

**Fish Tales**  
By Jonie Maschek



Jonie Maschek recommends a three story barge off Clearwater called Fisherman's Paradise that combines fishing with a luxury cruise. **Check it out in Fish Tales on page 7.**

**You, Me & Business**  
By Dana Dittmar



See how SCC Chamber of Commerce's executive director, Dana Dittmar plans to celebrate Labor Day, September 5. Read her column, **You, Me and Business on page 10.**

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September 1, 2011  
Volume 55  
Number 32

# THE OBSERVER NEWS

www.ObserverNews.net



## Cuba Today

■ PART 4 IN A SERIES

## Eating Cuban

■ By MELODY JAMESON  
mj@observernews.net

**O**f all the gastronomic delights Cubans cook up, one of, if not the most, iconic is the Cuban Sandwich.

As a Floridian, growing up in and around Tampa, I have for a lifetime looked forward to with mouthwatering anticipation, enjoyed with unspeakable relish and praised to the very skies the "Cubanos" that are a menu staple in authentic Cuban and Italian eateries. Oh, that crusty, flavorful bread sandwiching the layers of ham and roast pork and sometimes Genoa salami, with the cheese that adds a little bite, accented with juicy pickle and a slash of mustard! I have gone out of my way to find the real thing, have done them pressed and unpressed, have joyfully consumed literally thousands of 'em, silently thanking the native Cubans who began concocting them at least a couple of centuries back.



MELODY JAMESON PHOTO

**Old Havana's residents buy their fruits and vegetables from wooden display counters in an open-air building where there is neither air conditioning nor refrigeration. Cuba is said to import about 80 percent of its food stuffs of all varieties as its agricultural industry has declined radically during the years under communism. The Old City's citizens also do not have access to anything approaching a regional shopping mall although there are some small shops attached to a few gasoline service stations on the outskirts which resemble U.S. convenience stores.**

And, I had to go to Cuba to get the worst Cubano I ever have bitten into in that lifetime. I ordered it at the bar in Nacional, Havana's equally iconic hotel. It arrived old and cold. The bread, while looking like it was cut from a traditional Cuban "rope," was neither crusty on the outside nor chewy on the inside, much less tasty. The roasted pork slices in the filling were so grisly they could not be chewed. The cheese was negligible. All hints of seasoning had evaporated. It was, in a word, horrendous. The best I can say for it is that what I ate of it did not make me ill.

**Breakfast: another story**

Happily, though, that eating experience was an anomaly. Nacional, in fact, lays out the most stupendous breakfast bar any traveler could desire. A large dining room on its "basement" level built against the bluff overlooking the Gulf is devoted daily to multiple cold and warming tables laden with arrays of fresh tropical fruits from the various melons to pineapples, papaya and peaches, to a range of egg dishes from hard boiled to scrambled to spicy casseroles, to baskets of muffins, breads, bagels, biscuits of many descriptions. One chef stands by to prepare on the grill any of the traditional breakfast meats as well as eggs, each order to taste. The juice bar offers not only orange and grapefruit and tomato but also squeezed mango and guava and pineapple, fresh and cold. Of course, there's the selection of hot, rich, strong Cuban coffees.

Different languages mix with the Cuban Spanish, swirling through the room, as hundreds of hotel guests – most of them vacationing tourists clad in shorts, sneakers and sunhats – fuel up for a day of sightseeing in and around the old capital. They may get directions from or questions answered by the generally solemn native wait staff who will clean their tables, change the linen, place fresh utensils for the next wave. They all recognize two different worlds.

**A different world**

For, just a few blocks away in Old Havana, Nacional is as foreign a territory to natives as Montreal or Istanbul or Honolulu. They may know someone who works there, they may pick-up or deliver hotel guests there if they work in transportation, they may even establish a temporary working service relationship with a group of guests. But, for many Habanans, the old hotel's elaborate interior décor, its sparkling exterior pools, and most assuredly its abundant breakfast buffet, might as well be on another continent.

See CUBA TODAY, page 14

## Some find big rewards in dumpster diving

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN  
mitch@observernews.net

**R**on Anderson, retired military and a well-known member of his current profession, was visiting his local grocery store one day last month when he remembered he had to ship a package. On his way out, he took a peek inside the store's dumpster to see if he could find some packing material. Instead, he found something entirely different.

