadable registration form). In addition, a direct link to a registration form is at [www.fipgs.org/NMbrs/seminar/2018/SeminarRegForm2018.pdf](http://www.fipgs.org/NMbrs/seminar/2018/SeminarRegForm2018.pdf), or one can be requested at [pgsfla@yahoo.com](mailto:pgsfla@yahoo.com).

*Peter Summers is an amateur genealogist who has been working on his family history since 1972. He is past president of the Pinellas Genealogy Society.*

## Around Largo

### Pinellas Chocolate, Arkane team up for event

LARGO – Craft brewery Arkane Aleworks will join Pinellas Chocolate, 10550 72nd St., Largo, on Friday, Jan. 12, from 7:30 to 9 p.m., for a beer and chocolate-inspired evening.

Arkane brewers will visit Pinellas Chocolate's kitchen event space to discuss using chocolate and cocoa nibs in the brewing process and to sample an exclusive beer made using Pinellas Chocolate. A collaborative chocolate for the event also may be offered.

Tickets are \$15 and include beer and chocolate samples. The event is for those age 21 and older.

### City to host ShredFest on Jan. 20

LARGO – Join the city of Largo for ShredFest on Saturday, Jan. 20, 9 a.m. to noon, at the Starkey Road Recycling Center, 1551 Starkey Road.

The drive-thru event allows residents to bring up to five boxes of documents for free and secure on-site shredding and recycling.

The Starkey Road Recycling Center is also a 24-hour facility where residents can drop off their mixed recycling at no cost and pick up free, recycled mulch year-round.

To learn more about ShredFest or other upcoming sustainability events, visit [LargoRecycles.com](http://LargoRecycles.com) or call 727-587-6760.

### Largo Winterfest to benefit Largo High PTSA

LARGO – The Largo High PTSA and Simply Events, Inc., are teaming up to bring Winterfest to Largo High School, 410 Missouri Ave., on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Largo Winterfest is the largest Largo High PTSA fundraiser held on campus and it will be open to the public as well as students. Community residents are encouraged to attend, and all proceeds will support the Largo High PTSA directly.

Main Winterfest features include K-12 Battle of the Bands and Chili Cook-Off sponsored by Pinellas Technical College; silent student art auction; carnival games; food trucks; photo booths; free kids games and activities; arts and crafts; Largo Business Expo and local Artisan Craft Fair; kids area including face painting and much more. Other school programs will also be raising funds for the 2018 School Year offering fun activities.

Event entry is free. Cost is \$5 to park on the school grounds.

### LPD to host Senior Empowerment Day

LARGO – The Largo Police Department Senior Services division is teaming up again with Aging in America Advocacy conferences to offer the third annual Senior Empowerment Day on Tuesday, Jan. 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1199 S. Highland Ave.

The free event includes speakers on senior issues, including fraud prevention, abuse and successful aging, vendor tables, door prizes and a complimentary lunch.

CarFit also will be on site offering free car safety evaluations. Learn more about the CarFit program at [www.car-fit.org](http://www.car-fit.org). Free registration is required and can be made at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), [www.aginginamerica.net](http://www.aginginamerica.net) or by phone at 1-800-530-7047.

Largo Police Senior Services Officer Joel Quattlebaum also will be discussing the current scams targeting vulnerable older adults, and the Pinellas County Consumer Protection department will be on site to address potential fraud as well as the protections available. A panel discussion will outline best practices for aging. St. Paul United Methodist Church will feature its Joy and Handicapable Ministries, highlighting the spiritual opportunities available.

For more information, contact Quattlebaum at 727-586-7351.

### Largo Central Park

Largo Central Park is at 101 Central Park Drive. Within the park are the Central Park Performing Arts Center, 105 Central Park Drive; the Largo Feed Store, 295 Central Park Drive; and the Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive. To contact the library, call 727-587-6715.

### Geology society to host gem, jewelry show

LARGO – The 42nd annual Gem and Jewelry Show of the Pinellas Geological Society will be held Friday through Sunday, Jan. 12-14, at the Central Park Performing Arts Center, Parkside Room.

The show will operate from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 12 and 13 and noon to 5 p.m. Jan. 14.

Admission is free. A donation of \$1.50 will enter attendees into an hourly drawing. A silent auction will be conducted every hour.

The Pinellas Geological Society is a nonprofit organization.

### Ukulele society to hold monthly workshop

LARGO – A monthly ukulele workshop will be held at the Largo Public Library on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Hosted by the Tampa Bay Ukulele Society, the workshop provides an introduction to the ukulele. A limited number of instruments will be supplied by the society, so participants are urged to bring their own if you have one.

For more information, call 727-587-6715, email [libraryinfo@largo.com](mailto:libraryinfo@largo.com), or visit [www.LargoPublicLibrary.org](http://www.LargoPublicLibrary.org).

### Highland Recreation Complex

Highland Recreation Complex is at 400 Highland Ave. Visit [HighlandRecreation.com](http://HighlandRecreation.com) or call 727-518-3016.

### Highland offering ballroom dancing classes

LARGO – Highland Recreation Complex is now offering ballroom dancing classes for families. Families will be taught in a casual, fun environment with lively, contemporary music.

Class will be on Thursday evenings from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The monthly cost is \$40 for members and \$80 for nonmembers.

### Friday Night Fever events coming up

LARGO – Kids can play in the gym, Playworld, Game Room and Exerplay at Highland Recreation Complex during Friday Night Fever events from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Jan. 12, 19 and 26.

The snack shop will be open for pizza, drink and snack purchases. A registration form is required for each child, who must be between ages 3 and in the fifth grade. Preschool children are separate from school-age children.

The cost is \$6 for members and \$12 for nonmembers.

### Southwest Recreation Complex

Southwest Recreation Complex, which includes an aquatic complex, is at 13120 Vonn Road. Call 727-518-3125 for recreation or 727-518-3126 for the pool. Visit [PlayLargo.com](http://PlayLargo.com) or [LargoPools.com](http://LargoPools.com).

### Southwest to host adaptive karaoke, dance

LARGO – Southwest Recreation Complex will host a pair of events for those with special needs Friday, Jan. 12.

Adaptive karaoke will be held from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by an adaptive dance for those age 15-35 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Each event costs \$3 for members and \$6 for nonmembers.

### Largo Community Center

The Largo Community Center is at 400 Alt. Keene Road. Visit [LargoCommunityCenter.com](http://LargoCommunityCenter.com) or call 727-518-3131.

### Amateur show to feature young talent

LARGO – The Largo Community Center presents an evening of vocal entertainment by three of Largo's up-and-coming young stars Friday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.

The evening includes performances by Jordan Krolak, the 2016 Largo's Got Talent show winner, and Sam Lopez, an aspiring songwriter and performer.

Tickets are \$7 per person and are on sale at the center.

See LARGO, page 5A

### REQUESTS, from page 1A

Therefore, the city pitched six funding requests – four of them related to hurricane preparedness – to Brandes in hopes he would sponsor them.

Those projects included a generator for an employee shelter, emergency fuel storage vaults, survivable fiber data network, sanitary sewer overflow prevention, Rosery Road Community Street reconstruction and police portable radio replacement.

"This is the first year that we've met one on one with legislators to determine what their priorities are," Semones said. "They need to ultimately submit our appropriations requests as a bill for funding that has to be supported by other members of the Legislature, so it needs to be one of their priorities as well as one of ours."

Reed said the conversations also included discussions about issues such as transportation, redevelopment and home rule.

"We had some very good, broad conversations about the future of Largo and the direction in which the city was looking to grow."

In November, Largo commissioners approved a resolution opposing legislative efforts to impede municipal home rule powers, such as bills that impose limits on community redevelopment agencies and prevent cities from regulating short-term rentals.

"It did seem like the elected officials were very conscious of the concerns of both city and county governments as it related to home rule," Reed said. "It seemed like they had heard the message loud and clear already. In some instances, they explained their point of view and the point of view of really wanting to ensure that the taxpayers are protected from a financial standpoint. So, we did have some frank conversations."

But even if the city's requests don't yield results this year, Semones and Reed said they hope the efforts will lead to progress in the future.

"I think what we were really focusing on most importantly was just beginning to develop those relationships with our elected officials so that they know who we were and we began developing relationships with them as well as with their staff," Reed said. "My goal has been to keep expectations reasonable and modest at this particular point in time as we begin to grow into a more robust legislative program."

### ROADS, from page 1A

engineering director. "So, 12 of the sites had potholes, the road just opened up or failure to the base pumping through the asphalt, weakening the structural components of the road."

Ajax Paving Industries, which is based out of North Venice, is one of two companies that bid on the project. Preferred Materials Inc., which bid \$971,961, was the other.

More than \$98,000 of the contract has come from FEMA, which has already reimbursed the city for work completed at the 12th site at Mallory Drive and 126th Avenue.

The money from FEMA will only be used for sections of roadway that were damaged by the hurricane, while the FY 2018-2022 Capital Improvements Program



Photo by TERRE PORTER

### Motorists fill up Sunday afternoon at a Shell station in Largo. The federal Energy Information Administration predicts that gas prices will average \$2.51 in 2018.

#### GAS, from page 1A

they begin production of the more expensive summer blend.

EPA regulations require production and sale of summer blend gasoline from June 1-Sept. 15 in an effort to reduce smog and pollution during the peak driving season.

The transition from the winter blend to the summer blend can increase gas prices from 25 cents to 75 cents a gallon, according to Gas Buddy's experts.

Other influences on gas prices include unscheduled problems at refineries and the weather, as was evidenced by the hurricanes of 2017, which greatly affected production and consequently gasoline supplies and prices, especially in Texas and Florida.

Additional factors that affect gas prices include the strength of global economies; the relative value of major currencies; supply and demand of oil and gasoline; pipeline logistics; state and local taxes; and politics, Gas Buddy points out in its report.

Mark Jenkins, spokesman for AAA, said prices are now relatively stable across the southeastern U.S., and January pump prices are expected to go down

soon. They will likely be among the lowest of the year with the national average forecast to be \$2.41 a gallon.

"Gas prices normally decline during January and February, as gasoline demand hits the lowest levels of the year," Jenkins said. "The pump-price plunge has faced resistance from oil prices which have been trading at two-year highs. Oil analysts believe the oil market is somewhat inflated due to geopolitical tensions and supply concerns, but prices should decline soon."

The EIA says decisions to curtail production by members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, more commonly referred to as OPEC, have had a profound effect on crude oil prices even though the crude oil production in the United States has remained relatively high. U.S. product supplied for crude oil and petroleum products last year was the highest level since 2007.

"The OPEC agreement to curtail crude oil production in 2017 and subsequent extension of that agreement through 2018 tightened oil supplies, which put upward pressure on crude oil prices," the EIA says.

But gas prices aren't expected to reach levels that will stop

motorists from traveling for work and pleasure. And despite increasing demand, none of the experts expects that this year's prices will eclipse the record set in 2008 when the national average reached \$4.11 in July.

Still, there are a lot of factors that can't be controlled. Remember hurricanes Harvey and Irma?

"Motorists probably won't be getting pumped up to pay more at the pump this year, but should find some solace in knowing we won't come anywhere near record prices this year while most of the country will continue to see plenty of prices in the \$2 per gallon range," said Patrick DeHaan, Gas Buddy's head of petroleum analysis.

Florida's gas prices averaged \$2.44 a gallon Jan. 1, 3 cents more than the same date last year. As of Jan. 7, the state average was \$2.45. Motorists in the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater Metro Area were paying an average of \$2.41, about the same as the day before and almost 1 cent less than last week.

According to Gasbuddy.com's price finder, on Jan. 7 motorists in Pinellas County were paying between \$2.39 and \$2.31 with the cheapest price available at a station in Pinellas Park.

rocks over in six months, that's marvelous."

Because of FEMA requirements, Cieslak said the project should commence soon.

"I'm coordinating with the contractor right now to get a notice to proceed," Cieslak said. "Our plan is to get the project started as soon as we can. FEMA's cutoff date to have the work completed is the end of this March."

#### In other news

Commissioners voted to ratify the collective bargaining agreement with the Sun Coast Police Benevolent Association, supervisory unit, for a three-year term through Sept. 30, 2020.

The unit, which is comprised of six police lieutenants, will receive a 3 percent average annual wage increase.

### Roads to be repaired

The following roads will be repaired as part of the Hurricane Hermine Roadway Infrastructure Improvements project.

- Fifth Avenue from Sixth Street NE to Fourth Street NE
- Sixth Street NE from Fourth Avenue NE to Third Avenue NE
- Vancouver Drive from Ocean Courts to Edmont Circle
- Keene Park Drive from Keene Road to Brookfield Drive
- Rodgers Avenue from Ulmerton Road to Nicole Lane
- 116th Street SW from 20th Avenue SW to 21st Avenue SW
- 125th Avenue from Vonn Road to dead end
- Kimberly Oaks Circle
- Eldon Drive to 126th Avenue
- 126th Avenue from 137th Street to 134th Street
- Bluff Drive from Crooked Pine to Hilltop Lane

has \$1.72 million budgeted to pave blocks where improvements are needed.

The application for the project was submitted to FEMA in March, so the speed at which the

city received the funding gave Commissioner Curtis Holmes reason to be optimistic about claims related to Hurricane Irma.

"I'm glad FEMA's already done this," he said. "If you turned these

LARGO, from page 4A

**Photography workshops kick off**

LARGO - The Studio @ The Center, part of The Largo Community Center, is offering monthly photography workshops to help you get the most out of your digital camera, smartphone/tablet camera or traditional camera. On Jan. 17, beginners are invited to learn basic camera functions; Feb. 7 will focus on portrait photography; finding the light will be the theme for the March 7 class; and April 4 will introduce beach photography.

All workshops meet from 6 to 9 p.m. and preregistration deadlines are one week before the workshop date.

The cost per workshop is \$30 for Largo Recreation members and \$60 for nonmembers.

**Aspiring writers group seeks writers**

LARGO - The Aspiring Writers Group at the Largo Community Center is looking for new members.

Under the direction of Angela Pisaturo, the program teaches the fundamentals of writing for beginning writers through word exercises, group writing and class critique. The group meets on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

The cost is \$12 per week for members and \$24 for nonmembers. Preregister for the entire month and receive a discount.

**Group meetings**

**Largo Woman's Club**

LARGO - The Largo Woman's Club meets the first

Tuesdays of each month at Royal Palms, 200 Lake Ave. NE, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with sign-in at 11:15 a.m.

The cost is \$8, which includes lunch and a special guest speaker.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 6, and the speaker will be Nick Patel from USAMeritBank.

Meetings and fundraisers are open to all women, and Largo residency is not required to attend.

For more information, call Rita at 727-447-1808 or Ginny at 321-288-1239.

**American Legion Post 119**

LARGO - American Legion Post 119, at 130 First Ave. SW, will host several events that are open to the public.

Lunches are served Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring burgers and specials each day.

Friday Night Dinners are served from 5 to 8 p.m., with music by Karaoke DJ Bill Johnson, 7 to 11 p.m. The cost is \$7.25 for shrimp or a four-piece chicken dinner or all-you-can-eat fried fish. It is served with rolls, French fries and coleslaw.

Saturday Night Dinners are served 5 to 8 p.m., with music by various artists weekly, 7 to 11 p.m. The cost is \$8.25 and includes bacon-wrapped filet mignon served with a salad, baked potato and rolls. Coffee is \$1.

Sons of the American Legion Post 119 sponsor "Wing Madness" every Monday night, 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy chicken wings served hot, mild, barbecue, butter and garlic and spicy barbecue for \$5 for six or \$8 for 12. French fries and onion rings are available. Bob Swenson provides music from 6 to 8 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the Special Olympics, Fisher House at Bay Pines, and American Legion National Child

Welfare Foundation and National Emergency Fund.

**Largo Lions Club**

LARGO - The Largo Lions Club meets on the first and third Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Tailgaters, 13847 Walsingham Road.

The club is a network of volunteers who serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding.

For more information, email info@largolionsclub.org or visit largolionsclub.org.

**Kiwanis Club of Largo/Mid-Pinellas**

LARGO - The Kiwanis Club of Largo/Mid-Pinellas meets for dinner at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at The Suncoast Cafe, 1921 West Bay Drive.

Each meeting features a speaker and fellowship over a meal, where members plan service and fundraising projects.

Kiwanis is a worldwide service organization founded in 1915 to serve the children of the world and at the local level.

For more information, visit largokiwanis.snack.ws/

**Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club**

LARGO - The Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at Acropoli Restaurant, 1170 Starkey Road.

Meetings have a featured speaker and generally candidates for local and state offices attend. The club serves the entire central Pinellas area. Food is available to purchase at the restaurant.

For more information, contact club president Mary Lou Ambrose at 727-433-4045 or visit largodemocrats.com.

**Republican Club of Greater Largo**

LARGO - The Republican Club of Greater Largo meets on the third Mondays, 6 p.m., at Alfano's Restaurant, 1702 Clearwater-Largo Road.

Meeting starts with dinner followed by a speaker. The Republican Club of Greater Largo serves the entire central Pinellas area, welcoming Republicans from Belleair Bluffs, the beaches, Feather Sound and Largo.

For more information, call club President Ed Hooper at 727-458-4751.

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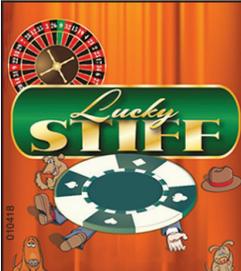
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# Police Beat

## Injuries reported in Largo lawn care truck crash

LARGO - Largo police responded to a single-vehicle crash that occurred about 1:59 p.m. Jan. 6 on Eighth Avenue Southwest and Mac Crillus Road.

Police say a lawn care truck traveling east on Eight Avenue Southwest ran off the road and struck a bridge over a creek near the intersection with Mac Crillus Road. The truck rolled over and landed on the other side of the creek, damaging a reclaimed water pipe and the bridge guardrails.

The truck was pulling a trailer, loaded with lawn equipment, which fell into the creek. The roadway was closed for several hours while the equipment was removed from the creek.

The driver of the truck, Richard Egan, 54, and two passengers, one of which was ejected from the truck, were transported to local hospitals via Sunstar ambulances and Baylight. All three were reportedly in stable condition as of the afternoon of Jan. 6.

The investigation into the crash continues.

## 18-year-old charged with setting fire to restroom at Pinellas Park soccer complex

PINELLAS PARK - Pinellas Park police charged an 18-year-old with arson in the second-degree Jan. 6 for reportedly setting fire to the women's restroom pavilion at the city's Youth Soccer Complex.

Rio Cheyenne Evey of Pinellas Park was booked into the county jail where bail was set at \$10,000.

Several Pinellas Park fire and police units responded to a fire in the eastern-most women's restroom pavilion at the complex located in the 3700 block of 66th Avenue about 2:15 p.m.

Evey was still at the scene and police identified her as a suspect. Police say when detectives interviewed her, she reportedly admitted to setting the fire in two adjacent bathroom stalls using a lighter to ignite toilet paper and a McDonald's fry carton.

Officials estimate damage to the restrooms at \$19,000.

## Largo man accused of hitting transport van

LARGO - Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies arrested a 57-year-old Largo man for DUI on Jan. 6 after he rear-ended a sheriff's transport van at the intersection of Ulmerton Road and U.S. 19 in unincorporated Largo, police said.

According to deputies with the Major Accident Investigation Team, G4S driver Officer Michael Hanson was stopped in a transport van at a red light in the westbound lane at the intersection of Ulmerton Road and U.S. 19. While waiting for the light to change, the transport van was struck from behind by a 2016 Toyota Corolla driven by Mark D. Foster, who was traveling westbound in the median lane of Ulmerton Road.

Deputies say Foster failed to see Hanson stopped for a red light and rear-ended the transport van.

There were no prisoners in the transport van at the time of the crash. Hanson was transported to Northside Hospital with minor injuries. According to deputies, Foster showed numerous signs of impairment and was arrested for driving under the influence with injury/property damage. Foster had Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC), of .143/.154.

He was transported to the Pinellas County Jail without incident. Bail was set at \$1,000. He was released on a surety bond at 9:48 a.m. the same day.

## Man charged with robbing Belleair Bluffs bank

BELLEAIR BLUFFS - Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives arrested a man Jan. 3 about 11 minutes after he reportedly robbed a bank with a knife in Belleair Bluffs.

Deputies responded to The Bank of the Ozarks, 525 Indian Rocks Road, regarding a report of a bank robbery about 3:27 p.m. When they arrived, they were told that a man armed with a knife had approached two bank tellers and demanded cash. The suspect took an undisclosed

amount of cash from the bank teller and fled the scene.

Deputies obtained a physical description of the suspect and began searching the area.

About 10 minutes later, undercover detectives located a vehicle driving in the area of Ponce De Leon Boulevard and Indian Rocks Road with a passenger that fit the description of the bank robbery suspect. Belleair Police officers and Pinellas deputies conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle.

Deputies made contact with the occupants in the vehicle identified as Brian Kleer, 43 of Belleair Bluffs, Justin Turek, 27 of Largo and Michael Sadusky, a 60-year-old transient who fit the description of the suspect.

Detectives say Sadusky had cash on his person consistent with the amount stolen from the bank and a knife similar to the one used in the bank robbery. During the investigation, detectives learned that after Sadusky fled the bank, he had walked to the Belleair Bluffs Apartments, 675 Indian Rocks Road, where he asked for a ride with Kleer and Turek, who is Kleer's nephew. Detectives say Kleer and Turek had no knowledge of the bank robbery.

Detectives interviewed Sadusky and he reportedly admitted to committing the bank robbery. He was arrested at 3:38 p.m. and transported to the Pinellas County Jail where he was charged with one count of armed robbery. Bail was set at \$50,000.

## Deputy saves woman trying to jump off bridge

A Pinellas County Sheriff's deputy stopped a 50-year-old Tampa woman from jumping off the Sunshine Skyway Bridge about 11:50 p.m. Jan. 2.

Deputy Damon Laney, 37, was driving to an off-duty work detail, northbound across the top span of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in Hillsborough County that Tuesday night when he noticed a car parked on the roadway along the side of the bridge with its hazards lights on.

Laney turned on his emergency lights and started to pull behind the vehicle. The driver exited the vehicle and ran toward the outside barrier wall of the bridge. She then attempted to climb over the wall and jump. Laney, who had no time to exit his vehicle, used his vehicle to trap her legs between the push bumper and the wall.

Laney exited his vehicle, but the woman had already freed herself and was completely over the wall with the exception of one arm. Laney grabbed her by the waist and pulled her back over the wall where she continued to struggle until she was handcuffed.

She was not injured during the incident, according to a press release from the sheriff's office.

When Laney detained the woman, she cried and said, "Just, let me jump." She later told Laney she was upset over personal issues.

Deputies took the woman into protective custody under the Baker Act. Laney is currently assigned to the Patrol Operations DUI Unit. He has been with the sheriff's office for five years.

## Detectives investigating fatal mobile home fire

ST. PETERSBURG - Pinellas County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a Dec. 30 mobile home fire that resulted in one death.

Deputies responded to the mobile home at 7499 46th Ave. N., Lot 32 in Unincorporated St. Petersburg about 2 p.m. Neighbors reported seeing thick black smoke and flames coming from the mobile home.

Multiple fire rescue units from Lealman, Pinellas Park Fire Rescue, and Kenneth City responded to extinguish the mobile home.

Once the fire was extinguished, firefighters made entry and located a dead body inside of the bathroom doorway of the mobile home. Detectives say the deceased has been identified as 41-year-old Randy Reed, who lived in the mobile home with his mother. The mother was not home when the fire occurred.

Detectives say that they are working with the Florida State Fire Marshal to determine the origin of the fire, which may have started in one of the bedrooms, and the Medical Examiner's Office to determine the cause of manner of death of Reed.

The fire does not appear to be suspicious in nature.

- Compiled by SUZETTE PORTER

# Juvenile arrests drop to 42-year low statewide

By SUZETTE PORTER  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

Gov. Rick Scott announced some good news toward the end of 2017. Juvenile arrests statewide have dropped to the lowest point in 42 years.

According to a recent delinquency report from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, arrests dropped 7 percent in the last fiscal year and 25 percent in the last five years.

"Our state has made significant strides in reforming our juvenile justice system and I am proud to announce today that juvenile arrests have dropped to a historic 42-year low," Scott said in a Dec. 28 press release.

Scott highlighted five of the state's counties with the largest populations, including Orange County, which had a 15 percent decrease in juvenile arrests. Hillsborough County came in next with a 14 percent reduction, followed by Broward and Miami-Dade counties with a 7 percent decrease.

Juvenile intake arrests were down 5 percent in Pinellas for fiscal year 2016-2017, according to the report. Arrests totaled 4,133, down from 4,356 in FY 2015-2016. And, compared to FY 2012-2013, arrests were down 12 percent in Pinellas with 4,691 juveniles being arrested that year.

## By the numbers

A breakdown of the numbers for Pinellas County shows that juvenile males run afoul of the law more than females with 3,320 males arrested last year compared to 813 females. In FY 2015-2016, 3,528 males were arrested and 828 females, and in FY 2012-2013, 3,652 males were arrested and 1,039 females.

The majority of those arrested were black - 62 percent in fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2015-2016, and 52 percent in FY 2012-2013. Thirty percent arrested in 2016-2017 were white, 39 percent in 2015-2016 and 41 percent in 2012-2013. Less than 10 percent were Hispanic juveniles.

Juveniles age 17 and older made up about 24 percent of

arrests in all three fiscal years. Most of the arrests were juveniles ages 15-16. In FY 2016-2017 48 percent were ages 15-16, 50 percent in FY 2015-2016 and 46 percent in FY 2012-2013. Juveniles ages 13-14 made up 24 percent of arrests in FY 2016-2017, 22 percent in FY 2015-2016 and 24 percent in FY 2012-2013. Arrests of ages 5-12 accounted for less than 10 percent.

In FY 2016-2017 and FY 2015-2016, most of the offenses committed by juveniles in Pinellas were felonies - 47 percent compared to only 35 percent in FY 2012-2013. In FY 2016-2017, 27 percent of offenses were misdemeanors; 35 percent in FY 2015-2016; and 44 percent in FY 2012-2013. The remainder of the arrests was classified as "other."

The top three felonies were burglary, aggravated assault/battery and auto theft. More burglaries were committed in FY 2016-2017, 735, compared to 706 in FY 2015-2016 and 588 in FY 2012-2013. Last fiscal year, 250 juveniles were arrested for aggravated assault/battery, down from 282 in FY 2015-2016 and 314 in FY 2012-2013.

Local law enforcement has been battling a big problem with auto theft among juveniles, which in some cases had led to tragic endings. Three teens died in October 2017 in a stolen car that crashed in Palm Harbor. In March 2016, three teenage girls drowned when they crashed a stolen car in a pond in St. Petersburg.

Officials have been working on solutions and that work is ongoing. The good news is that the numbers are going down. Last year, only 350 juveniles were arrested for auto theft, down from 418 in FY 2015-2016. Still 350 is still a big number compared to only 130 arrested for the same crime in FY 2012-2013. Of those arrested for auto theft last year, 14 percent were females and 86 percent were males - about the same as prior years.

Statewide, the DJJ's report shows a 4 percent drop year-to-year statewide in auto theft arrests, including a 19 percent year-to-year decrease in auto theft arrests in the Central Florida region.

### Sunshine Nails

1591 S. Highland Ave., Clearwater  
LaBelle Publix Plaza, facing Belleair Road, next to Anytime Fitness

## 15 Year Anniversary Sale!

### 20% off ALL Services

(Expires 1/31/18)

	Reg. Price	Now 20% OFF
SNS-Dipping Powder	\$30	\$24.00
Spa Pedicure	\$20	\$16.00
Manicure	\$10	\$8.00
Manicure Shellac-Gel	\$20	\$16.00
Full Set	\$22	\$18.00
Refill	\$14	\$11.20
Full Set Pink & White	\$40	\$32.00
Refill Pink & White	\$30	\$24.00
Eye Brows Wax	\$8	\$6.40
Eyelash Extensions	\$30	\$21.00
Eyebrow Microblading	\$300	\$210.00

727-442-5540  
Mon.-Sat. 9am-7pm • Sun. 11am-4pm

## 20% OFF All Jewelry

AND ALMOST EVERYTHING IN OUR STORE!  
Sale Ends February 17, 2018  
Much, Much More...

Electronics • Jewelry • Art • Tools • Military

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Sat. 10am-2:30pm

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We Service All Rolex Models. "1 Year Warranties"

<b>40%-50% OFF 14kt Gold Jewelry</b> <small>Includes Rings, Chains, Bracelets, Earrings, Charms without Gemstones. With ad. Exp. 2/15/18</small>	<b>Watch Batteries \$4.99</b> <small>Includes Installation. Excludes 3 volt battery, oversized and high grade watches. With this ad. NO LIMIT. Exp. 2/15/18</small>	<b>20-50% OFF Diamond Jewelry</b> <small>With Ad. Expires 2/15/18</small>	<b>Large Selection of Preowned Rolex On Sale!</b> <small>Not affiliated with Rolex U.S.A.</small>
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**WE PAY TOP \$ FOR:** Gold Jewelry, Diamonds, Rolex, Coins, Old Watches, Pocket Watches (Manual or Auto, Working or Not)

Hours: Monday - Friday 9-6pm • Saturday 9-5pm • Closed Sunday  
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(Behind McDonalds next to Walmart Neighborhood Market) • www.JasonJewelers.com

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Quality Used Clothing, Jewelry, Furniture, Housewares and more

### Come See Our New Furniture Showroom!

## 25% OFF Any Furniture Purchase

Excludes mattresses and bed frames. Exp. 2-16-18

**Complete Bed Sets Same Day & 1 Day Delivery** (if purchased before noon)

**SHOP or DONATE**  
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727.442.5306 or www.facebook.com/stvinniesclearwater

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POOL SUPPLIES

**\$5 OFF** Purchase of \$25 or more.  
No cash value. One coupon per customer, per visit. Exp. 2-15-18

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### Anniversary Sale

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**15% OFF everything in the store\***  
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The coffee is on & the shopping is fun!

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## HOME DECOR 50% OFF

Categories Listed

Does not include Seasonal Department

**Candle Holders**  
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**Knobs, Pulls, Handles, Hooks & Decorative Hardware**

**Glass Decor**  
Glass Department, floral glass vases and craft glass containers  
Does not include craft stained glass

**Wood Decor**  
Wood wall decor and finished decorative wood accessories  
Does not include furniture or unfinished craft wood

**Decorative Memo Boards, Chalkboards & Corkboards**  
Priced \$24.99 & Up

**Metal Decor**  
Metal wall decor, functional & decorative metal accessories  
(Includes metal containers in our Floral & Crafts Departments)  
Does not include furniture

**Decorative Lanterns, Birdcages & Terrariums**

**Framed & Canvas Art**

**Wicker, Decorative Boxes, Trays & Storage**  
Does not include large trunks or craft & paper crafts storage



**Collage Frames**

**Men's Metal & Wood Decor**  
Wall and table

Valentine's Day and items labeled The Spring Shop™ are not included in Home Decor sale.

### VALENTINE PARTY, CRAFTS & DECORATIONS

**40% OFF**

Paper Plates & Napkins, Home Decor, Plush Animals, Party Supplies and More  
Does not include candy or fabric



### Select Group of HOME DECOR

NOW MARKED  
**75% OFF**

Selection will vary by store

### Items Labeled THE SPRING SHOP™

**40% OFF**

Statuary, Garden Planters, Gazing Balls, Garden Wall Decor and More



### FLORAL 50% OFF

Categories Listed

Does not include Seasonal Department or items labeled "floral accents"

**Ribbon & Trims by the Roll**  
Ribbon, bows, tulle & deco mesh in our Wedding, Floral and Fabric Departments  
Does not include ribbon, trim or tulle sold by the yard

**Floral Arrangements**  
Flowering and greenery  
Does not include custom designs or potted trees

**Garlands, Swags, Wreaths & Teardrops**  
Flowering and greenery

### Wedding

Items Labeled Studio His & Hers®  
Invitations, toasting glasses, ring pillows, cake toppers and more

### FURNITURE



ALWAYS  
**30% OFF**  
THE MARKED PRICE\*

### YARN & NEEDLE ART

**Yarn Bee® Sugarwheel™**  
7 oz **4.99**

**I Love This Yarn!®**  
Acrylic yarn, solids, stripes, ombres and metallics  
5 & 7 oz **3.66**  
Does not include overdyed

**Poly-fil® 100% Polyester Fiberfill with Stuffing Tool** 12 oz **3.99**

**Needle Art Kits**  
Priced \$5.99 & Up  
Counted, baby, children's, latch hook and stamped **30% OFF**



### FRAMES 50% OFF

Categories Listed

**Photo Frames**  
Always 50% off the marked price\*

Our entire selection of basic & fashion tabletop frames and wooden photo storage

**Collage Frames**

**Wall Frames**  
Poster, document and portrait frames with glass



### CRAFTS 30% OFF

Categories Listed

**T-Shirts**  
Always 30% off the marked price\*  
Youth & adult t-shirts, sweatshirts, infant & toddler t-shirts, creepers and dresses

**Unfinished Craft Wood**  
Priced \$5.99 & Up

**Krylon® Spray Paint**

**Crayola® Products**

**Pre-Cut Stained Glass**  
Single sheets only

**Children's Crafts by Playside Creations®**

### PAPER CRAFTS 50% OFF

Most Categories Listed

**Chipboard, Chip Decor™ Letters & Shapes, Paper Mache and Mixed Media**  
by the Paper Studio®

**Embellishments**  
by the Paper Studio®  
Spare Parts®, Flea Market Fancy®, Poppies & Paperie®, decorative tape, brads, bottle caps, flowers and more

**Paper Crafts Totes & Organizers**  
by the Paper Studio®

**Scrapbook Albums & Refill Pages**  
by the Paper Studio®  
Over 200 styles  
Does not include photo albums

**All Stickers**  
Over 2500 styles  
Includes 3D stickers, sticker packs and planner stickers **40% OFF**



### ART SUPPLIES

**Master's Touch® Single Art Brushes** **50% OFF**

**Art Pads & Sketchbooks** **40% OFF**

**2-Pack Canvas**  
8 Sizes available  
8x10 **3.99** 11x14 **5.99** 16x20 **7.99**

**Master's Touch® Artist Acrylic Tube Paints** **3.57**  
4.1 oz  
\$3.99 Regular price

**Tempera Paints** **1.27**  
16 oz  
\$1.99 Regular price



### JEWELRY MAKING 50% OFF

Categories Listed



**D.I.Y. Jewelry Kits and Bead Boxes**

**Bead Design Co.™, In Bloom™ and Treehouse Studio®**  
Bulk beads & gems in a variety of materials

**Fairy Tale™** by Bead Treasures®  
Pendants, charms and beads for a grown-up happily ever after

**Blank Slate**  
Create a personalized look with stamping blanks, bezels and more

**the Jewelry Shoppe™**  
Findings, hair accessories, nickel free, sterling-dipped and sterling silver

**Charms by A Bead Story® & Charm Me®**  
Featuring Story Lockets™  
Does not include sterling silver



**Home Decor Fabric**  
Prints, solids, sheers and laminated fabric

**Fleece**  
Prints, solids and microfiber

**Calico Prints & Solids**  
Apparel prints and batiks

ALWAYS  
**30% OFF**  
THE MARKED PRICE\*

**Ribbon, Trim & Tulle Spools**  
Does not include ribbon, trim or tulle sold by the yard or Seasonal Department

**McCall's® Patterns**  
Limit 10 per customer  
Does not include Kwik Sew® Patterns

**Felt & Flannel**  
Patches or solids and prints by the yard

**50% OFF**

**1.99**

**25% OFF**

### CUSTOM FRAMES 50% OFF

Always 50% off the marked price\*  
Applies to frame only. See Store for Details.

**We Guarantee Our Prices Are Lower Than Our Competitors' Larger Discounts!**

See our Great Selection. Satisfaction Guaranteed.



### HOBBY LOBBY®

Offer good for one item at regular price only. Limit one coupon per customer per day. Must present coupon at time of purchase. Offer is not valid with any other coupon, discount or previous purchase. One cut or one bolt of fabric or trim "by the yard" equals one item. Online fabric & trim discount is limited to 10 yards, single cut. Excludes CRICUT® products, Gemini Machine™, Crafters Companion, Silhouette CAMEO® Machine, candy & snack products, gum & mints, helium tanks, gift cards, custom orders, labor, rentals or class fees, Cash Value 1/10¢. VALID THROUGH JANUARY 13, 2018

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PRICES GOOD IN STORES MONDAY, JANUARY 8 – SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018.  
PRICES GOOD ONLINE SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 – SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018.  
SOME ADVERTISED ITEMS NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE. SALES SUBJECT TO SUPPLY IN STOCK.  
SELECTION AND QUANTITIES VARY BY STORE. AD DOES NOT APPLY TO PRE-REDUCED ITEMS.  
\*Discounts provided every day; marked prices reflect general U.S. market value for similar products.

## County Briefs

### Registration opens for annual Valentine's group wedding

Ken Burke, Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, announced that registration is now open for the 12th annual Valentine's Day Group Wedding.

Up to 50 couples are expected to be joined together for one group wedding ceremony on Valentine's Day, Wednesday, Feb. 14, in the Wedding Garden of the Florida Botanical Gardens in Largo.

"Our Valentine's Day Group Wedding event continues to be a very popular option for couples interested in celebrating the most romantic day of the year," said Burke.

The Clerk's office is showcasing the special event complete with an eye-catching window display at the downtown Clearwater Courthouse. Aimee Matsko and Shantel Griffin, owners of Bearer of the Bling in Kenneth City, volunteered to design and set up the Clerk's window display this year.

A single ceremony will unite all couples in attendance. Everyone will be serenaded with a cappella melodies performed by the Charmonizers Barbershop Quartet. In addition, the couples will be treated to beautiful melodies performed by Deputy Clerks Tiffany Clayton and James Beaty. After the ceremony, the couples and their guests will celebrate with wedding cake and refreshments provided by local sponsors.

The Clerk has waived the normal \$30 ceremony

fee. Standard marriage license fees will still apply. To participate, couples must sign-up no later than Friday, Jan. 26. To complete the online registration, visit [www.mypinellasclerk.org](http://www.mypinellasclerk.org).

To be eligible to register for the 2018 wedding event, application for a marriage license must be made between Dec. 16, 2017 and Feb. 9, 2018. The ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. in the Wedding Garden of the Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

Couples will receive a special Commemorative Marriage Certificate, which will be mailed within one week from the date of the ceremony with the official Certificate of Marriage. All couples should arrive at the Botanical Gardens by 1 p.m. on the day of the event with their marriage license and identification.

For more information, call Recording Services at 727-464-3008 or visit [www.mypinellasclerk.org](http://www.mypinellasclerk.org). For more information about the Wedding Garden or the Florida Botanical Gardens, visit [www.flbg.org](http://www.flbg.org).

### Tax Collectors Office gears up for driver license renewals

According to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, one in six Pinellas County drivers will renew their driver license in 2018. That's an estimated 125,630 license renewals, a 38 percent increase over 2017.

This number doesn't include new drivers, people who

move to Pinellas County or residents who don't drive and need to obtain a Florida ID card.

To avoid long waits, drivers are encouraged to renew online at [www.taxcollect.com](http://www.taxcollect.com). If you move, you can also change your address online.

There's one catch: before you renew online, make sure your license is REAL ID compliant. If your license has a yellow star icon or a star inside a circle, your license is REAL ID compliant. Under federal law, all U.S. adults will need a REAL ID driver license or other acceptable form of identification, such as a U.S. passport, to board commercial domestic flights beginning Oct. 1, 2020. Non-REAL ID licenses will continue to be valid for driving purposes until they expire.

Florida's online driver license renewal system allows people to renew non-REAL IDs online. Pinellas County Tax Collector Charles W. Thomas encourages drivers to check their license before deciding how to renew.

"If your license is already a REAL ID, we advise you to renew online. However, if your license is not a REAL ID, you cannot upgrade to a REAL ID online," said Thomas. "The only way to obtain your first REAL ID is by renewing in person."

If you must renew your license in person, you can make an appointment online at [www.taxcollect.com](http://www.taxcollect.com). Wait times are typically shortest between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays. Offices are busiest the day before and the day after federal holiday. For more information, visit [www.taxcollect.com](http://www.taxcollect.com).

One more thing for drivers who renew their license in 2018: Florida recently changed its driver license design

with a new look and increased fraud protection. Drivers who renew online or in person in 2018 will both receive the new license design.

### Enrollment continues for Sunstar FirstCare Ambulance Membership

The enrollment period for Sunstar FirstCare Ambulance Membership is underway for Pinellas County residents to help save money on medical transportation costs.

The Sunstar FirstCare Ambulance Membership is not an insurance plan. It is a Pinellas County government program that works with an individual's insurance company to cover out of pocket ambulance expenses.

The membership covers 100 percent of expenses associated with deductibles and co-payment. It also covers 50 percent of the cost for any trips denied by the insurance company. If members are uninsured, they receive a 20 percent discount on ambulance transportation services. This is an average savings of \$80 per transport.

The family membership covers those related by blood, marriage or adoption who reside in the same household. It is estimated that the average cost of a single transport is \$731. Annual membership fees are \$66 for a single membership and \$101 for a family membership.