Ron's wife Margie is a retired law enforcement officer and a current professional with a college degree. Ron was worried his wife would not approve of his discovery. He needn't have worried, she was ecstatic.

In peeking into the grocery store dumpster, lying on top of the day's trash were five pounds of organic cherries, five pounds of strawberries, four pounds of packaged tomatoes, two large flat iron steaks with \$15 price tags, several



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

**This dumpster near a South County grocery store isn't as neat as Ron and Margie Anderson prefer to leave the dumpster at their store. Above, bread and soft drink bottles are scattered into the parking lot outside the dumpster.**

cartons of fruit juice and seven packages of turkey kielbasa. All still cold and none past their expiration dates. Ron collected it all up and took it home where they froze the meat, boiled the tomatoes for spaghetti sauce base and washed the fruit. They drank the fruit juice.

Feeling good about his

find, Ron went back the next day at the same time. He found a five-pound bag of potatoes, two frozen Sara Lee coffee cakes, three packages of Toll House peanut butter / chocolate chip cookie dough and a package of rolls.

Since then, the Anderson's  
**See DUMPSTER DIVING, page 12**

## Trends begin to surface as overlay plan meetings continue

■ By PENNY FLETCHER  
penny@observernews.net



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

**Residents go over maps displayed by Hillsborough County planners that show what an overlay of the U.S. 41 corridor on an 8-mile stretch south of Big Bend Road would cover and hopefully accomplish.**

RUSKIN -- The third of seven public meetings to address what should be in a proposed zoning overlay district along U.S. 41 in Ruskin and Apollo Beach dealt with results of on-line surveys and opinions of the committee members who signed up at a meeting in July.

Aug. 25, Jose Fernandez, project manager, and John Healey, county planner, brought survey results and maps showing what other overlay districts in Hillsborough County had accomplished.

An overlay district is a development area that establishes standards over and above the county's zoning regulations.

As was reported in The Observer News and Riverview Current in July, the proposed overlay area consists of an 8-mile north-south stretch of properties bordering U.S. 41 extending from Big Bend Road to the Little Manatee River Bridge in south Ruskin.

"Because U.S. 41 in Ruskin and Apollo  
**See TRENDS, page 6**

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# Coats of many colors soon to be applied to Shell Point Road project

By PENNY FLETCHER  
penny@observernews.net

RUSKIN -- "It takes a village" is the concept Steve and Jill Robins hope will catch on when their new project becomes a reality.

The Ruskin couple has lived in the area since 1995, coming from California by way of Louisville, Ky.

About three months ago they purchased the yellow and white old Florida style wood building just west of Ted's Auto Center which is on the corner of Shell Point Road and U.S. 41.

Although the building looks historic, it has not been designated as such, and has served as a home, an art studio, and most recently a restaurant.

Vacant and badly in need of repairs, for a long time it sat like a lonely spinster waiting for someone's attention.

The Robins plan to give it a lot of attention. In fact, they've already begun.

A new seamless metal Galvalume roof is almost finished and the next step will be outside scraping and painting, Steve Robins said.

Robins plans to make the building and the outside area around it a "village square" type area in Caribbean (some call Key West) style.

"There are lots of different configurations we can do inside, depending on who leases space," he said. "Each business will be a different color outside, so that there may be eight or nine colors."

On a first-come first-served basis, Robins plans to carve out business spaces within the building for retail and professional space.

"For example, there are four or five rooms that were used as a restaurant, which could be used as individual professional offices," he said.

But the idea of having a restaurant is not out. If there is an established restaurant interested in moving there, Robins said he would consider it.

He is also entertaining the idea of a fish market, and plans to move his boat canvas business there as well.

"But I would like to see it as basically general retail and some professional space," he said.

What he does not want is turn-over.

"We're going to put a lot into the general design and configuration so we don't want to see start-ups that go under quickly" he said.

In keeping with the Caribbean style of the outside of the building, Robins plans to have crushed shell for most of the parking, especially where the large palm trees are, and very little asphalt.

He will also replace the large awning and integrate it into the multi-colored scheme.

Robins said he plans to have the outside of the building finished by the end of September so that potential tenants will want to come inside and see how their spaces could be configured.

To find out more about this project or take a look inside, call Robins at 813-943-5333.