For more information, call 727-582-2008 or visit [www.pinellascounty.org/firstcare](http://www.pinellascounty.org/firstcare).

# Business Showcase

## Find Your Treasure at Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment

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

Spread out across the store's sprawling, 17,000-square-foot showroom, appealingly staged, is an extensive selection of fine furniture and accessories from various time periods – but that's just the beginning. The store is a virtual treasure chest, full of fascinating finds at reasonable, realistic prices.

So, what precisely is Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment?

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

The vast selection and professional, attractive style



in which the inventory is exhibited truly makes Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment stand out from the competition.

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

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

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

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

"The rapport I have with my customers is very important," Maddie said. "If a customer comes in looking for something specific and I don't have it, I try to find it." Maddie keeps a log of customer requests. She's always making connections between buyers and consigners. "We take requests, and we do our best to fill them as quickly as possible."

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

#### Interested in consigning?

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

They will come to pick up your furniture and price your pieces at a fair market value. The professional staff at Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment takes great care in artistically staging consignment items, presenting them in their upscale gallery and making them irresistible to the right customer. They will pay you 50 percent of the selling price and automatically mail your proceeds to you on the 15th day



of the month following the month in which it was sold.

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

**Design Furniture Outlet & Consignment** is at 1928 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 6pm, Sunday, Noon - 3pm. Call 727-216-6432 or visit [www.dfoutlet.com](http://www.dfoutlet.com).



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## Financial New Year's Resolutions

Here we are a few days into 2018 and we're all working diligently to stay true to the vows we made moving into the New Year.

Many of us began the year promising to improve our well-being by eating healthier foods, avoiding stressful situations and getting more exercise. These are all good New Year's resolutions ... but the beginning of a new year also happens to be the perfect time to resolve to improve your financial fitness.

**Elizabeth (Liza) Campa-Flanagan**, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ with Raymond James Financial Services Inc., offers a few financial exercises that can help set you on the course to fiscal health.

"With 2018 underway, instead of rushing to 'what's next', it's a good time to pause and reflect on 2017 to better understand any existing constraints, strengths, and weaknesses before making plans for the year ahead," Liza says. "2017 can best be described as a year of synchronized global growth among the world's major economies." This was evident by soaring equity markets in Europe, Asia, and the United States. In the World Economic Outlook report published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the global growth forecast for 2017 was estimated at 3.6%, while 2018 is forecast at 3.7%. This is an acceleration from 3.2% recorded for 2016. The IMF said the pickup in activity that started in the second half of 2016 "gained further momentum" in the first six months of 2017. "The global upswing in economic activity is strengthening," the IMF said in its executive summary (IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2017). According to Jeffrey Saut, Raymond James Chief Investment Strategist, the United States is in the midst of a secular bull market with years left to run. This is not to say that he does not expect downturns, instead he believes pullbacks are likely to be muted, normal in nature, and treated as buying opportunities.

#### Steps to Fiscal Fitness

Ready to go over your new financial fitness regimen? Like all good exercise programs, begin with a warm-up session.

- Get your balance sheet in order
- Review your budget and spending habits
- Revisit your portfolio's asset allocation
- Set up a regular review schedule with your advisor
- Make appropriate changes or adjustments

Once you have the groundwork out of the way, move on to some of the more advanced exercises:

- Review the titling of your accounts – Account titling

often occurs haphazardly – an individual opens an account, meets Mr. or Miss Right, then decides to live together or get married and down the line there's a problem. If one partner dies and that account is still titled only in the original holder's name, those assets can't be accessed readily by the survivor. The solution may be as straight forward as changing to joint accounts, but it's not always that simple.

- **Designate and update your beneficiaries** – If you don't correctly document and update your beneficiary designations, who gets what may be determined not according to your wishes, but by federal or state law, or by the default plan document used in your retirement accounts. You should update your beneficiaries on anything that affects your heirs (wills, life insurance, annuities, IRAs, 401(k)s or qualified plans).
- **Retirees: Evaluate your sources of retirement income** – Many retirees have several sources of income such as Social Security, pensions, retirement portfolios, rental properties, notes receivable, inheritances, etc. Think about how secure each source is. Know which income sources are reliable and which are less certain, and how much of your total income each category represents. If too much of your retirement income is from sources you consider less than solid, it may be time to reposition your assets.
- **Pre-Retirees: Review your Social Security statement** – If you're not yet retired, you may wish to go online and establish an account with the Social Security Administration – the SSA no longer sends individual statements of accrued benefits in the mail. Review your statement, and be sure all your earnings over the years have been recorded. Use the SSA's online calculator to compute your benefits at various retirement ages.
- **Review the tax efficiency of your charitable giving** – If appropriate for your situation, think strategically about your contributions – donate low-cost-basis stocks rather than cash, for example. Or, consider establishing a donor advised fund, which enables you to take an upfront deduction for contributions made over the next several years – and potentially provides other benefits.
- **Evaluate your cash holdings** – Everyone should have a certain amount of easily accessible assets – six or



**Liza Campa-Flanagan**  
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

in their payments beginning in January of 2018. The increase is tied to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers and was put in place to ensure the purchasing power of these benefits isn't eroded by inflation. The increase is the largest since the 3.6% hike in 2012 (AARP).

**Retirement Contributions** – for both the 2017 and 2018 tax years, individual investors can contribute up to \$5,500 to either a traditional or Roth IRA. If you're over 50, you can contribute an extra \$1,000. This is a reminder to help you take full advantage of your ability to save toward retirement. Contributing as much as you can as early as possible allows those assets more time to grow and compound. Keep in mind that IRA contributions generally must be made before you file your tax return in April.

For 2018, you may contribute up to \$18,500 (an increase from 2017's \$18,000 limit) to applicable 401(k), 403(b) and 457 plans; as well as the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan. The catch-up contribution limit for individuals age 50 or older remains at \$6,000.

Liza Campa-Flanagan believes that educating clients is essential to building their trust and confidence in the

more months of living expenses is a common rule of thumb – set aside in cash accounts that can be accessed quickly and easily. Think about where your cash reserves are located, bearing in mind that only member banks of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. can offer FDIC insurance, and only up to a maximum of \$250,000 per account.

#### Moving into 2018

As you begin improving your fiscal health for 2018, Liza discusses some considerations that may affect your planning.

**Social Security** – the Social Security Administration has announced a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to recipients' monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. More than 66 million Americans will see the 2% increase

decisions they make. She explains each choice and its implications, so clients can achieve both short- and long-term goals.

"Recognizing the importance of well-informed investors, I make every effort to educate all clients about the complexities of investing, while encouraging reasonable expectations of investment results," Liza said. "I am dedicated to the success of my clients through quality planning and thoughtful advice."

**Elizabeth (Liza) Campa-Flanagan** is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional and Certified Investment Management Analyst® for Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. Liza's branch is located at 645 N. Indian Rocks Road, Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770. 727-585-1212 • [www.raymondjames.com/lizacampaflanagan](http://www.raymondjames.com/lizacampaflanagan)

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## Marcy Daniels – Successfully Selling In Today’s Challenging Market

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Marcy Daniels began her real estate career in 1976 and has been recognized as the Top Agent for Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate’s Clearwater office for 2017. She also earned that “Top Spot” for the past 17 years. With a tradition of success, Marcy has been consistently listed among the top Realtors in her company and among the top Realtors in Tampa Bay.

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

Marcy, Scott and Debbie are a dynamic team selling beachfront homes and condos to golf course and planned communities in neighbor-



hoods throughout Tampa Bay. The signature of their success is their integrity and professional service. Many businesses depend on them to assist with the relocation of new managers and employees moving here to Tampa Bay for the first time.

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

Marcy is a Realtor/Broker and a Certified Residential Specialist (CRS). Since 1976, she has been providing a “tradition of exceptional service.” Together, The Daniels Advantage Team and Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate are two names you will want to remember when you want full-time, professional service. Marcy and Scott have earned the trust and confidence of their customers throughout Tampa Bay. They have a national network of other experienced, successful Realtors for anyone looking to buy or sell real estate in Florida and across the country. Check out their YouTube video at Marcy Daniels Team. Marcy is celebrating her 42nd year and Scott his 27th year in Real Estate.

For truly remarkable service, contact The Daniels Advantage Team by calling Marcy at 727-560-8080 or visit online at [www.MarcyDaniels.com](http://www.MarcyDaniels.com).

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## Dr. Mentis practices reconstructive surgery with empathy and holistic care

Dr. Marni Mentis practices plastic and reconstructive surgery with empathy and holistic care. Dr. Mentis is a dual board certified plastic and reconstructive surgeon, and the founder and director of her private practice, **Iconique Plastic Surgery**, at 401 Corbett St. #310, Clearwater, FL 33756.

Dr. Mentis grew up in the Midwest and always knew she wanted to be a doctor. Her personal philosophy and joy of giving back to others, led her to a career choice in plastic and reconstructive surgery. This field afforded her the opportunity to apply her surgical skills and an avenue to give back to those in need – those whose external appearance may not reflect their inner beauty due to aging, trauma, illness, and birth defects.

Dr. Mentis brings the outward façade and inner psyche together to achieve harmony and well-being for all her patients. She holistically evaluates all her patients with genuine consideration and compassion. Her innate ability to listen and understand her patients’ desires creates exceptional outcomes. Her cosmetic procedures such as facelifts, tummy tucks, breast augmentations, liposuction, and surgery following weight loss assist her patients to achieve a new sense of beauty and self-confidence.

Dr. Mentis also received additional extensive training to perform reconstructive surgery, such as, breast reconstruction. Dr. Mentis finds great rewards in caring for breast patients. As a woman and a mother, she personally relates to the changes in the female body following child birth or more traumatically through the tragedy of losing one’s



Dr. Marni L. Mentis

breasts due to mastectomies. “I truly love being able to re-create the form and function that can be lost due to cancer,” she said. “There is great joy in being able to restore an important aspect of femininity for my patients.”

Dr. Mentis graduated from Wichita State University with a degree in biology. She was

conferred the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Science in Des Moines, Iowa. Following her graduation from medical school, Dr. Mentis pursued training in a one year rotating internship at Des Moines General Hospital followed by a four year general surgery residency at Suncoast Hospital in Largo, Florida. She then studied and conducted research in wound healing for one year at the University of South Florida-Bay Pines VA Medical Center in St. Petersburg, Florida. Over the next two years, Dr. Mentis completed her training as a plastic and reconstructive surgery fellow at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Men-

tis now lives in Pinellas County with her husband, Lee, of 15 years, and their two sons, ages 7 and 9.

Dr. Mentis is on staff at Largo Medical Center and Morton Plant Hospital. As an expert in plastic surgery, she has lectured nationally and published several articles on wound healing. Her local practice remains flexible for its patients, offering early morning appointments. She also has her own line of skin care products to treat a variety of skin conditions, such as, aging skin, sensitive skin, or acne-prone skin. “They will help protect your skin from the sun, keep you safe, and make you look youthful,” she explained.

Dr. Mentis offers **CoolSculpting** which is a non-invasive, clinically proven procedure to selectively reduce fat in problem areas using a patented cooling technology. Come in today for your complimentary **CoolSculpting** consultation and eliminate your stubborn fat without surgery or downtime!

For more information about **Iconique Plastic Surgery** or special events, call 727-474-0205 or visit [iconiqueplasticsurgery.com](http://iconiqueplasticsurgery.com)



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ning Bob Evans Hearing Center. A family-owned-and-operated, center since 1993, the practice takes patients through the process of implementing hearing aids with comfort and ease, while providing quality service with a personal touch. Owner and board-certified hearing instrument specialist Bob Evans runs his hearing center with his business partner (and wife) Lynda, who’s also the center’s community relations director and outreach coordinator.

Bob has first-hand experience in living with hearing loss – he first developed symptoms while serving as a Marine. He has a deep understanding of how hearing loss impacts families as well as individuals.

Once a person suffering from hearing loss has decided to seek assistance, patients discover that there are many benefits to hearing aids in addition to improved hearing.

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### Welcoming Our New Staff Member

Peter Hutchison, Clinical & Research Audiologist, graduated with his doctorate in audiology (Au. D.) from the University of South Florida in May of 2016. He completed his 4th year externship at Vitale Institute, ENT in Wesley Chapel. Peter’s favorite aspect of audiology is helping others understand their hearing loss and how their daily lives can be improved through the wonderful new hearing technology available.

“Kindness is the language the deaf can hear and the blind can see” - Mark Twain

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Briefcase

Blue Jays to host spring training job fair

DUNEDIN – The Toronto Blue Jays will host its annual Spring Training Job Fair on Thursday, Jan. 11, 4 to 7 p.m., at Dunedin Stadium to hire candidates for their 2018 spring training game schedule.

Candidates interested in applying should bring their résumé to the Media Lunch Room, located at the south end of the stadium's main concourse next to the front office building. Interested candidates must be available to work all Spring Training home games.

Openings for 2018 Spring Training include, but are not limited to, customer service, ticket takers, security, parking attendants, clubhouse assistants, scoreboard and music operators, receptionist, media lunch room attendant, box office and Jays Shop cashier and floor assistants.

Game day positions will require weekend commitments throughout the months of February and March. Game dates and times are available online at BlueJays.com/SpringTraining. Job applications can be filled out in advance and are available at DunedinBlueJays.com. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

For information, call 727-733-9302.

Equine wellness center to celebrate opening

PINELLAS PARK – Amber Glen Equine Wellness Center will host a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m., at 6091 102nd Ave. N., Pinellas Park.

The ribbon-cutting will take place at 11:30 a.m.

The mission of Amber Glen Wellness Center is to rescue and protect horses from abuse, abandonment and slaughter. Through rehabilitation, education, and nutrition, it is their goal to find permanent placement for those horses able to transition into new homes, and to provide permanent sanctuary for those animals too mentally and physically traumatized to be adopted.

In the coming months, Amber Glen Wellness hopes to incorporate a hands-on rehabilitation program for veterans and disadvantaged and special needs children that incorporates their rescued horses. It is their belief that the understanding of the roots of abuse and neglect can enable bonds to be forged that will ultimately return both human and animal to the path of greatness.

Goodwill store to host recruitment event

ST. PETERSBURG – Goodwill's Job Connection Center will host a recruitment event on Thursday, Jan. 18, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., to hire retail management staff as well as sales and donations associates for the new Goodwill superstore at 2550 34th St. N., St. Petersburg.

The recruitment event will be at the Job Connection Center's new location, inside the new Goodwill store at 2550 34th St. Applicants should sign in at the Job Connection Center toward the back of the store.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old. Applicants are encouraged to apply online at www.goodwill-suncoast.org before attending the job fair, but walk-ins are welcome. Goodwill is an equal opportunity

and affirmative action employer and a drug-free workplace. For more information call 727-321-7337.

The Job Connection Center is operated by Goodwill Industries-Suncoast, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to help people achieve their full potential through the dignity and power of work. The organization's successful donated goods retail operation helps support its human services in 10 counties in West Central Florida including employment services, training and job placement for people with disabilities, a children's literacy program, affordable apartment communities for seniors and people with disabilities, and community corrections programs.

For more information, visit www.goodwill-suncoast.org.

Chamber to host 2018 Installation Gala

PINELLAS PARK – The Pinellas Park/Gateway Chamber of Commerce will host its 2018 Installation Gala on Friday, Jan. 26, at the Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave. N., Pinellas Park.

Social hour will begin at 6 p.m. Catering by Da Sesto Italiano will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Daniel Strauss of National University of Health Sciences will embark on his term as chamber president for the 2018 term. Events for the evening will include installing new elected board members and recognizing continuing board members; awarding small, medium and large businesses of the year; and recognizing the nonprofit of the year and other award winners. Cost for a table of eight is \$400. Cost is \$50 per individual. A cash bar will be available.

For information, visit www.pinellasparkchamber.com.

Tarpon Springs auto dealer transforms service department into a service project

TARPON SPRINGS – As part of a thanks-for-giving campaign, Karl Flammer Ford, on U.S. 19 in Tarpon Springs, recently donated a portion of its sales to benefit the Tarpon Springs Shepherd Center.

Karl Flammer Ford has been a family owned and operated dealership since 1964. During the month of November, the business committed \$5 for each tire sale and \$25 for each service contract. Fred W. Howard accepted the check for \$2,889 on behalf of the organization.

The Tarpon Springs Shepherd Center has been serving the local community since 1974 and is now one of the largest food distribution centers in Northern Pinellas County, distributing over 750,000 pounds of food in 2016. The center delivered groceries to 1,180 homebound families and served 26,500 meals through the community kitchen partnerships last year alone.

The Shepherd Center Community Enrichment program also connects those in need with resources such as medical care and health insurance, youth and adult employment programs, veteran assistance, counseling and educational services, and caregiver support.

For information about Tarpon Springs Shepherd Center, visit www.tscenter.org.

Unemployment rate ticks up in Pinellas

By SUZETTE PORTER  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

Pinellas County's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November was 3.4 percent, up from 3.1 percent reported in October, according to the state Department of Economic Opportunity.

Still, the county's unemployment rate is a drastic improvement from the same month last year when unemployment was 4.3 percent, according to figures released Dec. 22.

The state had an unemployment rate of 3.8 percent, up from 3.6 percent reported in October but down considerably from the 4.8 percent for the same month last year. The national rate was 3.9 percent, the same as it was in October and down from 4.4 percent reported in November 2016.

The county's labor force declined from 496,554 in October to 494,516 in November. In November, 16,669 were unemployed compared to 15,367 in October and 20,921 in November 2016.

The Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater Metropolitan Statistical Area followed the trend with the unemployment rate in November up to 3.6 percent compared to October at 3.3 percent, however, unemployment declined from November 2016 with a reported rate of 4.6 percent.

The local MSA held on to the No. 2 spot for job creation. In November, 22 out of 24 metro areas reported over-the-year job gains. Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford had the biggest gain, adding 38,800 jobs, followed by Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater with 30,600 and Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall with 27,100 new jobs.

The two metro areas that lost jobs were Cape Coral-Ft. Myers with a loss of 300 jobs and Homosassa Springs down 100 jobs over the year.

The local area continued to hold its No. 1 position for demand in high-skill, high-wage STEM

occupations with 14,839 openings in November, and it was first in job demand with 44,792 openings.

"It is clear that Tampa Bay continues to be a great place for businesses to grow and create jobs," Gov. Rick Scott said.

Professional and business services led the way adding 5,900 new jobs over the year with construction coming in second with 5,300 new jobs and other services coming in third with 5,200 jobs.

Pinellas County had the lowest unemployment rate (3.4 percent) of the other counties in the local MSA, which includes Hernando, Hillsborough and Pasco counties. Pinellas tied with Alachua, Sarasota, Orange and Gulf counties for the rank of No. 56 of the state's 67 counties.

Hillsborough tied with Nassau, Bradford, Clay, Lafayette and Manatee counties for the rank of No. 49 with an unemployment rate of 3.5 percent. Pasco tied with Charlotte, Gilchrist, Volusia and Levy counties for the rank of No. 25 with an unemployment rate of 4 percent. Hernando County continued to have the highest unemployment rate of the counties in the local MSA reporting 4.7 percent. It tied with Gadsden County for the rank of No. 8.

Hendry County ranked No. 1 with an unemployment rate of 7.3 percent and St. John's County ranked No. 67 with unemployment at 3 percent.

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA tied with Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA, Jacksonville MSA and Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach Metropolitan Statistical District for the rank of No. 16 among the states 24 metro areas/districts.

Homosassa Springs MSA ranked No. 1 with an unemployment rate of 5.3 percent, the highest in the state, and Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin MSA ranked No. 24 with unemployment at 3.1 percent.

For more local news, visit TBNweekly.com

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**Charity Auction** silent bidding ends at 4:00pm

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# Health & Fitness Briefs

## Largo Community Center to host wellness workshop

LARGO – A wellness workshop will be presented Tuesday, Feb. 13, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m., at Largo Community Center, 400 Alt. Keene Road, Largo. The workshop will focus on healing with food. These short workshops offer techniques for staying healthy and active. The workshop is free to Largo Recreation members and \$5 for nonmembers. For information, call 727-518-3131.

## Largo Clinic offering free help for narcotics users

Dr. George Kamajian, founder of the Largo Clinic and Medical Spa, is offering a free visit to his office for any patient seeking help for narcotics use Sunday, Jan. 28. Along with the free visit, the clinic will provide suboxone for free. Suboxone is drug approved by the federal government to help people discontinue the use of narcotics.

Kamajian said he is offering the free visit because the narcotics issue affects every member of society.

"Opioid addiction is a disease, not a choice. It's not a punishment from God or a test of willpower. Addiction is multifaceted and there is no 'one size fits all' treatment model. People are not cars or machines and not everyone responds to the same treatment program. But the operative words are 'treatment program,'" Kamajian said.

Kamajian is founder of the Largo Clinic, which is at 10500 Ulmerton Road, Suite 360. For more information, visit largoclinic.com or call 727-517-1500.

## Wellness event to teach seniors to live healthier in 2018

ST. PETERSBURG – Local companies are helping seniors start the new year with a healthier lifestyle with a health fair later this month.

The health fair will take place on Thursday, Jan. 25, 1 to 6 p.m., in the Magnolia Auditorium at Five Towns,

7950 58th Ave. N., St. Petersburg.

Five Towns is a 55-plus retirement condo community. Smart Healthy Living is organizing the event along with support from sponsors. Dedicated Senior Medical Center, C-Diff Foundation, Palms of Pasadena Hospital, Harvey Pearlman, Compassionate Care Clinics of Pinellas, Humana and St. Petersburg General Hospital have signed on to sponsor the event. In addition to the sponsors, health and wellness vendors will provide information on home and natural health products, food and nutrition, hearing care, amplified phone equipment, fitness, massage, yoga, essential oils, weight loss, home health care, chiropractic care, health coaching, medical clinic needs, insurance, long-term care needs, and hospitals in the area.

Participants will be able to have health screenings, see demonstrations of products, take part in fitness dance, go to seminars, receive door prizes and have fun.

The health fair is open to Five Towns residents and nonresidents. Participants will not have to pay an entrance fee. Smart Healthy Living is accepting additional vendors for the event. To promote products or services at the fair, call 727-512-3017.

## Give Kids a Smile no-cost dental event set for Feb. 19

ST. PETERSBURG – According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 1 of 5 children aged 5 to 11 have at least one untreated cavity.

The good news is cavities are preventable with daily oral health routines and access to dental care. Even better news is the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County is taking part in the American Dental Association Foundation's Give Kids a Smile event on Monday, Feb. 19, to provide no-cost dental services to children and teens.

Eligible children and teens ages 4 to 18 will be provided with exams, X-rays, cleanings and sealants, all at no cost to their families. Services are available to children and teens receiving Medicaid or who have no insurance. No preregistration is required; however, children and teens will be seen on a first come, first serve basis until all slots are filled. A parent or

guardian must be present at the time of service.

The following DOH-Pinellas clinics will open at 8 a.m. on Feb. 19:

- 205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N., St. Petersburg
  - 8751 Ulmerton Road, Largo
  - 310 N. Myrtle Ave., Clearwater
- Karen Hodge, dental services manager for DOH-Pinellas, looks forward to the annual event and the ongoing collaboration with community partners including the Pinellas County Dental Association. DOH-Pinellas has participated in the ADA Foundation's Give Kids a Smile movement for nearly 10 years. The local event is made possible by DOH-Pinellas, the Pinellas County Dental Association and the Upper Pinellas County Dental Association. For information about DOH-Pinellas, visit www.PinellasHealth.com.

## Culver's to host blood drive

Select Culver's restaurants will sponsor Give A Pint – Get A Pint blood drives to sweeten the community's blood supply.

Donors can share their power to save lives by giving blood and enjoy a free pint of Culver's frozen custard, as well as a OneBlood long sleeve T-shirt.

The blood drive will take place Friday, Jan. 12, 12:30 to 6 p.m., at select Culver's restaurants. For details and to make an appointment, visit oneblood.org/culvers or call 888-936-6283. Appointments will be honored and walk-ins are welcome.

The following Pinellas Culver's locations will take part in the blood drive:

- 2008 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater
  - 4702 Park Blvd. N., Pinellas Park
  - 10425 Park Blvd., Seminole
  - 9046 4th St. N., St. Petersburg
- Donors also will receive a wellness checkup of blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count including a cholesterol screening. Generally healthy people age 16 or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can donate

blood. Photo ID is required. To learn more about the importance of blood donation and how donors can target the power of their blood type, visit oneblood.org.

## PCPTA Health and Safety Fair set

LARGO – The Pinellas County Council Parent Teacher Association's Health and Safety Fair will take place Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, Largo.

Admission is free. The fair will feature booths about various children and family health and safety topics, healthy snacks, kid activities and more. For more information, visit www.pcpta.org.

## Bayfront Health to celebrate renovations with open house

ST. PETERSBURG – A community open house event will take place Tuesday, Jan. 23, 4:30 to 7 p.m., at Bayfront Health, 701 Sixth St. S., St. Petersburg.

The open house will celebrate the newly remodeled neuroscience and orthopedics floors. The \$12 million renovations are part of Bayfront Health St. Petersburg's continued commitment to the community to support and enhance its services. The event will include hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. Free parking will be available in the East or West Parking Garages.

Reservations are not required. For information, visit www.bayfrontstpete.com.

## Community open house set

ST. PETERSBURG – Bayfront Health Medical Group will celebrate its new downtown St. Petersburg location Thursday, Jan. 11, 4:30 to 7 p.m., at 470 Second St. S., St. Petersburg.

The open house will showcase the new Salvador building. The event will include hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

Reservations are not required. For information, visit www.bayfrontstpete.com.

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# Trump gets book thrown at him

WASHINGTON — As a candidate for president, Donald Trump assured voters that, if elected, he would hire "the best people." It was a claim that suggested Trump didn't need years of Washington experience because, well, as Trump boasted in "The Art of the Deal," "my philosophy is always to hire the best from the best."



Debra Saunders

A shrewd eye for top talent? That's not the view from Washington. The fallout from the release of Michael Wolff's new book, "Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House," with its devastating quotes about Trump and family unloaded by former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon, reveal how overrated Trump's instincts have been when it comes to choosing the best people for the job. Bannon had told Wolff he saw a June 2016 Trump Tower meeting between Donald Trump Jr., former campaign manager Paul Manafort and a Russian lawyer as "treasonous." Thus, a once trusted lieutenant breathed new life into the Russian collusion story just as it was losing steam.

The White House has cited inaccuracies in the book. For example, there's an account of Trump not knowing who former House Speaker John Boehner was when the late Fox News giant Roger Ailes recommended that Trump hire Boehner as his chief of staff. In fact, Trump mentioned Boehner repeatedly before then.

Also, Wolff himself acknowledges that at times he chose which conflicting version of events to report. And Wolff did not enhance his credibility when he told the "Today" show, "I certainly said what was ever necessary to get the story."

Thing is, you don't have to see Wolff's words as gospel — for example, you don't have to believe Trump initially wanted to name Bannon or his son-in-law to be his chief of staff — to see how flawed Trump's judgment has been when it came to staffing the West Wing and his campaign.

Don't take Wolff's word for it. Listen to Trump.

Wednesday the White House released a statement in which Trump savaged Bannon.

"Steve pretends to be at war with the media, which he calls the opposition party, yet he spent his time at the White House leaking false information to the media to make himself seem far more important than he was. It is the only thing he does well," read the statement.

On Friday, Trump gave his former chief strategist a new Twitter nickname, "Sloppy Steve."

Trump also made the mistake of hiring Manafort to run his campaign, despite Manafort's known ties to Moscow. Special Counsel Robert Mueller's office has charged Manafort with multiple felony counts. Manafort says he is not guilty.

When Trump is unhappy with a member of his team, he lets everyone know. Trump has berated Attorney General Jeff Sessions for recusing himself from the Russian probe. Just last month, Trump complained to The New York Times that Sessions was less loyal to him than former Attorney General Eric Holder had been to President Barack Obama.

Trump undercut his Secretary of State Rex Tillerson when he tweeted that Tillerson was "wasting his time trying to negotiate with Little Rocket Man," aka North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

After Trump fired FBI chief James Comey in May, Press Secretary Sean Spicer told reporters that Trump acted on the recommendation of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein. "It was all him," Spicer said. "No one from the White House. That was a DOJ decision."

Two days later, Trump told NBC's Lester Holt, "I was going to fire Comey" no matter what Justice officials recommended.

While Trump's demand for loyalty from White House staff is legendary, it is not returned. In one interview, Trump had turned his own spokesman into a liar, if an unwitting one. In Washington, credibility is a currency — and Trump snatched it from an aide for no apparent gain.

Add Mueller to the mix, and former staffers have added reason to counterpunching the counterpunching president.

Max Bergmann of the left-leaning Center for American Progress opined that with the Russia probe staring down at Trump, Trump Jr., Kushner and Manafort, "This is Bannon seeing the avalanche coming and running for the exits."

Or maybe working for Trump doesn't bring out the best in a person — if you actually hire the best person.

"What can it be like to work for Donald Trump?" University of Virginia Miller Center researcher Ken Hughes asked. "You have to let off steam."

Contact Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@reviewjournal.com](mailto:dsaunders@reviewjournal.com) or 202-662-7391. Or follow @DebraJSaunders on Twitter.

## LETTERS

### Project didn't meet zoning rules

#### Editor:

I strongly believe the city of Seminole serves its residents. This city, the counties and the state of Florida have zoning rules for a very good reason. If a developer presents a project that meets the zoning rules of Seminole, I do believe all seven council members would have voted for the 65 units that were allowed on that project.

I also believe the zoning board and the community development director would also have recommended that this project be allowed to proceed. If it was presented as a 65-unit affordable housing project meeting our zoning regulations.

The city of Seminole does have affordable senior housing. It is called Seminole Garden Apartments. It is a co-op community. It is a 55-acre property, 30 buildings, 740 apartments, 28 of the 30 buildings are required to be at least 55 years of age. It is in a non-evacuate zone, it is not in a flood zone. You can buy a unit for less than the cost of a mobile home in a land-owned park, and you don't have to evacuate.

I believe the city staff, the city manager and the city council have up until now served the residents of the city of Seminole, and we will continue to do so, as elected officials, as long as residents want us to continue.

#### Jim Guinn

Councilor,  
city of Seminole

# On the confusion of collusion

Have you heard about collusion lately? Of course you have. The air, the news, the conversation at the laundromat — are all filled with chatter about collusion. As far as I can tell it involves Russia, the 2016 presidential election, secret meetings at Trump Tower and what was said and done (or NOT said and done) by dozens of possible collusionists.

To my surprise, I've learned that very few persons of my acquaintance actually know what collusion is. I approached several of them recently and said to them "Please define collusion." Their answers follow:

"Collusion is when two motorists smash into one another on Tyrone Boulevard or the Howard Frankland raceway." (Fact: that's collision.)

"Collusion is a region of skin or flesh where capillaries are broken and discoloration may result." (Fact: that's contusion.)

"Collusion is when you try to figure out what Bob Driver is writing about this week." (Fact: That's confusion.)

"Collusion is the passage of fluid (usually blood) through the circulatory or lymphatic system to an organ or a tissue." (Fact: That's perfusion.)

"Collusion is when a political candidate promises to drain the swamp and make America great again within six weeks after his/her election." (Fact: that's illusion.)

And so on. None of my interviewees came close to giving the dictionary definition of collusion, which is (short form) "Secret agreement or cooperation especially for an illegal or deceitful purpose."

Now that we have pinned down the meaning of collusion, other questions remain. Such



Driver's Seat  
Bob Driver

To my surprise, I've learned that very few persons of my acquaintance actually know what collusion is.

Exactly when does collusion occur? If two people collude but only one of them is the chief planner, is he/she referred to as the colluder or the colludee?

A common example of collusion may occur when two men — Joe and Harry — join forces to hustle a lovely lady named Marie. Joe wants to win Marie's affection, so he asks Harry to tell Marie dozens of complimentary things (all of them lies) about Joe. Marie is fooled into believing the falsehoods, and soon falls for Joe. And later regrets it.

Doesn't this fit the official definition of collusion? It's a secret agreement in which Joe and Harry agree to deceive Marie, right? So lock 'em up, dad blame it!

I imagine collusion takes place on Wall Street thousands of times each week. Let's say the

Snake Oil Company wants to buy its biggest rival, Jigger Lotion. So Snake Oil quietly contacts speculators who own several million shares of Jigger. At an agreed-upon moment on a quiet Wednesday, Snake Oil tells its secret collaborators, "Sell Jigger! Unload every share!" Wall Street goes crazy. Jigger Lotion's stock goes through the floor, and Snake Oil swoops in to take control of Jigger.

Is that collusion? Sounds like it to me. Is it illegal? Probably.

But maybe not. It could be conspiracy instead. If you'd like to wrap your brain around a confusing question, try researching the differences between collusion and conspiracy. It might help if you already have a law degree. That will get you through the next year or two, which is how long it may take for special investigator Robert Mueller to complete his search for evidence of collusion (or conspiracy) between Russia and the Trump team.

I recently watched a TV re-run of the Watergate scandal in the 1970s. I love to see a replay of that story. In beautiful detail, it told how a hate-filled scoundrel and his associates were pursued and then defeated in their attempt to use the U.S. Constitution as their personal toilet. That triumphant process took most of two years to complete.

Is a similar tale being spun in our nation's capital today? Will it take two years or more to finish? Stay tuned. And don't bet your grocery money on the final outcome. The playing fields of collusion are slippery indeed.

Bob Driver's email address is [tralee71@comcast.net](mailto:tralee71@comcast.net)

# Ink in his blood — now and forever

On a chilly evening in early January 1978 I stood along a boardwalk in Vero Beach, watching the waves break and wondering if I would find an affordable place to live.

Three days after starting my first job as a professional journalist at the Vero Beach Press Journal, I realized I'd have to tighten my belt and get a roommate if I expected to make ends meet. That's just the way it was.

My parents gave me a suitcase as a college graduation present — a not-so-subtle hint of what they expected me to do. In other words, leave the nest.



Tom Germond

I still have that suitcase, which is filled with newspapers and clippings of stories that I've written. Hard to cram 40 years of anything into a piece of luggage, especially memories.

I opened the suitcase a few nights ago. Reading the papers, I wished I had spent more time on this story or that story. Some needed stronger verbs, shorter sentences, better quotes.

Regrets? Sure. But overall, I'm humbled and thankful to be still doing what I think I was put on earth to do. Many journalists have lost their jobs in recent years because of economic woes in this profession. Some left for jobs in other industries; others were laid off. Opportunities are fewer for journalists these days, especially at newspapers.

I remember sitting at a press table covering a county commission meeting in the small community of Vero Beach along with reporters from two radio stations, Cocoa Today, the Palm Beach Post, the Miami Herald and even a television station. Competition was fierce — and it remained so in the 1980s as I worked at other small newspapers, such as the Winter Haven News-Chief.

On May 8, 1981, a News-Chief editor told me at 7:30 a.m. to go to Winter Park and get comments from local residents about a 75-foot deep sinkhole that developed 60 miles away from our office, way out of our circulation area.

"Be back by noon," he said.

I made it back to Winter Haven just in time to bang out the story, which was short and sketchy. Guess the editor was happy. He was often gruff and stingy with compliments.

Nevertheless, I thought my time would have been better spent covering a local government meeting or reporting on something in our backyard that our competitors didn't consider news. The wire services and the larger dailies were better staffed and equipped to cover the regional stories than we were.

Conversely, my favorite story I wrote at the News-Chief involved the sleepy town of Davenport's police chief, who charged into the city council chambers during a council meeting.

"Somebody just stole my g-dd--- police car," he said.

The perpetrator actually gave a ticket to a motorist, who went to the police station that evening to pay it. A clerk notified the police chief, who, after the prankster was arrested, announced that there was a new policy in effect immediately at the police department: "Police officers are not allowed to leave their keys in their unattended vehicles."



Remnants of a bygone era.

I practically had to beg my editor to run the story on the front page, telling him that no other reporter was at the meeting. Though he argued that there was little room on the front page that afternoon because of the coverage of the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, he finally relented and put my piece on Page 1. I was ecstatic when AP picked up the story.

Right time, right place. Sometimes the best stories just fall in your lap.

Other thoughts from the past 40 years and lessons learned:

- Relationships with sources are priceless. I'll never forget in the 1980s what a Kissimmee city manager, who was under fire from local gadflies, told me: "Dissension is healthy in a free society."

- Those words to me are still golden. The best officials readily embrace that concept, recognizing that even the most vociferous critics of government have a right to be heard. Think-skinned officials' whining about the press or their critics only raises suspicion — at all levels of government.

- On the positive side, in recent decades I think local governments have developed a better understanding of the role of the press and do a better job of disseminating written information than when I first got in the business. I remember that I often had to call an official just to get the square footage of the building or the cost of a new ambulance. Geez.

- Technology changes in our industry, as I recently lampooned in jest, have been mind-boggling. The Internet. Better design programs. Faster word processors and production equipment. More efficient tape recorders. I love being able to record a conversation over the phone.

- Perhaps the biggest change pertaining to tools for journalist has been the advent of digital photography, saving newspapers millions of dollars in the cost of buying and processing film. Digital cameras are easy to operate. Can't remember the last time I used my twin-lens reflex camera, which now rests behind me on my office credenza. Same goes for the 1940s Underwood typewriter that I slaved over in college.

- I'm often approached by parents seeking advice for their kids who want to be journalists. I don't think students should put too much weight solely on teachers telling them that they can write in deciding whether to pursue such a career. The profession also requires a solid work ethic, determination and the willingness to adapt to continuous changes in our industry.

- "A newspaper is a train wreck waiting to happen." Those words came from a longtime journalist, a friend. Yes, we make mistakes. Deadlines often are to blame as well as lapses in judgment.

- Made some whoppers myself. Our credibility requires that we acknowledge our mistakes. For the most part, I think trained journalists strive for accuracy and fairness, at least those in the mainstream media, whether they are conservative or liberal in their personal beliefs. Opinions are best left on the editorial pages, such as this one.

- How long will newspapers survive? Won't hazard a guess. All I know is that at Tampa Bay Newspapers, we continue to increase our circulation and now also publish papers in Pasco County. We hear from readers when they don't get their papers. That's reassuring.

- I know as long as there are papers to read, I'll read them. I'd rather turn pages than scroll on a screen, especially at my breakfast table.

- For what I've learned, I owe a great debt to many editors and other newspaper types, especially my colleagues at TBN and all my former co-workers.

- I'm fortunate to be a son of a former Orlando Sentinel reporter, my stepmother Ginny Germond, and a longtime Tampa Tribune bureau chief, Garth Germond, who died in 1992.

- When I was attending community college, dad introduced me to his staff: "This is my son, Tom. God help him; he wants to be a journalist."

- Have given it all I got, dad, and still enjoy it. It's great to have ink in my blood.

- And ink in a suitcase, too, as long as I'm alive.

Tom Germond is executive editor of Tampa Bay Newspapers. He can be reached at 727-397-5563, ext. 330, or by email at [tgermond@TBNweekly.com](mailto:tgermond@TBNweekly.com)

## 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](mailto:tgermond@TBNweekly.com). We will not print the letter writer's phone number.

Here are some more guidelines for letters:

- Letters are printed on a first-come, first-served basis. They may be edited to correct grammar, spelling and factual errors. They also may be edited for clarity.
- Please keep letters to editor to 500 words. Longer letters may be cut due to space limitations.
- Letters should address issues or current events. Please refrain from making unsubstantiated allegations. The newspaper will not print letters that contain slanderous or racial statements.
- 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.
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# Trout take refuge from the cold in deep water

We saw another 10-degree plummet in our water temperature last week; now it sits in the upper 50s. Temperatures that low aren't too good for fishing around here, but a warm up this week will certainly help. The fish are still there and at some point, they will eat.



**Fish Tales**  
Capt. Tyson Wallerstein

Dealing with cold water is nothing new for trout anglers, and there's a couple of ways to look at it. Most often fish will head to deeper water as they seek out more stable temperatures. Consequently, deep water near your favorite grass flat will often hold schools of trout until the water temperature moderates a bit, sending them back to the pothole laden grass flats we associate good trout habitat with.

afternoon incoming tide. Big trout instinctively know this. They often throw caution to the wind and risk overhead predation from ospreys or perhaps escape the harassment of dolphins as they move up to shallow water.

Often this deeper water will be the actual marked channel that runs along the Intracoastal. Often overlooked by inshore anglers, the main channel usually has a mud bottom that holds heat, and trout look for these spots for refuge. Slowly bouncing soft plastics along the bottom, especially along the drop-off, will often yield trout along with other winter time targets like flounder, pompano and silver trout.

With the water being so clear now, one of a shallow water angler's favorite thing to do is to slowly work along the shallows, usually less than 3 feet of water, and sight cast to big trout. These fish can usually be seen sitting in the sand holes and will readily take a weedless jerk-bait tossed their way. We get only a handful of clear windless days each winter so this type fishing is really special.

As the sun reappears after the front moves through, its rays will warm the very shallows during an

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

## A daring dip



Photo by TODD RICE

Seven people take the plunge, sort of, into the Gulf of Mexico Jan. 6 off the Redington Pier in Redington Shores. With water temperatures in the low-60s, they didn't stay in the water very long.