Steve and Jill Robins of Apollo Beach bought this "Old Florida style" wood frame building on W. Shell Point Road six months ago and are planning a village-style retail and professional center in and around it. The outside will be painted in several colors, a different one for each incoming business, to give it a true Caribbean/Key West look

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# Observations: Life on a different planet

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN  
mitch@observernews.net



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

**This was not a seaplane nor is that the Hamptons outside the window. While I've been in private planes, I've never hopped a seaplane to the Hamptons. Am I missing something?**

I enjoy weekend mornings spent reading the New York Times. Yes, I know some people are anti-New York and, more specifically, anti-New York Times, but I am neither. I rather enjoy visiting New York City and I've never had a bad experience there (apart from being abandoned by my wife on the top of the Empire State Building in the middle of the night and forced to sit on a street bench with a prostitute — but that's another story). Certainly an argument could be made that the Times is not the newspaper that it once was, but the same could be said of me and a lot of other things in life.

The Sunday New York Times is, to me, remarkable. How anyone could publish such a thick stack of newsprint each week with stories on everything from foreign unrest, to East Village nightlife, to events that happened in Kansas is beyond me. I can't begin to imagine it. And then, magically, it all lands on my driveway during the early morning hours — often with photographs shot only hours before. Despite her flaws, the Gray Lady remains an American institution.

All that said, sometimes I have to wonder if the publishers and some of the reporters actually live on the same planet as me. Several cases in point were in a recent Sunday Styles section. One article from a series was entitled "What I Wore". Normally I wouldn't have read it, but the photo of the attractive woman that accompanied it caught my eye. The woman, at only 35-years-old, owns two nightclubs, one in Montauk on Long Island and another in the SOHO district of Manhattan. Additionally, she is a partner in a Midtown Manhattan nightclub.

In the article, she detailed her activities for the week and the clothing she wore because of those activities. There was an awful lot of "seeing a motivational coach", "hundreds of emails on my Blackberry", "attending movie

premieres", and "wearing a bikini on the beach" but not a lot of plain old work. Somewhere in there, she caught a seaplane from Manhattan to Montauk, but then was forced to return to Manhattan on I-495 a few days later.

First, how many people are hopping on seaplanes? Second, just the clothing and accessories she listed for the week undoubtedly cost what I make in a year. Am I missing something here? Certainly she is a smart and talented young woman, but seriously, how many people are hopping seaplanes at all? I've flown in private planes before but never to swoop out to the Hamptons. My last flight was to inspect hail damage over an Iowa cornfield. Are there really that many people reading the Times thinking, "Oh hey, great idea! Isabel Marant jeans, Madewell white T-shirt and navy blue Soludos espadrilles! The cream Loro Piana sweater is a nice touch, too! Who doesn't get cold on seaplane flights?"

Before I dive further into what must sound like the jealous rant of a closet cross-dresser, I can assure you nothing could be further from the truth on either count. I'm not jealous, I'm curious; and I'm seriously wondering just where I got off the track in such a horrific

way that hopping seaplanes to the Hamptons has been kept out of my life. Furthermore, to the best of my knowledge, I've never worn a dress and do not harbor the secret desire to do so.

On the very same page of "What I Wore" was the jump of a front-page styles section article on how Miami Beach is bucking the trend of Florida's long-running economic nightmare due to an unexpected boom in summer tourism, with many tourists coming from New York and Brazil. The boom is so big that, so far, tourism to the Miami area in August is coming extremely close to the peak months of winter tourism. And these aren't Ma and Pa Kettle from Appleton, Wisconsin tourists — these are people dropping some serious cash.

Most of us have been to Miami Beach and have seen the 16-year-old kids driving around in \$230,000 Porsches. But I had no idea there were enough of them to fill nightclub after nightclub, all catering to upper crust youth. The proprietor of one specialty shop said the desire to spend money was so great that often people would call from the airport, asking if they had the latest \$3,300 purse or other random accessory in stock.

I've known several millionaires in my life — in fact, I recently worked for one (although he would no doubt scoff at the notion of being called a millionaire). I've never known one to be so desperate for a \$3,300 purse that they'd call from the airport in order to ensure they could throw cash down in exchange for it. I've never known one who would even buy a \$3,300 purse. To me, you could pick up a decent used car for that kind of money.

So my question is: Who is paying all these people that much? Surely at least some of them are getting paychecks from companies — awfully big paychecks it seems.