## Lake Foreclosure Resale Event

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## Butterfly garden



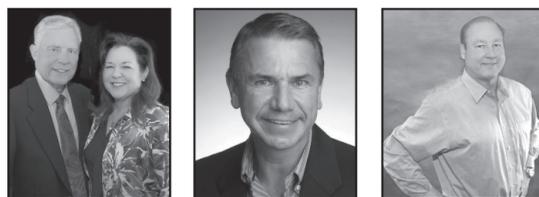
Photo courtesy of CLEARWATER GARDEN CLUB

Nancy Chambers, from the Clearwater Garden Club, presents St. Patrick School a certification certificate from the National Federation of Garden Clubs for their having planted and maintained a productive butterfly garden. The children have released many butterflies throughout the course of this hands-on science project. Mary MacKenzie and Windy Risk from the Pinellas Garden Club helped with the project. The school is participating in Smokey Bear Poster Contest for the third year, and have now established both a succulent garden, and several seed-to-table garden beds as offsprings to their butterfly garden.

## Real estate newsmakers

**RE/MAX All Star names top agents**  
SEMINOLE - RE/MAX All Star recently announced its top producing agents for December 2017.

The Coffin Group reported more than \$1.2 million in sales in December. Kevin Welland had \$650,000 in sales during the month. Blake Nieswand made \$600,000 in sales.



The Coffin Group Kevin Welland Blake Nieswand

## Smith & Associates Real Estate anticipates bullish real estate market in 2018

According to Multiple Listing Service, Hillsborough and Pinellas counties combined real estate market sales volume grew by 11 percent in 2017, up from \$24.67 billion in 2016 to \$27.46 billion.

Even though listing inventory shrunk by 4 percent in 2017, demand remained high, which helped to bolster real estate values throughout Tampa Bay.

Bob Glaser, president and CEO of Smith & Associates Real Estate, said 2017 was a healthy year for the Tampa Bay real estate market, despite low inventory.

"We are bullish on the Tampa Bay real estate market in 2018 and beyond," Glaser said in a press release. "Florida's population continues to grow, and there are no signs of it slowing down in the next few years. I still believe there are great values to be found because we are lagging behind other coastal areas."

Pinellas County saw the most significant decline in listings. The average monthly supply of inventory was down 10.3 percent year-over-year for single-family homes, while the townhome/condo-

minimum monthly supply fell a dramatic 17.1 percent. However, values continued to rise, and the median sales price for November 2017 was \$233,000 up from \$219,900 in November of 2016. Homes also sold faster in 2017, as the average number of days a home was on the market decreased by 18 percent, down from an average of 67 days on the market in 2016 to 55 days on the market in 2017.

## RE/MAX ACR Elite Group acknowledges top agents

BELLEAIR - RE/MAX ACR Elite Group Inc. recently recognized the top agents in the Belleair office in closed sales for the month of December.

The No. 1 agent was Tom Varga. The No. 2 was Gina Ruffner. The No. 3 agent was Dorita Mayeux.



Tom Varga Gina Ruffner Dorita Mayeux

## Klein & Heuchan Inc. announce development land sale in Largo

LARGO - Klein & Heuchan Inc. recently sold development land in Largo.

Klein & Heuchan Inc. represented Temple B'nai Israel, the seller, in the sale of 1.33 acres of land on Kersey Road in Largo. The buyer was Gulfwind Contracting LLC. This vacant property allows for the construction of approximately seven free standing homes in a very central Pinellas County location.

The sale price was \$300,000. Mark Klein of Klein & Heuchan Inc. represented the seller in this transaction.

## Outdoors Briefs

### McGough Park hosts free raptor shows

LARGO - George C. McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th St. N., hosts free raptor shows at 1 p.m. each Sunday.

The show details the adaptations raptors use to exploit the natural world for their gain and will focus on themes, such as bald eagles, hawks, owls, falcons and Florida's most common raptors.

A show focused on the park's new vultures will be coming soon. Donations to help care for the birds are welcome.

### McGough Park to offer nature hikes

LARGO - Guided nature hikes will be offered Saturday, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17, 9 a.m., at McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th St. N., Largo.

Participants will walk through the woods seeking out animals. The hike is free but donations are accepted.

To preregister, call 727-518-3047.

### Audubon Society to search for birds at park

CLEARWATER - The Clearwater Audubon Society will host a weekly gathering to find resident and migrating birds on Saturday, Jan. 13, 8 a.m., at the pier in Lake Chautauqua Park, 2312 Landmark Drive, Clearwater.

All levels of birders, beginner to advanced, are welcome to join the society for this event.

Visit [www.clearwateraudubonsociety.org](http://www.clearwateraudubonsociety.org).

### Urban Farmers Group to meet

SEMINOLE - The Urban Farmers Group will meet Monday, Jan. 15, 6 p.m., at Seminole United Methodist Church, 5400 Seminole Blvd., Seminole.

The meeting will feature a presentation on vertical hydronic gardening. Following the presentation, there will be a question-and-answer session. The meeting also will feature a business card exchange table, raffle and door prize.

Admission and parking are free. There will be complimentary water and other refreshments.

For information, call 727-391-9590 or visit [www.UrbanFarmersGroup.com](http://www.UrbanFarmersGroup.com).

### Florida Native Plant Society to meet

CLEARWATER - The Florida Native Plant Society will meet Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7 p.m., at Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail Lane, Clearwater.

The meeting will feature a talk by local environmentalist Craig Huegel on planting and gardening with native Florida plants. Attendees will learn how to avoid common mistakes when using native plants adapted to this area in the yard and garden.

The program will include conversation, a question-and-answer session, free refreshments and a native plant silent auction.

### Program on native plants set

PALM HARBOR - UF/IFAS Extension, Urban Horticulture, will present a program on native plants Thursday, Feb. 8, 3 and 6:15 p.m., at Palm Harbor Library, 2330 Nebraska Ave., Palm Harbor.

The program will feature Bruce Turley of Wilcox Native Plants and Landscape.

Turley will explain why it is important to use native plants for a healthy and dynamic yard. He will be showing and selling his favorite spring flowering plants.

The program is free but registration is required. To register, visit [gropinellas.eventbrite.com](http://gropinellas.eventbrite.com) or call 727-582-2603.

### Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society to meet

PINELLAS PARK - The Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society will meet Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m., at Good Samaritan Church, 6085 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.

For information, visit [fwcb.org](http://fwcb.org).

## What's Selling in Pinellas County

<p><b>Belleair Bluffs</b></p> <p>4 Bedroom / 3 Bath</p> <p><b>\$599,990</b></p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>Located in the idyllic Gulf-front town of Belleair Bluffs, this modern 2,609 sq. ft. coastal home features spacious garage and more. Completely redone in 2006, the home mixes classic finishes with unique details.</p> <p><b>Martha Thorn</b> Coldwell Banker/The Thorn Collection</p>	<p><b>Seminole</b></p> <p>3 Bedroom / 3 Bath</p> <p><b>\$320,000</b></p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>Whispering Pines Forest One-owner ranch. Avanzini built pool home with a spacious split bedroom plan. Meticulously maintained.</p> <p><b>Rich Rippetoe</b> Coldwell Banker - Sunvista Realty</p>
<p><b>St. Petersburg</b></p> <p>4 Bedroom / 2 Bath</p> <p><b>\$190,000</b></p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>Set back off a quaint brick paved street in the Westminster Heights neighborhood. This freshly painted charming home sits on an oversized and landscaped lot.</p> <p><b>Zach Strong</b> Coastal Properties Group</p>	<p><b>Clearwater</b></p> <p>5 Bedroom / 4.5 Bath / 3 CP</p> <p><b>\$712,000</b></p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>Remodeled home featuring maple cabinets, granite countertops, real wood flooring throughout, wood burning fireplace, wet bar and wine fridge. Formal dining room, bonus room and more.</p> <p><b>Caroleanne Vorac</b> The Vorac Group</p>

# Blood couriers share common bond of saving lives

By JEFF ROSENFELD  
TBN Correspondent

CLEARWATER – Every year, millions of people worldwide are affected by life-threatening blood diseases like leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

And while millions more sign up to donate stem cells and bone marrow to help those in need, only a select few hold the position of blood courier, someone who volunteers to transport the life-saving blood and platelets that have been deemed a perfect match between donor and patient.

In Pinellas County, longtime donors George Cretekos, the mayor of Clearwater, and Dan Eberts, a 30-year employee of OneBlood in Tampa Bay, have been moonlighting for several years as blood couriers for the Be the

Match organization, an arm of the national Marrow Donor Program that currently “includes more than 13.5 million selfless volunteers who stand ready to be a life-saving bone marrow donor,” according to their website.

“There are 70 different blood diseases, and sometimes the best treatment is stem cells found in bone marrow,” said Eberts, 58, who has donated 44 gallons of blood and platelets over the years, earning him the nickname “Dan the Blood Man.”

“Typically, family members are the best donors – it’s all about genetics – but if they can’t find a familial match, they have to widen the search.”

According to Eberts, the process for joining the donor registry is simple.

“You can apply online, and if you

qualify, they’ll send you a kit that will take a cheek swab. After you send it back, the sample is put in the database, where it could take years to find a potential match.”

Eberts explained once a potential match is located, the donor is called in to give stem cells, which are harvested through a needle in the arm or taken directly from the bone marrow in the hip bone. The donation center will then have the courier fly in a day early, pick up 1-4 bags of blood or platelets, and deliver them in a high-tech cooler to the predetermined destination, preferably within 24 hours.

“Usually you find out two weeks out they need someone to pick up in Chicago and deliver to Tampa on Dec. 21, hypothetically,” he said. “After I pick up, I would fly back to Tampa carrying the gift of life, take a taxi to the hospital, usually around midnight or 1 a.m., and then I get in my car and drive home.”

Eberts said couriers are required to make four trips per year, and he estimated there are 350 in the country to date. He said he has made 50 trips, including seven international excursions, over the years, and he is often amused at the secretive nature of the position.

“They want you to be as inconspicuous as possible,” he said. “But the cooler and the blue bag both say ‘Be the Match,’ and people sometimes put two and two together and figure out what we’re doing.”

Indeed, Cretekos, a blood donor since the 1970s who became

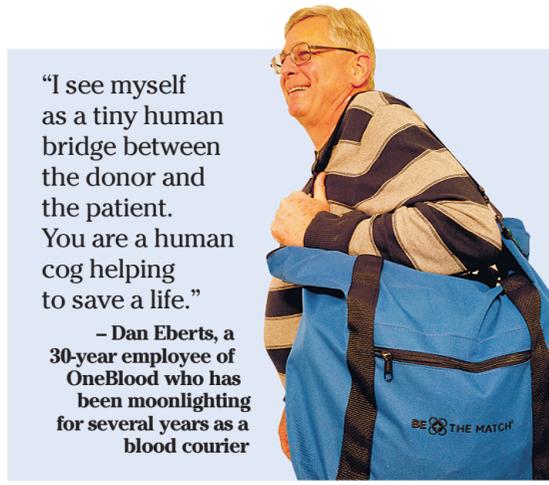


Photo courtesy of DAN EBERTS  
Longtime blood donor and OneBlood Tampa Bay employee Dan Eberts poses with his blue Be the Match bag, a symbol of his life-saving volunteer work as a blood and bone marrow courier.

a courier in 2007, relayed an interesting tale about the 007-type aspect of being a blood courier.

“I was working for Congressman Bill Young when he started the bone marrow donation program in 1975,” Cretekos said. “Years later, after I joined the courier program, I took my first trip, and I’ll never forget it. I was at the airport in Washington, D.C., with my bag, and who do I see but Congressman Young. He asked what I was doing there and I told him I couldn’t tell him. He said, ‘What do you mean

you can’t tell me?’ I said I can’t tell you and I just held up the bag, and he looked at it and a tear immediately formed in his eye. He realized I was still helping with the program we started all those years ago, and it was overwhelming for him.”

Cretekos said being involved with the beginning of the marrow program gave him a unique perspective on the importance of being a courier.

“Knowing the background of the program having been involved with

it from the beginning, you pump your fist every time you make a delivery because you know you were part of a program that saved somebody’s life,” he said. “That’s the reward. To know you have been part of a system like that is a very special feeling.”

Eberts, who last year became certified as an importer, meaning he can travel overseas and deliver marrow and platelets back to the states, concurred with the mayor.

“I get to help people, and I get to travel,” he said, noting the position comes with no pay but the expenses are taken care of.

“But for me, the whole thing is you have a donor who is going to give the gift of life to a patient who’s going to die, and the only way to match them up is to match the donor to the patient. I see myself as a tiny human bridge between the donor and the patient. You are a human cog helping to save a life.”

Asked how long they planned on being couriers, the two longtime friends shared similar responses.

“As long as they need couriers and I can help, I will,” Eberts said.

“I recently aged out of being a courier,” Cretekos confessed, noting the age limit is 74 years old. “But I played it and said if I couldn’t do it, I’d tell you. So, they agreed to extend it for me. I guess that was my Christmas present.”

For more information on Be the Match and the blood courier program, visit the organization’s website at [www.youcouldbethecure.org/](http://www.youcouldbethecure.org/).

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## Red. Shores to get new mayor, commissioner

By WAYNE AYERS  
TBN Correspondent

REDINGTON SHORES – There will be no election in Redington Shores this year. But the turnover of commission members that began last year will continue. When the new commission is sworn in this March, four of five members, including the mayor, will have changed within the past two years. In 2017, commissioners John Branch and Lee Holmes retired, after serving on the commission for 11 and 20 years respectively. That began the cycle of change.

This time, Mayor Bert Adams announced he is stepping down after 12 years on the commission, nine as mayor. Commissioner MaryBeth Henderson ran for the open mayor’s seat, and has been

elected with no opposition. Taking Henderson’s District 3 seat will be first-time commissioner Michael Robinson. District 1 Commissioner Tom Kapper will become the longest-serving member as he starts his 10th year in March. Robinson and Kapper also ran unopposed.

Also on the commission, but not up for election this year, are District 2 Commissioner Jeff Neal, and Commissioner Pat Drumm, representing District 4. Both are in their first term.

### Mayor reflects on ‘The Adams Years’

In a recent interview with the Beacon, Adams spoke of the highlights of his 12 years on the town commission.

During his nine years as mayor, Adams said the town made it through the economic downturn years and depressed housing market while maintaining a sound financial position.

Achievements while he was in office include the undergrounding of utilities in the residential neighborhoods and construction of

a crosswalk at Constitution Park, adding to the safety of park visitors. Also, the sharing of maintenance equipment with North Redington Beach has enabled Redington Shores to lower expenses by splitting the costs.

Adams said the town’s successes over the past years were due to commissions past and present; the town staff headed by City Clerk Mary Palmer, who Adams termed “my right hand;” and all the town board members and volunteers. “Without them none of our progress would have been possible,” the mayor said.

Projects now underway include the undergrounding of utilities on the east side of Gulf Boulevard and elimination of the wires crossing the roadway. Construction of two new town parks will get underway soon, on land facing the La Vistana condominiums on Gulf Boulevard. The condo association is donating the property in connection with a development agreement.

Adams also said he is hopeful for the completion of an Emergency Services Complex, which would dramatically lower fire and emergency response time for all the Redingtons. It will be built

on 173rd Avenue on the site of the Redington Shores town maintenance building, beside the North Redington Beach Town Hall.

As for his retirement plans, Adams said he wants to “play some golf” and devote more time to his business in Lakeland.

“I want to wish the best to the new commission,” Adams said. “I’m sure the town will be in fine hands.”

### Mayor-elect sets goals, priorities

In an email, Henderson said she decided to run for mayor after serving two terms on the commission because “I was confident I could make a meaningful contribution to the town and believed that my constituents were ready for a fresh perspective that would represent their interests.”

Her experience, she says, includes “the considerable progress in a number of areas that are important to residents, ranging from enhancements of our town parks to significant improvements in resident communications.”

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- Submissions must include the couples first and last names, wedding date, location and name of the photographer.
- All submissions must be emailed to [Imosby@tbnweekly.com](mailto:Imosby@tbnweekly.com).
- For submissions with more than one photo, compressed files are recommended.
- There is no cost to submit photos, but all photos may not be published. Photos are selected at the discretion of Tampa Bay Newspapers editors.

**For more information, contact Logan Mosby at 727-397-5563 or [Imosby@tbnweekly.com](mailto:Imosby@tbnweekly.com)**

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# Here and There

## Al Lang to host international soccer match

ST. PETERSBURG – 2016 Copa Libertadores champion Club Atlético Nacional de Medellín, Colombia, will take on Poland's legendary Legia Warsaw in an international showdown at Al Lang Stadium on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 6 p.m.

The match is the final game of the Florida Cup, the largest international soccer celebration held annually in Florida. Globally recognized soccer clubs from Europe and Latin America convene in Central Florida for the tournament. Broadcast live to over 140 countries, this tournament reached over 50 million viewers in 2017.

Club Atlético Nacional is Colombia's most popular and successful club. The club has won 16 league titles, three Copa Colombias, two Superliga Colombianas, and a total of 21 domestic titles. Los Nacionalistas were also the first Colombian club to win the Copa Libertadores in 1989 and, after winning the title again in 2016, is the only Colombian team to win that prestigious tournament more than once. It has the most international titles of any Colombian club, having also won the Copa Merconorte twice, the Copa Interamericana twice, and the Recopa Sudamericana once, for a total of seven international trophies and grand total of 28 titles across all competitions.

Legia is one of the most successful Polish football clubs in history, winning 12 Ekstraklasa Champions titles, a record 18 Polish Cup trophies and four Polish SuperCup matches. Legia was founded in 1916 and holds first place in the Polish First Division all-time table.

## Candidates forum set for Jan. 29

BELLEAIR BEACH – A candidates night forum will be held Monday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m., at the Belleair Beach Community Center, 444 Causeway Blvd.

Questions from the audience for the candidates for City Council seats must be written on the cards provided by the League of Women Voters and submitted to the moderator prior to 6:45 p.m. on the night of the event. Call 727-595-4646 or fax 727-593-1409.

## Voter registration event planned

BELLEAIR BEACH – Residents may register to vote and update their voter registration information. Monday, Feb. 5, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Belleair Beach City Hall, 444 Causeway Blvd.

They also may apply to vote by mail.

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## Seafood festival set for Corey Avenue

ST. PETE BEACH – In what organizers hope will become an annual tradition, the inaugural St. Pete Beach Seafood and Music Festival will get underway Feb. 3-4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., on Corey Avenue in downtown St. Pete Beach.

Hosted by the Corey Avenue Business Association, the festival's approach "is like that of creating a fine meal: the selection and blending of only the finest ingredients," a press release says. All meals will be cooked outside with fresh local ingredients such as grouper, mahi, stone crabs, oysters, shrimp and soft-shell crabs. A variety of vegetarian and rice dishes also will be available. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be available.

Musicians from a range of genres will provide entertainment. The event is free.

## Car, truck show benefits scholarship program

PINELLAS PARK – An open car and truck show is scheduled for Sunday Jan. 21, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Wagon Wheel Flea Market, 7801 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Kathryn Mezerowski Memorial Scholarship at the St. Petersburg College.

Preregistration cost is \$10, and \$15 on day of show for a car space. Preregister by email to okayz8@knology.net or text to 727-459-3688 with name and car information, or name and swap.

The event will include music, door prizes, trophies, silent auction and 50/50 drawing.

Event sponsors include Mamas Kitchen, Golden Bear Restaurant, Sunrise Restaurant, Publix at Bardmoor, Mr. Hotshine Car Wash, Harbor Freight Tools, Toppers Creamery, Fresno's Waterfront Restaurant, Meineke

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## Admiral Farragut to host SPIFFS 'luau'

ST. PETERSBURG – Throw on a flowered shirt or a grass skirt and head to a South Pacific-themed party and luau Saturday, Feb. 17, 6 p.m., at Admiral Farragut Academy.

The "Echo of the South Pacific" celebration, which benefits the St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society, will feature a Polynesian show with fire dancers, a luau buffet and dancing.

Tickets are \$50 or \$75 for two and are available through SPIFFS by calling 727-552-1896.

The event will be held on the waterfront across from the academy, 501 Park St. N.

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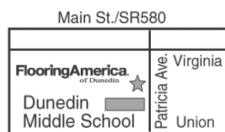
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# Diversions

Events • Movies • Classifieds

Largo Leader, Section B, January 11, 2018 • Visit [www.TBNweekly.com](http://www.TBNweekly.com)

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## Top five diversions

• **"Lucky Stiff,"** by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty; Jan. 12, 2018, through Feb. 2, at West Coast Players, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 a person. Call 727-437-2363 or visit [wp.weplayers.org](http://wp.weplayers.org). In this offbeat, hilarious murder mystery farce, complete with mistaken identities, six million bucks in diamonds, and a corpse in a wheelchair, an unassuming English shoe salesman stands to inherit a fortune if he can succeed in passing his uncle off as alive.

• **The Moody Blues**, Saturday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$68.75. Call 727-791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). The Moody Blues – Justin Hayward (lead guitar, vocals), John Lodge (bass guitar, vocals) and Graeme Edge (drums) – have been at the forefront of the classic rock music scene for 50 years since the release of their iconic, landmark album "Days of Future Passed." Played in two parts, their set will include the bands greatest rock hits first, followed by a performance of the whole "Days of Future Passed" album. Fans will get an up close and personal musical performance by this legendary band, from "Nights In White Satin" to even more timeless rock, classical and pop rock hits that defined The Moody Blues signature sound.

• **"Sex Please We're Sixty,"** by Michael Parker and Susan Parker; Jan. 13 through March 18, 2018, at Just For Laughs Dinner Theater, inside Havana Harry's 2, 1999 Starkey Road, Largo. For performance times, ticket information or to make reservations, call 727-466-6546 or visit [justforlaughsdinnertheater.com](http://justforlaughsdinnertheater.com). Mrs. Standcliffe's Rose Cottage Bed & Breakfast has been successful for many years. Her Guests (nearly all women) return year after year. Her next door neighbor, the elderly, silver-tongued, Bud "Bud the Stud" Davis believes they come to spend time with him in romantic liaisons. Her other neighbor and would-be suitor Henry Mitchell is a retired chemist who has developed a blue pill called "Venusia," after Venus the goddess of love, to increase the libido of menopausal women. Mayhem ensues with the arrival of three guests, including Victoria Ambrose, a romance novelist whose personal life seems to be lacking in romance; Hillary Hudson, a friend of Henry's who has agreed to test the Venusia; and Charmaine Beauregard, a "Southern Belle" whose libido does not need to be increased.

• **The 5th Dimension featuring Florence LaRue**, Sunday, Jan. 14, 2 and 7 p.m., at Central Park Performing Arts Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo. Tickets start at \$34.50. Call 727-587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com). Soulful sophistication and smooth harmonies with a touch of class. The 5th Dimension has scored seven Grammy Awards, 14 gold records and six platinum records. Their multi-million selling hits include songs such as "Up, Up, and Away," "One Less Bell to Answer," "Wedding Bell Blues," "If I Could Reach You," "Stoned Soul Picnic," "Last Night I Didn't Get to Sleep," "Never My Love" and "Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In."

• **The 3 Redneck Tenors**, Sunday, Jan. 14, 1 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. Tickets start at \$18. Call 727-791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com). The 3 Redneck Tenors bring a mixture of down-home laughs and big-city music to the stage. These trailer park singing sensations have a great many stories to tell, serving up a sidesplitting show of comedy and audience interaction. The veteran singers showcase a smorgasbord of songs ranging from gospel and country to Broadway, pop and classical. Based in Dallas, these guys have been seen as top 10 finalists on "America's Got Talent" and live in theaters across the nation.



Photo courtesy of RUTH ECKERD HALL

Ruth Eckerd Hall welcomes the 3 Redneck Tenors Jan. 14.



Photo by NIKO TAVERNISE/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Tom Hanks stars as Ben Bradlee in Twentieth Century Fox's "The Post."

## Opening this weekend

Spielberg directs 'The Post,' starring Hanks, Streep; Neeson catches a train in 'The Commuter'

Compiled by LEE CLARK ZUMPE

Tampa Bay Newspapers

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

### 'The Post'

Genre: Drama and thriller  
 Cast: Tom Hanks, Meryl Streep, Sarah Paulson, Bob Odenkirk, Matthew Rhys, Bradley Whitford, Carrie Coon, Jesse Plemons, David Cross, Alison Brie, Bruce Greenwood, Tracy Letts, Michael Stuhlbarg and Zach Woods  
 Director: Steven Spielberg  
 Rated: PG-13

Steven Spielberg directs Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks in "The Post," a thrilling drama about the unlikely partnership of Katharine Graham (Streep), the first female publisher of The Washington Post, and its driven editor Ben Bradlee (Hanks), as they race to catch up with The New York Times to expose a massive cover-up of government secrets that spanned three decades and four U.S. Presidents.

The two must overcome their differences as they risk their careers – and their very freedom – to bring long-buried truths to light.

### 'The Commuter'

Genre: Thriller and action  
 Cast: Liam Neeson, Vera Farmiga and Patrick Wilson  
 Director: Jaume Collet-Serra  
 Rated: PG-13

In this action-packed thriller, Liam Neeson is Michael, an insurance salesman, whose daily commute home quickly becomes anything but routine.

After being confronted by a mysterious stranger (Vera Farmiga), Michael is blackmailed into finding the identity of a passenger on his train before the last stop. As he works against the clock to solve the puzzle, Michael is



Photo by JAY MAIDMENT

Vera Farmiga stars as Joanna and Liam Neeson as Michael in "The Commuter."

unwittingly caught up in a criminal conspiracy that carries life and death stakes for himself and his fellow passengers.

### 'Paddington 2'

Genre: Adventure and family  
 Cast: Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Brendan Gleeson, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Peter Capaldi, Hugh Grant and Ben Whishaw  
 Director: Paul King  
 Rated: PG

Following the worldwide hit "Paddington," one of the most successful family films of all time, this much-anticipated sequel finds Paddington (Ben

See **OPENING**, page 3B

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# Hannah Wicklund to play Jaeb Theater

TAMPA – The Sibling Rivalry Tour – featuring Hannah Wicklund & The Steppin Stones with The High Divers – will make a stop Monday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m., in Jaeb Theater, at the Straz Center for Performing Arts, 1010 N. W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa.

Tickets start at \$20. Call 813-229-7827 or visit [www.strazcenter.org](http://www.strazcenter.org).

Rocker Hannah Wicklund formed The Steppin Stones when she was 9 years old and has been ripping on guitar ever since. With the intensity of Janis Joplin and the guitar chops of Jimi Hendrix, 20-year-old Wicklund delivers pounding classic American rock that brings the golden age into the millennium.

Hailing from Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, the band is now based out of Nashville. Wicklund and company recently announced their new album will drop Jan. 26. Produced by Sadler Vaden, guitarist for Jason Isbell & the 400 Units, the 10-track, self-released album was recorded in Nashville, Tennessee, and is a fresh take on Wicklund's musical influences drawn from '60s, '70s and '80s guitar-driven rock.

"Once we started writing some songs, I saw that she had a real, raw talent," said Vaden in a press release promoting the album. "I was inspired to work with her by her love of classic rock music and blues. I wanted to honor that in making this album, but also add a little modern edge to it."

"Bomb through the Breeze," the lead single off

the project, was released in October.

"Sadler and I wrote this song as a response to feeling backed into a corner by someone who doesn't get the hint," said Wicklund. "This is the type of song to hopefully inspire some self-confidence when it comes to standing up for yourself and others. Unfortunately, when someone's volume is on loud for so long, the only way to get their attention is to do something even louder."

The first rehearsal of The Steppin Stones was back in 2005, after which they were playing six to nine shows every week. The first song they ever played was Neil Young's "Rockin' in the Free World" at a charity event in South Carolina. By the time Wicklund graduated from high school at 16, they had logged well over a thousand gigs together. She grew up knowing that her life would be consumed by music. She understood that this meant working hard but never losing touch with the intensity that music requires.

Wicklund credits her father with instilling that lesson. Her first guitar was a present from him, as a kind of atonement for getting rid of her backyard trampoline. That very night, he taught her to play "Rockin' in the Free World" and Tom Petty's "It's Good to Be King."

Wicklund ramped up her songwriting as well,



Photo courtesy of THE STRAZ CENTER

**Hannah Wicklund – along with her band, The Steppin Stones – take the stage at Jaeb Theater on Jan. 15.**

based on the insights she'd picked up from playing carefully selected covers with The Steppin Stones.

"To craft a song well, you look at whose songs you love," she explained. "I love that we were a cover band because we got to see what worked and what didn't through other people's music – and, as a three-piece, how to make it work."

Wicklund & The Steppin Stones continue to tear it up on the road. In late 2017, they toured Europe and then performed more shows in the U.S., finishing the year out with a string of shows with The Marshall Tucker Band.

## 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					64			

- Across**
- Make ale
  - Residue
  - Female parent
  - Succulent plants
  - O.J.'s judge
  - Czech river
  - Embarrassing predicament
  - NHL legend Bobby
  - Sunfish
  - One who acclaims
  - On the \_\_: running away
  - Oklahoma's "Wheat Capital"
  - The Golden State
  - Merrymake
  - Siberian nomads
  - Pock-marked
  - Baleen whale
  - Leaf-footed bug genus
  - Treasure
  - Tanzanian shilling
  - Changed
  - Intestinal pouches
  - Walked in a celebratory way
  - South American mountain chain
  - Jai \_\_, sport
  - Consumed
  - Firm
  - Pubs
  - Leafy drink
  - Cured
  - Northern wind of France
  - Tax collector
  - Respite from the sun
  - American spy Aldrich
  - Central Standard Time
  - Myanmar ethnic group

- Down**
- Crush
  - Razorbill genus
  - "Full House" actress Loughlin
  - Bluish green
  - Garlic mayonnaise
  - Attacks repeatedly
  - Secretion
  - Special instance
  - A handsome youth loved by Aphrodite
  - Tree genus in the mahogany family
  - Israeli city
  - Formed a theory
  - Remove
  - Type of light
  - Repeats
  - Certified public accountant
  - River in eastern France
  - Returned material authorization (abbr.)
  - Special \_\_: military group
  - Ribonucleic acid
  - Not even
  - Power transmission belt
  - Doctor of Education
  - Type of nerve
  - Types of tops
  - Large primate
  - Flooded, low-lying land
  - Gritty
  - Gets up
  - Stake
  - Not the most
  - Swedish rock group
  - Expresses pleasure
  - Expression of boredom
  - Queen of Sparta
  - Where Adam and Eve were placed at the Creation

## Sudoku

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

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

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

## Crossword answers from last week

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

## Horoscopes

January 11, 2018

### Aries

March 21 – April 19

It is time to take a relationship to a new level, Aries. You are confident you know just the way to accomplish this. Enjoy the excitement that comes with this new beginning.

### Taurus

April 20 – May 20

Taurus, many things are on your plate, but you don't feel overwhelmed at all. In fact, you're ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who needs one.

### Gemini

May 21 – June 21

Recreation is the name of the game this week, Gemini. Coming off of a busy period, you are anxious to put your feet up for a few days. Book that vacation right now.

### Cancer

June 22 – July 22

Use your intuition in regard to others' feelings this week, Cancer. Give someone who needs it a little leeway, and your thoughtfulness will be appreciated.

### Leo

July 23 – August 22

Leo, if you think change will do you some good, then it is time to make it happen. Embrace the excitement that comes with making changes.

### Virgo

August 23 – September 22

Thanks to a spark of creativity, your plans may change this week, Virgo. Grab someone who is up for an unexpected adventure to join the journey.

### Libra

September 23 – October 22

Libra, a financial windfall has given you some extra spending money. While you may want to splurge, the practical side of you knows some saving is in order.

### Scorpio

October 23 – November 21

Scorpio, some things may be beyond your control this week, and that is okay. The measure of success will be how well you can adapt to the changes ahead.

### Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21

Home improvements may be in your future, Sagittarius. Projects could be just what the doctor ordered to chase away any feelings of cabin fever that may develop.

### Capricorn

December 22 – January 20

Capricorn, although the digital age has taken over, this week you might be ready to unplug for a while. Stock up on some books that can fuel your imagination.

### Aquarius

January 21 – February 18

Lend an ear to someone who has to get a few things off of his or her chest. Aquarius. You do not have to offer solutions. Just being there will be assistance enough.

### Pisces

February 19 – March 20

Don't leave any stone unturned when seeking a solution this week, Pisces. The least expected avenue may be the right one.

## A&E news

### St. Petersburg Fine Art Festival to be presented Feb. 24-25

ST. PETERSBURG – The fifth annual St. Petersburg Fine Art Festival will take place Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 24-25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at South Straub Park, 198 Bayshore Drive NE, St. Petersburg. Admission is free.

The event is a "boutique" fine art festival featuring approximately 120 of Florida's and America's top fine artisans. The event is co-sponsored by the city of St. Petersburg and coordinated with the St. Petersburg Arts Alliance.

The art festival will transform the grounds of South Straub Park into an outdoor gallery showcasing extraordinary original and handmade artwork. These artisans and their works weave a tapestry of art from creations in painting, glass, mixed-media, ceramics, sculpture, photography, metalwork, digital art, fiber art, woodworking and more. Within each medium, attendees will have an opportunity to explore a diversity of styles, materials and creative vision. Visitors also will have a chance to meet the artisans that create the work, learn how they became artists and how specific pieces were made.

Many of the participating artisans are represented in America's top museums and art galleries and their works found in the most prestigious private collections in America.

The St. Petersburg Fine Art Festival is directed by Paragon Fine Arts Festivals.

For information, visit [www.paragonartevents.com](http://www.paragonartevents.com).

### Este Loves to perform at Largo Central Park

LARGO – As part of the Thirsty Third Friday series, Este Loves will perform Friday, Jan. 19, 7 to 10 p.m., at Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, Largo.

On third Fridays, Largo Central Park will become an entertainment destination with food vendors, adult beverages and live music. Each month will feature a different local headliner.

Este Loves is a soulful singer-songwriter who enjoys spreading love through playing guitar and singing her original music, with some song covers in her own unique style.

Admission is free. For information, visit [LargoEvents.com](http://LargoEvents.com) or call 727-587-6740, ext. 5014.

### CPPAC to welcome

#### Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival

LARGO – The Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival will take the stage Friday, Jan. 19, 8 p.m., at the Central Park Performing Arts Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo.

Tickets start at \$24.50. Call 727-587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com).

The Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival is an authentic, cultural presentation of Russian songs, balalaika music and Russian folk ballet in authentic Russian style, language and costumes. The company features professional musicians who are conservatory graduates as well as professional Russian dancers. The program will include Russian songs performed by Nikolai Massenkoff. Songs are from the Tsarist Russia era, WWII to present day Russia. Selections to be featured include songs such as "Kalinka," "Moscow Nights" and "Dark Eyes" all in the original Russian language and accompanied by Russian folk instruments including the balalaika, domra and bayan.

For information on the Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival, visit [www.nikolaimassenkoff.us](http://www.nikolaimassenkoff.us).

### Mutts Gone Nuts to return to Central Park Performing Arts Center

LARGO – Mutts Gone Nuts, a canine cabaret show, will be presented Saturday, Jan. 20, 11 a.m., at the Central Park Performing Arts Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo.

Tickets start at \$14.50. Call 727-587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com).

Scott and Joan Houghton and their hilarious pack of pooches have created a comedy dog thrill show like no other. Audiences can expect the unexpected in this top-notch presentation that features incredible high-flying Frisbee dogs, tight-wire dogs, dancing dogs, magic dogs and the one and only Sammie the Talking Dog.

### Franc D'Ambrosio to perform at CPPAC

LARGO – Back by popular demand, Franc D'Ambrosio's Broadway will return to Pinellas for one performance Saturday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m., at the Central Park Performing Arts Center, 105 Central Park Drive, Largo.

Tickets start at \$24.50. Call 727-587-6793 or visit [largoarts.com](http://largoarts.com).

D'Ambrosio is back following his sold-out performance in Largo in January of 2015. Known as the world's longest running Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Webber's Tony Award winning musical "The Phantom of the Opera," D'Ambrosio's résumé also includes his role as Anthony Corleone in Francis Ford Coppola's Oscar-nominated film "Godfather III," an Emmy Award nominated television show, a four-time Tony nominated Broadway show and a National Theatre Award nomination.

D'Ambrosio will perform the hits from "The Phantom of the Opera" as well as other well-known Broadway musicals for a magical evening.

### West Coast Players to present 'Lucky Stiff'

CLEARWATER – "Lucky Stiff" by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty will run Jan. 12-28 at West Coast Players, 21905 U.S. 19 N., Clearwater.

Performances will be Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Call 727-437-2363, email [boxoffice@wcplayers.com](mailto:boxoffice@wcplayers.com) or visit [wp.wcplayers.org](http://wp.wcplayers.org).

### Swing dance evening to benefit My Hope Chest

CLEARWATER – An elegant swing dance charity benefit will take place Thursday, Jan. 18, in the Oval Ballroom of the Fort Harrison Hotel, 210 S. Fort Harrison Ave., Clearwater.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. A swing dance lesson by Arlene will be offered from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. Dancing will run from 7:45 to 10 p.m. The Flag Band will perform swing favorites. The event will benefit My Hope Chest.

The event also will feature a buffet of appetizers and refreshments. Admission is \$15. For tickets, call Directions for Living at 727-524-4464, ext. 1723; or Savoy South Swing Saturday Dances at 727-564-6847. RSVP is required by Jan. 16. Attire is dressy casual to vintage elegant.

The Fort Harrison Hotel re-opened in 1926 and today is a stunning architectural restoration marvel featuring marble floored lobby, wrought iron work and brass railings. The complete restoration of the hotel to its original splendor creates an atmosphere of elegance transporting you back in time.

### Town of Indian Shores offers oil painting class

INDIAN SHORES – As part of its recreational program, the town of Indian Shores is offering oil painting for beginners and intermediates.

The class meets Thursdays, 1 to 3:30 p.m., in the community room of the Municipal Building, 19305 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores.

The class fee is \$25 each lesson. The class is continuous. No membership is necessary. New students may start on any Thursday. Winter visitors are welcome.

Students begin with basic fundamentals and move toward working independently from their own photographs or subject matter. More experienced painters share with others and are glad to offer tips and help. Class time consists of demos, instructional and painting time, and critiques. The instructor works with each student independently.

Students learn about paints, brushes, color mixing, composition, all of the basics needed to form a foundation in traditional oil painting. Individual creativity is emphasized. New skills are taught in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

The instructor is Betsy Schoepf of Indian Rocks Beach. She has been painting for over 40 years and particularly enjoys still life and beach scenes.

Call Schoepf at 727-595-1083 or email [betsyschoepf@gmail.com](mailto:betsyschoepf@gmail.com) for registration or questions.

### 2Cool Art Show to return to Gulfport Casino

GULFPORT – The 2Cool Art Show will take place Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 3-4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd. S., Gulfport.

Now in its seventh year, this indoor show may be relatively small in size with just 36 artists, but it's packed full of high quality, award-winning work. Painting, fiber arts, glass, photography, jewelry, sculpture and mixed media is all represented at this inviting show. Admission is free. A cash bar will be available.

The 2Cool Art Show is sponsored by the Gulfport Merchants Association, the city of Gulfport and the Professional Association of Visual Artists.

# 'Days of Future Passed'

Moody Blues to perform iconic album in its entirety with a rock symphony orchestra at Ruth Eckerd Hall

CLEARWATER - The Moody Blues, on the road celebrating the 50th anniversary of "Days of Future Passed," will perform Saturday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater.

Tickets start at \$68.75. The venue reports the show has sold out. For information, call 727-791-7400 or visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com).

"Days of Future Passed," the iconic, landmark album, was released in 1967. The band will reflect back on five decades of some of the most well-loved music in pop culture history when they perform live onstage, for the first-time ever, this epic album that marked the first time a rock band had fused their sound with a symphony orchestra. The tour - titled "Days of Future Passed: 50th Anniversary" - will bring the live excitement of seeing the band perform their greatest hits in the first half of the show, and then finish with "Days of Future Passed" performed in the second half.

Fans have waited 50 years to experience this moment in time.

"Days of Future Passed," the band's first full-length studio album, was a ground-breaking concept album when it was first released. Unique in its approach, the recording of their first studio album turned out to be a piece of music history. Decca Records, the band's music label, had requested that the band record an album to test "stereo recording," which was in its infancy at the time. Being primarily a classical label, The Moody Blues were asked to record a rock version of Dvorak's 9th Symphony. The band complied, but wanted to record it on their own terms. Behind closed doors, they came up with the concept of fusing classical music with rock, but written to their own

soundtrack. The result was "Days of Future Passed," an album that many consider a masterpiece. "Days of Future Passed" features one full album without breaks, chronicling "a day in the life of" a person with songs that include "The Day Begins," "Dawn: Dawn Is a Feeling," "The Morning: Another Morning," "Lunch Break: Peak Hour," "Tuesday Afternoon (Forever Afternoon)," "(Evening) Time to Get Away," "Twilight Time" and "Nights In White Satin."

From the album, the song "Tuesday Afternoon" became a massive worldwide hit, and "Nights In White Satin" marked one of the first four-minute songs played on the radio, going on to become one of the biggest selling singles in history. The ultimate result: "Days of Future Passed" became one of the greatest-selling albums of all-time.

"Little did we know when we made 'Days of Future Passed' that it would eventually change our lives," said Justin Hayward in a press release promoting the tour. "It took five long years to make it the top of the charts. But we mustn't take all the credit for this remarkable project - there were many creative minds who contributed at the time, and who believed in us when we were young and inexperienced. We just wrote the songs - about every-man. My dearest wish is that maybe the album has made the world a better place. It will be a joy to return to it, live."

From the time the British band first hit the rock scene, The Moody Blues have continued to produce music that bridge the gap between rock, classical and pop-rock genres. Featuring guitarist/vocalist Justin Hayward, bassist/vocalist John Lodge, and drummer Graeme Edge, The Moody Blues' sound has held its ground in a genre of music that is ever-changing.



Photo courtesy of RUTH ECKERD HALL

The Moody Blues perform their iconic album "Days of Future Passed" Jan. 13 at Ruth Eckerd Hall.

The Moody Blues have sold in excess of 70 million albums worldwide and have been awarded 14 platinum and gold discs. Their roster of hits includes "Nights In White Satin," "Tuesday Afternoon," "Ride My See Saw," "The Story In Your Eyes," "Isn't Life Strange," "Question," "I'm Just A Singer (In A Rock And Roll Band)," "Your Wildest Dreams" and "I Know You're Out There Somewhere," to name a few. The Moody Blues'

No. 1, Top 5, Top 10, Top 20, Top 40, multi-platinum, platinum and gold albums and singles, have generated sold-out tours on a consistent basis over the course of several decades, making them one of the top-grossing album and touring bands of all time.

For a complete list of tour dates and VIP Package information, visit [www.MoodyBluesToday.com](http://www.MoodyBluesToday.com). For venue information, visit [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com).

## Sunshine Musical Festival set

ST. PETERSBURG - The Sunshine Musical Festival will take place Saturday, Jan. 13, noon, at Vinoy Park, 701 Bay Shore Drive NE, St. Petersburg.

General admission tickets are \$64.95 and \$129.95 for reserved seats. For tickets, visit [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com), call 800-745-3000 or visit a TicketMaster outlet.

The award-winning Tedeschi Trucks Band will be making their sixth headlining appearance at the 2018 Sunshine Musical Festival. The band has handpicked an unparalleled line-up of exciting acts on two live music stages along with a wider array of refreshing craft beers and a larger variety of food vendors. The festival will kick off at Vinoy Park in St. Petersburg before moving on to Mizner Park Amphitheater, Boca Raton, on Sunday, Jan. 14.

For the sixth year in a row the Tedeschi Trucks Band, or TTB as their loyal fans prefer to call them, appear in what has fast become their signature musical event. Now with a catalog of five albums and nearly a decade of steady touring in the U.S. and abroad, Tedeschi Trucks Band carries a distinguished reputation earned from both audiences and critics as one of the premier live bands in the world. The 12-piece powerhouse, led by the husband-and-wife team of guitarist Derek Trucks and guitarist-singer Susan Tedeschi, continues to expand a growing repertoire of original material written both individually and as a band, plus tasty covers deep-seated in American Roots, embracing genres, from rock, jazz, blues, and Americana to gospel, country, soul, and funk. Their latest re-

lease, "Live from the Fox Oakland" (March 2017), was recorded in a single night and beautifully captures the group's incredible power in concert. The double-disc live recording, which debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Blues and No. 6 Rock Albums chart, showcases the band's ability to move seamlessly from blistering rock and blues to soulful ballads and includes their take on classics from Derek and the Dominos, Leonard Cohen, and even Miles Davis among TTB's original songs. The film also gives a behind-the-scenes look at the band on the road.

Curated by Tedeschi Trucks Band, other exciting top acts announced on this year's bill for the festival include Phish bassist and multi-instrumentalist Mike Gordon who has just released his new solo album "OGOGO"; Medeski Mar-

tin & Wood effortlessly straddling the gap between avant-garde improvisation and accessible groove-based jazz; Galactic, the seminal New Orleans funk band that is consistently pushing their artistic boundaries; Hot Tuna featuring the legendary guitar and bass bluesy sounds of former Jefferson Airplane members Jorma Kaukonen and Jack Casady; Foundation of Funk featuring the legendary backbone of The Meters drummer Zigaboo Modeliste and bassist George Porter Jr. with special guests Eric Klarner and John Medeski; and The Suffers a 10-piece band from Houston, Texas, who are redefining the sound of Gulf Coast Soul.

For information, visit [www.sunshinemusicalfestival.com](http://www.sunshinemusicalfestival.com) or [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com).

## DeadPhish Orchestra to perform

DUNEDIN - The DeadPhish Orchestra will perform Friday, Jan. 19, 9 p.m., at Dunedin Brewery, 937 Douglas Ave.

The DeadPhish Orchestra is a quartet of Colorado musicians who, above all, are close friends who have played music together for many years. They had played Grateful Dead songs together, and they had played Phish songs together. But they got to wondering what would happen if they tried to merge the music of these two bands, the Granddaddies and Daddies of the jam-band scene.

While these two bands have their surface similarities, most fans realize that their actual musical styles are quite different. The Grateful Dead are



Photo courtesy of BLOOMING FOOTPRINT

Dunedin Brewery welcomes DeadPhish Orchestra Jan. 19.

an earthy, folky, bluesy band where Phish is sharper around the edges - funky and more aggressive. But both bands have an improvisational approach to their live shows, and it is in that spontaneity where the magic really happens.

The guys in DPO have posed themselves a unique challenge in merging the two styles. Band members include Chris Sheldon (drums and vocals), Paul Murin (guitar and vocals), Brian Adams (bass and vocals) and Ted Tilton (keyboards and vocals).

For band information, visit [deadphishorchestra.com](http://deadphishorchestra.com). For venue information, visit [www.dunedinbrewery.com](http://www.dunedinbrewery.com).

### OPENING, from page 1B

Whishaw) happily settled with the Brown family in London, where he has become a popular member of the local community, spreading joy and marmalade wherever he goes.

While searching for the perfect present for his beloved Aunt Lucy's 100th birthday, Paddington sees a unique pop-up book in Mr. Gruber's antique shop, and embarks upon a series of odd jobs to buy it. But when the book is stolen, it's up to Paddington and the Browns to unmask the thief.

### 'Proud Mary'

Genre: Thriller  
Cast: Taraji P. Henson, Billy Brown, Jahi Di'Allo Winston, Neal McDonough, Margaret Avery, Xander Berkeley and Danny Glover

Director: Babak Najafi  
Rated: R

Taraji P. Henson is Mary, a hit woman working for an organized crime family in Boston, whose life is completely turned around when she meets a young boy whose path she crosses when a professional hit goes bad.

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

### 'Condorito: La Pelicula'

Genre: Comedy and animation  
Cast: Omar Chaparro, Jessica Cediel, Cristian de la Fuente and Coco Legrand

Directors: Alex Orrelle and Eduardo Schuldt  
Rated: PG

The most beloved comic strip in Latin America comes to life this January with "Condorito: La Pelicula."

The famous character and his pals are animated in CGI for the first time, including the love of his life Yayita (Jessica Cediel), his romantic rival Pepe Cortisona (Cristian de la Fuente), as well as his nephew Chicky.

Condorito (Omar Chaparro) is ready to propose to Yayita and tie the knot, but when his disapproving mother-in-law Tremebunda (Coco Legrand) is abducted by an alien king, Condorito and his nephew must embark an out of this world adventure to save "La Suegra" - as well as planet Earth.

### 'Acts of Violence'

Genre: Action thriller  
Cast: Cole Hauser, Bruce Willis, Shawn Ashmore, Ashton Holmes, Melissa Bolona, with Sophia Bush and Mike Epps

Director: Brett Donowho  
Rated: R

Three Midwestern brothers, a crime lord, and an incorruptible cop are on a deadly collision course when the youngest brother's fiancée is kidnapped by human traffickers. To save her, the MacGregor boys call on their military training - and the strength of fam-



Photo by DANA STARBAR/SCREEN GEMS

Mary (Taraji P. Henson) stalks her prey in the kitchen of the Kozlov mansion in Screen Gems' "Proud Mary."

ily - to fight the most important battle of their lives.

Lee Clark Zumpe is TBN entertainment editor. He can be reached at 727-397-5563, ext. 341, or by email at [lzumpe@TBNweekly.com](mailto:lzumpe@TBNweekly.com).

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- The Times Herald

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

### 100. R.E. Wanted

**"WE BUY HOUSES"**  
Any Condition, Any Situation.  
*Fast Close!*  
(727)888-5758

### 120. Out of Town Sales

Lake Foreclosure Resale \$29,900. Before foreclosure sold for \$134,900. Special Financing. Selling-off Jan. 27th. Info: www.LakeLotsCloseout.com. (877)712-3650 Florida Waterfront Marketing, LLC. Licensed Real Estate Broker. (F)



### 145. Unfurnished Houses

**PINELLAS PARK 2BR/1BA \$985/Month**  
Carpot, Family Room, Laundry Room, Patio  
Fenced Yard, Storage Area.  
2/Year Lease, First/Last, \$900/Deposit.  
5061 96th Terrace  
(727)586-2445

### 155. Furnished Condos

**SEMINOLE GARDENS! WINTER/6 MONTH RENTAL**  
1 Bedroom, 1-1/2 Bath, Furnished, \$1,200 Month. (727)595-8229

### 160. Unfurnished Condos

**SEMINOLE GARDENS**  
Deluxe, Unfurnished, Yearly, \$925 (727)595-8229  
Robert G. Castles, P.A.

**SEMINOLE GARDENS**  
1BR/1BA, Any Age Bldg.  
3rd Floor Elevator, Lake View  
\$825/Month Annual Rental.  
Ridge Seminole Mgmt. Corp.  
(727)397-2534

**SEMINOLE GARDENS 55+**  
Remodeled Deluxe 1BR/1BA/Den, Second Floor, Elevator. Very Nice Very Clean, \$900/Month, Yearly.  
(727)954-4795

### 160. Unfurnished Condos

**BELLEAIR WATERFRONT**  
Over 1,750SF, 2BR/2BA, Large Living, Dining, Family Room & Study. This Completely Remodeled 3rd Floor Garden Unit has an Additional 500SF in it's 3 Patios Which Offer Gorgeous Water Front Views. Walk to the Country Club and New Bellevue Biltmore Hotel. 24 Hour Manned Security Gate. Covered Parking and Heated Pool. \$2,750/Mo. Call Dave at (727)420-4827

**LONG BAYOU 55+ SEMINOLE**  
1BR/1BA First Floor, Basic Cable/ Gas, Covered Parking, Full Amenities, No Pets/Smoke. \$900/ Month, +Security (727)286-8231

**55+ LAKEVIEW, LARGO**  
Spacious 2BR/1.5BA, Ground Floor, In Unit W/D. Living Room Opens to Lanai with Lake View. No Pets. Available 2/1, \$900/Month Annual.  
(727)403-4405

### 175. Unfurnished Apts.

**Celebrate New Year's Savings!!!**  
**Imperial Palms Apartments Largo, FL**  
\*SELECT 1 BD APTS STARTING AT \$775!!!  
Limited supply won't last!!!  
\*Application Fee Free  
\*Administrative Fee Free  
\*\*Security Deposit 1 Bd Apts Only \$99  
\*\*Security Deposit 2Bd Apts Only \$199  
Submit Application by January 31st  
\*For qualified applicants, limited time offer, limited availability, restrictions apply

**FREE** Activities at our Clubhouses  
**FREE** Scheduled Shopping Trips Mon - Fri  
**FREE** use of the Bonsai Gym  
**Screened-in Lanais, Heated Pools, Optional Housekeeping, Meals, Laundry Services**  
**55+ Community Rent starting at \$875!**  
Call Today to Schedule a Tour!  
**Open 7 Days a Week!**  
**(727)585-3723**  
MylmperialPalmsHome.com

**BELLEAIR BLUFFS**  
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 2nd Floor, Assigned Parking, Cat OK, (Includes W/S/T) \$795 Month (727)455-2260.

**8423 SEMINOLE BLVD**  
Nice 1BR/1BA \$865/Month Plus Deposit, Includes Super Cable First & Second Floor.  
(727)399-1248, (727)239-8554

**LARGO**  
2 Bdrm Garden Apts Available January 2/1 & 2/2 Starting @ \$825/ mo. Includes Water, Trash & Pest Control. Laundry On Site. No Dogs Cats OK. Largo Med Ctr area. Call or text (727)280-5005.

### 315. Personals

Make a Connection. Real People, Flirty Chat. Meet Singles right now! Call LiveLinks. Try it FREE. Call NOW: (855)334-7726. (C)

### 345. Lost & Found

**FOUND DOG: Small white male with collar, 1/2/18 vicinity of Blind Pass Rd, Treasure Island. Call to identify. (813)610-0074.**

### 185. Beach Rentals

**JANUARY SPECIALS! COME STAY WITH US! INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**  
Cozy, Clean, Furnished Vacation Cottages. 1-2BRs, Full Kitchen. Call for DISCOUNTED Rates.  
(727)595-3000  
www.SunshineCozyCottages.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

**INDIAN SHORES**  
Gulf-front, 2BR/2BA, Includes Utilities, W/D, Pool, Reserved Parking, Petless, January 2018.  
Owner (813)973-7105

### 195. Seasonal Rentals

**SEMINOLE**  
2BR/2BA, Glenwood Estates, **Pets Allowed**, 3 Month+, **Beginning December 1st**, \$2,000/Month.  
**SAND KEY/CLEARWATER BCH**  
Furnished 2BR/2BA Condos Available 1-12 Months.  
Florida Dreams RE Sales & Rentals, Inc. (727)418-5774

### 225. Duplex/Triplex Rentals

**BELLEAIR 418 WOODLAWN AVE**  
2BR/1BA All Appliances SS, Private Patio, W/D, Carpet And HW Floors. Beautiful View. No Pets/Smoking \$1,300/Month Annual.  
Background Check (727)422-5725

### 255. Accom. To Share

**FEMALE ROOMMATE WANTED**  
No Rent Required in Exchange for Household Duties & Half the Cost of Food  
Call between 2:30-7:30pm  
Chris (727)509-3768

### 265. Commercial Rentals



**SEMINOLE**  
**9170 OAKHURST ROAD**  
Attractive Professional Space For Rent, 640SF, \$795/Month Plus Sales Tax, Cam Charges Included.  
(727)393-5171

**WORKSHOPS/ STORAGE**  
220 13th Street SW, Largo (Near Largo Diagnostic Clinic)  
(727)584-6283

**OFFICE/RETAIL**  
Excellent 1,000+SF, Two Rare Large Lighted Signs Available. Water Included. Renovated, Picture Windows. Busy 3607 Central, St. Petersburg. \$895/Mo (727)270-3178



### 300. Notices

SUPPORT our service members, veterans and their families in their time of need. For more information, visit the Fisher House website at www.fisherhouse.org (C)

Become a published author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kit. (844)506-6434. (C)

**INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE.** Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call (844)349-8351 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation. (C)

### 310. Food & Beverages

ENJOY 100% guaranteed, delivered to-the-door Omaha Steaks! SAVE 75% PLUS get 4 more Burgers & 4 more Kielbasa FREE! Order The Family Gourmet Buffet, ONLY \$49.99. Call (844)275-9596, mention code 51689C2X or visit www.OmahaSteaks.com/good43. (C)

### 315. Personals

Make a Connection. Real People, Flirty Chat. Meet Singles right now! Call LiveLinks. Try it FREE. Call NOW: (855)334-7726. (C)

### 345. Lost & Found

**FOUND DOG: Small white male with collar, 1/2/18 vicinity of Blind Pass Rd, Treasure Island. Call to identify. (813)610-0074.**



### 355. Adoption

**SURROGATE MOTHER NEEDED TO Carry Our Baby!** Generous Compensation and Expenses Paid. Call Attorney Charlotte Danciu. (800)395-5449. www.adoption-surrogacy.com. FL Bar #307084. (C)

**Alquiler De Utero, \$25,000.00 y más par Manutencion Ayudanos, No Podemos Tener Hijos, Llama a Nuestra Abogada.** (561)674-6857. FL Bar #307084. (C)

### 360. Legal Service

**DIVORCE WILLS EVICTIONS**  
*Starting at \$65*  
• 1-Signature Divorce  
• Missing Spouse Divorce  
**"WE COME TO YOU!"**  
Serving All Florida  
**1-888-847-1997**  
(Since 1992)

### 368. Music & Voice Lessons



**GUITAR CLEANING A CLEAN GUITAR... JUST PLAYS BETTER**  
**GUITAR CLEANING STRING REPLACEMENT ACTION ADJUSTMENT MINOR REPAIRS**  
**MOBILE SERVICE OR PICK-UP AND RETURN\* (S.Pinellas Area)\***  
Call Michael (727)392-7294 or (727)687-5440 (cell)  
backset@tampabay.com  
acleanguitar.com

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### 370. Instruction & Tutors

**ART CLASSES**  
All Ages and All Levels  
Painting, Drawing, Fashion, Sewing  
Classes, Experienced Teacher.  
(727)488-9732

### 380. Internet/ TV Services

**FAST Internet! HughesNet Satellite**  
Internet. High Speed. Available Anywhere. Speeds to 15 mbps. Starting at \$59.99/mo. Call for Limited Time Price.  
(800)958-6917. (C)

Spectrum Triple Play. TV, Internet & Voice for \$29.99 ea. 60 MB per second speed. No contract or commitment. More Channels. Faster Internet. Unlimited Voice.  
(877)279-4652. (C)

DISH Network. 190+ Channels. FREE Install. FREE Hopper HD-DVR. \$49.99/mo. (24 mos.) Add High Speed Internet - \$14.95 (where avail). CALL Today & Save 25%!  
(855)895-7245. (C)

AT&T High Speed Internet Starting at \$40/month. Up to 45 Mbps! Over 99% Reliability! Bundle AT&T Digital TV or Phone Services & Internet. Price Starts at \$30/month. Call (888)274-1454. (C)

DIRECTV. Call & Switch Now. Get NFL Sunday Ticket for FREE! Every Game. Every Sunday. CHOICE™ All-Included Package. Over 185 Channels. \$60/month (for 12 months). Call (877)808-9508. (C)

DISH Network Satellite Television Service. Now Over 190 Channels for ONLY \$49.99/mo! FREE Installation, FREE Streaming, FREE HD. Add Internet for \$14.95 a month.  
(800)496-2603. (C)

Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months). Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today (877)929-1176. (C)

### 400. Health & Fitness

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! (855)397-7056. (C)

Lung Cancer? 60 or Older? If So, You and Your Family may be Entitled to a Significant Cash Award. Call (855)839-6761 to learn more. No Risk, No Money Out of Pocket. (C)

YOU or a loved one have an addiction? Very Private and Confidential Inpatient care. Call NOW for immediate help! (800)756-1363. (C)

### 485. Help Wanted

### 400. Health & Fitness

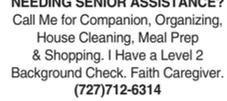
FDA-Registered Hearing Aids. 100% Risk-Free! 45-Day Home Trial. Comfort Fit. Crisp Clear Sound. If you decide to keep it, PAY ONLY \$299 per aid. FREE Shipping. Call Hearing Help Express. (877)442-6921. (C)

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit. Call (888)572-4944. (C)

Do you have chronic knee or back pain? If you have insurance, you may qualify for the perfect brace at little to no cost. Get yours today!  
(800)862-8392. (C)

### 435. Adult Care & Svcs.

A PLACE FOR MOM. The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/no obligation. CALL (800)671-9104. (C)



**NEEDING SENIOR ASSISTANCE?**  
Call Me for Companion, Organizing, House Cleaning, Meal Prep & Shopping. I have a Level 2 Background Check. Faith Caregiver.  
(727)712-6314

**EXPERIENCED ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER**  
Empathetic & Energetic Companion, Professional & Personal References. Available 24/7  
(727)201-4128  
(727)771-5950



### 485. Help Wanted

**LOOKING FOR DEPENDABLE**  
Individuals or Independent Cleaning Contractors to Clean Vacation Rentals. If Interested Please Inquire Within on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday;  
12960 Gulf Blvd, Madeira Beach.

**DRY CLEANERS: PART-TIME**  
Counter Help, Apply: Belleair Bluffs Cleaners, 2924 West Bay Drive. (727)585-1101

**BUSY CLEANING COMPANY**  
Looking For Experienced Cleaners. Must Have At Least 1 Year Experience. Excellent Pay!  
(727)743-0701  
Call After 6PM.

### 485. Help Wanted

**485. Help Wanted**  
485. Help Wanted  
485. Help Wanted

## SERVERS FULL-TIME

Brookdale Pincrest Retirement Community is looking for full-time experienced mature Servers to staff our upscale Independent Living dining room. Candidates must have experience taking food orders, delivering meals to residents in a timely manner; able to follow instructions/procedures in accordance with Department and company standards. Must be able to respond to resident/guest requests, interact with residents to ensure their satisfaction. Candidates must be responsible and take pride in their appearance. Full-time Associates are eligible for Brookdale's benefit programs to include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401K plan and accrual of paid time off hours.

**Varied shifts and hours to include weekends and holidays.**

**If you take pride in the job you do, and love to serve others, we are looking for you. EOE, Drug free workplace, Level II background check required.**

**Send resume to Margaret.krystal@brookdale.com or apply in person: 1150 8th Avenue SW, Largo, FL 33770**

## Health Center Job Fair

Come tour our 5 Star Facility & meet our staff!

**Wednesday, January 24, 2018 from 9am -4pm**

We are currently looking for CNAs & RNs for Part-Time & Full-Time Shifts.  
727-791-3881

**REGENCY OAKS**  
CLEARWATER  
BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING

2770 Regency Oaks Blvd.  
Clearwater, FL 33759

**485. Help Wanted**

**BROOKDALE**  
PINECREST  
SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS

**CDL DRIVER**

Brookdale Pinecrest Retirement Community is Currently Seeking Applicants for a Part Time Driver. Must Have a CDL License in Good Standing. Drivers Transport our Resident To and From Doctor Appointments; Banking; Shopping and Scheduled Activity Trips. Candidates Must Follow Company Guidelines Regarding Resident and Vehicle Safety. Part Time Various Hours Including Some Weekends and Holidays. **Please Send Resumes to: Margaret.kristall@brookdale.com or Fax: (727)581-8409 or Complete an Application in Person 1150 8th Ave. SW, Largo FL. DFWP; EOE.**

**485. Help Wanted**

**BROOKDALE**  
PINECREST  
SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS

**CNA's & HHA's**

Brookdale Pinecrest is seeking CNA's and HHA's to work in Personalized Living within our upscale retirement community. The position requires candidates to assist residents with daily living activities based on their individualized plan of care. Job duties could include; escorting residents to doctor appointments, provide medicine reminders, dog walking, etc. Must be able to communicate effectively with residents, visitors and members of health care team; possess excellent customer service skills and have a desire to care for our residents. Multiple positions available; PT various hours; including weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNA license or 75 hour HHA certification. HHA's must have Certified CPR Training. Position requires Level I and Level II background checks; EOE; drug-free workplace. Please apply in person to 1150 8th Ave SW, Largo, FL 33770.

**485. Help Wanted**

**REGENCY OAKS**  
CLEARWATER  
BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING

**CDL DRIVER**

a Continued Care Community is Hiring for a Full-Time Monday-Friday CDL Driver with Occasional Night & Weekends. Responsible for Driving Residents To & From Doctors Appointments, Shopping Trips, etc. Level I & II Background Checks & Drug Screening Required. Applicants Can Apply in Person at 2701 Regency Oaks Blvd. Clearwater, FL or Email Resumes to svannatter@brookdale.com

**510. Home Care Help**

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

**LIVE-IN COMPANION**  
For Delightful 90 Year Old Mother. Seminole. Duties Include Meds, Personal Care, Light Housekeeping. Seeking Mature Person With Positive Attitude. (512)658-1541

**585. Auctions**

**CLEARWATER STORAGE NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
A public auction will be held as required by the "Self Storage Facility Act", Sec. 83.801-83.809 to satisfy a landlord's lien, the Auction will be held on "www.StorageTreasure.com" on or before **January 12, 2018**. All sales are for cash to the highest bidder and are considered final. Storage Units consisting of household goods, furnishing, tools or equipment.

**Daniel Carter Unit # 220  
Gregory Weiner Unit #112F  
Richie Adams Unit # 523**

**640. Furniture**

**BLACK LEATHER ROCKER RECLINERS**  
Excellent Condition \$250/each. Will Sell Separate (727)596-0514 Largo area  
Email rbauer27@tampabay.rr.com

**660. Wanted to Buy**

**WANTED: OLD RECORDS**

**CLEARWATER RECORD SHOP**  
Now Buying And Selling LP's - 45's - 78's  
Call  
**(727)200-9397**

**885. Autos Wanted**

**Got a Car You Wanna Sell**

**The Good, The Bad The Ugly**

**Call Now 727-400-1910**

**GOOD AT KEEPING HOUSE? RELIABLE?**  
Quality Mid-Pinellas Cleaning Service Takes Pride in Our Work and the People Who Make Us Shine. Hours Monday-Friday With Weekends-Holidays Off. Experience a Plus but, Will Train. Valid Florida DL/Clean Record/ Background Check Required. Contact Patty (727)585-6243 1301 Seminole Blvd Suite 153A Largo

**BROOKDALE**  
PINECREST  
SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS

**LPN**

Brookdale Pinecrest is Seeking LPNs to Work Within our Upscale Retirement Community - **PART TIME OPENINGS - VARIOUS SHIFTS.** Candidates Must be Enthusiastic, Energetic and Caring, Committed to Making a Difference in the Lives of our Residents. Position Requires Level I & Level II Background Checks; EOE; Drug-Free Workplace. Please Apply in Person to 1150 8th Avenue SW, Largo, FL, 33770 or Submit Resume to Margaret.kristall@brookdale.com

**REGENCY OAKS**  
CLEARWATER  
BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING

**ON-CALL SECURITY GUARD**  
A Continued Care Community is Looking for an ON-CALL Security Guard. Must be Willing to Work Evening 4pm-12am & Overnight Shifts 12am-7am. This Position is ON-CALL but, May Also be Combined with an ON-CALL Driver Role. Responsible for Covering Resident Codes, Front Desk Coverage, Security of Campus Grounds, etc. Level I & II Background Checks & Drug Screening required. Applicants Can Apply in Person at 2701 Regency Oaks Blvd. Clearwater, FL or Email Resumes to svannatter@brookdale.com

**HOUSEKEEPER**  
For Private Residence. 2 Adults, No Children. Must Live Within 30 Minutes Of Clearwater. Must Be Flexible, Good Cleaner, Like Animals, Reliable Transportation. (727)461-5786

**FRONT DESK RESERVATIONIST**  
For Active Property on Maderia Beach. Weekends Required. Please call (727)392-2213

**522. Careers**

**LEARN TO GROOM DOGS**

- Financial Assistance For Those Who Qualify
- Free Job Placement Service
- We Proudly Train Our Veterans
- Vendor For Vocational Rehab
- Easy School Loans NOW ENROLLING
- Basic Pet Groomer
- Professional Pet Groomer
- Master Groomer

**ACADEMY OF ANIMAL ARTS academyofanimalarts.com (727)517-9546**

Live & Online Public Auction Tuesday, January 23rd at 10:00 AM. Whittelsey Wood Products, 16301 NW 15th Ave., Miami, FL 33169 Sale will consist of Veneer Processing Manufacturing Plant Auction including: Langzauner Lz 4-S 4200 Veneer Saw, Fisher-Ruckle Omnimaster Plus Veneer Splicer, Holzher 1265 Supercut Vertical Panel Saw, Buffering Optimat SCO 213 Diamond CE 2 head Sander, Nederman S-series Bag filter S-500, Joos Hp-115 Hot Press, Osama Technologies S2R-1600 Top and Bottom Glue Spreader, Champion Air Compressor, International 4400 Trucks, Flatbed Trailers with Piggyback Kits, Yale and Heister Forklifts, Princeton Piggyback Forklifts, Wood Product Inventory consisting of Veneer, Burl, Plywood, Lumber and Specialty Woods and Architectural Products, Warehouse Equip., Pallet Racking, Office Furniture, Office Equip., & much more! Catalog and photos available at www.moeckerauctions.com. Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors Case #2017-025084-CA-01. Preview: Mon, January 22nd from 10:00AM to 4:00PM and 1 hour prior to sale. 15%-18% BP - \$100 refundable cash deposit to register. (800)840-BIDS - info@moeckerauctions.com. AB-1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin. (F)

**CASH PAID FOR DIABETIC**  
Test Strips! OneTouch, Freestyle, Accucheck, More! Must Not Be Expired, Opened. FREE Local Pickup! Prompt, Friendly, I Pay \*Top Dollar\*. Call David (727)266-0087

**700. Pets & Animals**

**PET GROOMING NEW CLIENTS SPECIAL!**  
\$22 Any Dog Breed Includes Wash/ Dry/ Nails/ Ears and a Trim, Make Them Beautiful ... Affordably Our Salon Established in 1979 Academy of Animal Arts. (727)596-2547 academyofanimalarts.com

Got an older car, boat or RV? Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. (800)831-6309. (C)

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3-Day Vacation. Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. (800)902-7815. (C)

**LOOKING FOR DEPENDABLE CAR/AUTO**  
Have Cash. Please Call Marilyn (727)348-1676

**GARAGE/ESTATE SALES**

**970. Estate Sales**

**Estate Sale**

**LARGO SATURDAY** January 13th 8am-2pm  
Old Vintage Signs, Yard Art & Wicker  
10463 116th Ave. N. Largo, 33773 www.propertyyardsale.com

**BROOKDALE**  
PINECREST  
SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS

**KITCHEN UTILITY ASSOCIATE**

We currently have a position open for a Utility Associate in our kitchen. Position required associate to operate the dish machine, store clean equipment and utensils, as well as maintain the cleanliness of the dish area; ensuring all quality standards of sanitation are being met. No previous experience is required. Position available: Part time; various hours; must be available to work weekends and holidays. Position available PT, various hours; including some weekends and holidays. Position requires Level I and Level II background checks; EOE; drug free workplace. Please apply in person to 1150 8th Ave SW, Largo FL 33770.

**LAKE SEMINOLE SQUARE**  
SEMINOLE SENIOR LIVING

**CNA's**

Brookdale's Lake Seminole Square is seeking CNA's to work in our private duty home care department within our upscale retirement community. This position requires candidates to assist our residents with daily living activities. Must be able to communicate effectively, possess excellent customer service skills and have a desire to care for our residents. **ALL SHIFTS AVAILABLE**, including weekends, holidays and short shifts. Must have a valid CNA license and have current CPR training. Position requires Level II background checks; DFWP. **Please apply in person: 8333 Seminole Blvd, Seminole, FL 33772.**

**505. Part-Time Help**

**HOUSEKEEPERS WANTED GREAT WEEKEND WORK!**  
For Beach Vacation Rentals. **Saturdays Only!** Background Check Required. **Apply in Person: Florida's Best Accommodations, 18610 Gulf Blvd, Indian Shores or call Heather (727)278-2539.**

**TAMPA BAY TIMES**  
Part Time Driver - CDL Class A Local Runs!  
The Tampa Bay Times has immediate part time openings for **drivers with CDL Class A license** to drive Times vehicles to and from Distribution Centers adhering to standard routes in place. Driver is responsible for loading and unloading carts and/or bundles of newspaper. Opportunities are between the hours of 11 PM to 5 AM. Must be able to work throughout the week, including Saturday. Must be at least 21 years old, have a valid CDL Class A, good driving record, have sufficient driving hours available for scheduled shift and to comply with D.O.T. Hours of Service rules, ability to meet and safely perform the physical requirements of the position and complete/pass a DOT physical. Recent commercial driving experience is required. Great place to work! **Tampabay.com/joinus**

**LANDSCAPING & LAWN SERVICE IN SEMINOLE**  
Experienced and Local Only, \$11 hour (727)238-4454

**facebook**

**FINANCIAL INSURANCE**

**545. Financial Services**

Have 10K in Debt? National Debt Relief is rated A-Plus with the BBB. You could be debt free in 24-48 months. Call (866)465-4307 now for a free debt evaluation. (C)

Social Security Disability? Up to 2.671/mo. (Based on paid-in amount). FREE Evaluation! Call Bill Gordon & Associates. (800) 860-6175. Mail: 2420 N. St. NW, Washington DC. Office: Broadard C. FL., member TX/ NM Bar. (C)

Are you in Debt? National Debt Relief is rated A-Plus with the BBB. You could be debt free in 24-48 months. Call (866)465-4307 now for a free debt evaluation. (C)

**600. Merchandise**

**MARIN SAN RAFAEL MEN'S BICYCLE**  
Excellent Condition... \$175. (727)421-7571

**AUTOMOTIVE**

**810. Auto Sales**

**2000 RED PONTIAC GP**  
Low 74k, Good Condition, No Rust, New Battery/ Tires \$1,000. (727)585-1111

**835. Auto Services**

**PAT'S AUTO INTERIORS**  
Small-Large Seat Repairs  
Headliners  
Small-Big Dent Repairs with (Perfect Color Match)  
Rust Holes  
Sand & Clear Headlights (Like New)  
**WALNUT STRIPPING CARS AND FURNITURE**  
Call for Details!!  
**4500 49th Street N, St. Pete. (727)526-5949**

**ESTATE SALE BELLEAIR BLUFFS**  
Over 600 Unique and Beautiful Items. Both Antique and Modern. **CALL (708)601-3747 TO VIEW.**

**ESTATE SALE FRIDAY & SATURDAY 8AM-2PM**  
**225 COUNTRY CLUB DR. Building B, Apt. 115**  
Largo off of East Bay Dr. Rattan Furniture, Mid Century Table, Console Stereo, Designer Brass Tree, Fountain, CONDO FULL, All Priced To Sell.

**BROOKDALE**  
PINECREST  
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**Pets of the week**

**Fiona**

Fiona is a beautiful kitten with thick fur, black and silver markings and stunning gold eyes. The beauty loves her humans and adores having her tummy rubbed. Completely vetted and microchipped, the 4-month-old is ready to start the new year in her forever home. Now an inside kitty, Fiona can be visited in her St. Petersburg foster home by calling 727 545-1116. To view other felines, visit [saveourstraysinc.com](http://saveourstraysinc.com).



**Mr. Morgan**

Mr. Morgan is a 19-pound shih-mix boy. This funny little clown is 9 years young. He's a playful guy that loves to play. He is housebroken and loves to go on walks and car rides. He is up to date on all his meds and shots. He is microchipped, neutered and heartworm negative. He has skin allergies that are under control with daily meds and special food. He would do best as an "only child" in the home of an experienced dog owner. He would not fit into a household with children. To apply for Mr. Morgan, visit [www.viprescue.org](http://www.viprescue.org).



**Brownie and Joey**

Blessed with a smile that lights up a room, Brownie, the 7-year-old shorthaired Chihuahua, entered into care at Canine Estates with her longtime companion Joey when their owner fell ill. Although somewhat shy when meeting new people, she warms up quickly, revealing her sweet and affectionate nature. Joey may be 13 years old, but this schnauzer is younger than spring in his heart. Easygoing and affectionate, he enjoys modest walks with Brownie despite some arthritis in his back that requires daily medication. Now this bonded pair is eager to find a loving home with no children. Email [director@canineestates.com](mailto:director@canineestates.com) or call 727-412-0558.



**Faline**

This golden-colored beauty has a huge personality and an even bigger heart. Faline loves meeting new people. She has a very sweet disposition and enjoys both relaxing and exercising. The 4-year-old terrier/American pit bull mix needs a forever home. Her adoption price is \$75. For information, visit [www.humanesocietyofpinellas.org](http://www.humanesocietyofpinellas.org) or call 727-797-7722.



**Avery**

This beautiful purebred husky is very typical of the breed. Avery can be aloof and shy at first, but once you gain her trust, she is a bouncy, affectionate girl. Avery plays well with other dogs and enjoys her playgroups here at the Humane Society of Pinellas. Due to her timidity at first, HSP does not recommend a home with small children. Her adoption price is \$200. For information, visit [www.humanesocietyofpinellas.org](http://www.humanesocietyofpinellas.org) or call 727-797-7722.



**Inky**

Inky is a sweet girl looking for a home filled with her own cat bed, catnip supply, and a treat here and there. Inky is a 1-year-old female domestic short hair. Pet Pal Animal Shelter is at 405 22nd St. S., St. Petersburg. Call 727-328-7738 or visit [Petpalanimalshelter.com](http://Petpalanimalshelter.com).



**Dental health: Pets have teeth too!**

There are many reasons why pet's teeth are not routinely cared for. Below are common reasons veterinary professionals hear as to why dental cleanings under anesthesia are not performed on pets in dire need of care:

- Anesthesia
- Heart murmurs
- Too old
- Cost
- Still eating so teeth not causing a problem (not painful)
- Not an important health issue, if they are bad they will just fall out on their own

Anesthesia is so much safer today than it used to be. Many of the drugs used today are short acting and wake up quickly. Pets are also monitored better today than in the past. Blood pressure, heart rhythms (EKG), end tidal CO2 (carbon dioxide monitors), oxygen saturation and temperatures are monitored throughout the dental procedure in the best veterinary hospitals. Pets should be on IV fluids during anesthetic procedures because this helps keep pets hydrated, perfuses the organs, and allows the veterinary team to maintain proper blood pressures.

Anesthesia is needed for a proper assessment of a pet's oral cavity. Many animals will not let you look at every single tooth on an awake physical exam. Therefore, many issues found in a pet's oral cavity are found after a thorough examination is done under anesthesia. Not only can the teeth be a problem, but pets also get tumors in the oral cavity and many of these are found when teeth are cleaned under anesthesia.

Dental cleanings under anesthesia should include full mouth X-rays. This is now considered standard practice. There are so

**Speaking of Pets**

Kim Donovan, D.V.M.



many issues that veterinary professionals cannot see just by looking in a pet's mouth. It is what is found under the gum line in dental X-rays that can reveal a tooth root abscess that couldn't be seen by the awake or anesthetized oral exam.

It is very important that a pet is deemed a good candidate for anesthesia by doing pre-anesthetic work ups. This would include blood work to make sure a pet's organ status is appropriate and can metabolize the anesthetic drugs appropriately. Any other diagnostics that need to be done prior to anesthesia like chest x-rays or cardiac ultrasounds are commonly recommended for those pets that have heart murmurs or may have pre-existing issues. Cats can be a little tricky because they can have heart problems while not having a heart murmur or showing clinical signs. A blood test called "ProBNP" may help determine if a cat or dog has a heart issue prior to anesthesia. This test will pick up enzymes of stretched cardiac muscle. If this blood test is abnormal then other diagnostics can be done to be sure a pet can tolerate anesthesia.

Just because a pet has a heart murmur does not mean they cannot have their teeth cared for. There are anesthetic drugs today that are safe for cardiac patients. The luxury that veterinary professionals have is that they can tailor their anesthetic protocols for each individual patient depending on their anesthetic risk class and diseases. Many dogs and cats with cardiac disease have gone under anesthesia and have done great. Pets with heart murmurs can't go under anesthesia is a misnomer that is not true. If the right work up is done, the pet is a good candidate, the right anesthetic drugs are used, and your pet is monitored thoroughly a cardiac patient can do well with anesthesia.

Another misnomer is that a pet is too old to have anesthesia. Age is not a disease. Just because a pet is old does not mean it does not deserve the care it needs. If the right work up is done, the pet is a good candidate, the right anesthetic drugs are used, and your pet is monitored thoroughly an older patient can do well with anesthesia.

Cost is a big reason pets don't get dental care. Dental cleanings for pets are not emergency services and therefore can be saved up for. The unfortunate fact is that veterinary professionals cannot always give caretakers an exact dental estimate before the dental cleaning because they won't know what exactly needs to be done until they get into the mouth and do a full oral exam, take full mouth x-rays, probe under the gum line of each tooth and then come up with a more exact estimate. That is why most dental estimates seem low initially but end up much more when the patient is discharged.

Dental disease in pets is a very serious health issue. Pets with

dental disease are in pain. It is a chronic throbbing pain and therefore they will not yelp in pain and they will compensate for the pain by eating on one side of their mouth. Pets won't stop eating until their health is very dire and at this point disease is too far advanced by then. They are very good at hiding pain. Just because a pet is eating does not mean they are not in pain. Pets with bad dental disease are most likely living with bad migraines. Dental disease can affect their other organs including their heart, liver, and kidneys.

There are many ways to help pet's teeth. Brushing pet's teeth is by far the gold standard. However, there are many dental diets that can help to keep the tartar at bay. They are designed so that the whole tooth will sink into the food kibble before it crumbles so it cleans higher up on the tooth. The kibbles are also larger. The more surface area to a food kibble, the more likely it is a pet will chew it. Hill's T/d or Science Diet Oral Care are some diets that are designed like this. There is also a water additive that has the VOHC seal that is designed to help decrease tartar which is called "Healthy Mouth." It comes in different flavors as well. There are wipes, rinses, and gels that can also be used if brushing is too difficult. Using these products should not replace regular dental cleanings, but may help increase the time in between dental cleanings.

Kim Donovan, D.V.M., is the medical director at Oakhurst Veterinary Hospital in Seminole. She has over 21 years of experience. She also is an anesthesia instructor at St. Petersburg College's Veterinary Technician Program.

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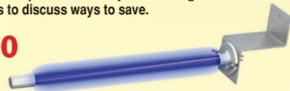
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