Perhaps the answer to that question can be found in the wedding announcements, which provides further proof that I am on an entirely different planet. I realize that few burger flippers are dropping the coin necessary to even have a wedding announcement in the Times but still, given the sheer number of announcements, you'd think there would be some normal people. Instead, they are often as follows: the bride, 25, is the chief operating officer of (insert the name of a seriously hip, high tech, or Fortune 500 company here) or, perhaps, she is the producer of a television series; the bridegroom, 28, is the manager of a \$27 trillion dollar hedge fund, or, perhaps, a partner in a law firm specializing in something that I had no idea people would actually spend money for a law firm. Both earned their first Nobel Prizes at the age of 21, following in the footsteps of their parents who are CEOs of even bigger companies. Sometimes the mother is a ballerina.

OK, so maybe I am a little jealous. Obviously, all of those people are simply smarter, more talented, more motivated and, possibly, more lucky than I am; but there sure seem to be a lot of them. I have a college degree and I've worked hard (or at least made it appear as such) for most of my life and I think I'm generally honest and polite. I shower regularly, too.

But I'm not hopping a seaplane to the Hamptons. Am I alone in thinking that's just not normal life for the vast majority of people or did I somehow miss out on the line to work for companies offering gigantic paychecks?

I turned the page to see a full-color ad from a real estate company. One house caught my eye — it was a somewhat modest looking place on the beach offering views of either the ocean or the Manhattan skyline from every room. Only 30 minutes from the city (by seaplane, no doubt) it was a "bargain" and "priced to sell" at only \$3.8 million. I think I'll cut the picture out, go to the dollar store to buy a frame, and hang it on my wall. That will be the closest I'll ever come to the place, since it's on a different planet and all.

## Community Foundation of Tampa Bay provides funding for food programs

The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay today announced the awarding of \$7,500 from its Safety Net Fund to Feeding America Tampa Bay.

The grant is to be split between St. Petersburg and Tampa, to provide food for the needy.

"Feeding America is providing a necessary service," says Community Foundation of Tampa Bay President and CEO Dave Fischer. "The agency is feeding hundreds of people in the Bartlett Park area alone. It's a difficult economy with stubbornly high unemployment, and the need is urgent."

The \$7,500 grant will be distributed with \$4,000 from the Community Foundation of Greater St. Petersburg specifically designated to support distributions in Bartlett Park, Feeding America Tampa Bay's largest distribution in St. Petersburg, and \$3,500 from the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay for the Mobile Pantry in Hillsborough County.

**PET TIP:** According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the world's oldest cat, named Crème Puff, was from Texas and lived to be 38 and 3 days. The oldest dog was named Bluey, he was from Australia and lived to be 29 and 5 months.

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# POSITIVE TALK

There is no one who will argue that we are not in a time of drastic change. In the course of one generation, man kind learned to fly and then to walk on the moon. Technology has made things possible for the common man that just a few years ago could only be dreamed of by kings. There is a tremendous emphasis on original thinking. We are told to stretch our minds and to think outside of the circle—the circle being the way we have always responded to certain stimuli or, as it is now referred to, as our paradigm. The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language defines a paradigm (pàr'e-dim', -dím') as "An example that serves as pattern or model." For most of us, this freehand drawing outside of our circle, without pattern or model, can be just a bit scary.

Our society in years past has been guided by what we call traditions. But as New York Times

journalist Russell Baker said, "In America nothing dies easier than tradition." If you are 40 years of age or older, it will be easy for you to list at least 10 traditions from your childhood that are no longer in place today—things like the family having dinner together and two parents who live in the same house with their children. Recently, I held a door for a woman and received a lecture on sexual discrimination before I could explain that my parents taught me if I was the first one to a door, I should hold it open for those following me, regardless of their gender. I will be quick to admit some traditions are not good, and it takes the actions of a Rosa Parks to change them for the better. But what kind of ground do our children have to build on without traditions?

In one Chinese village, tradition was the very ground they built on, or at least the results of tradition improved the foundation. In an area where the ground was soft, this particular village seemed to be built on solid ground. It was also an area of rocky fields and yet the surrounding fields seemed free of stones. A missionary asked a village elder to explain. The elder said that it had been a tradition

that each child who worked in the fields was instructed to bring one stone back to the village each night when returning from the fields. These stones had created the great foundation of the village. In turn, the absence of stones in the fields increased the abundance of the crop. The missionary asked how long he thought the practice would continue and he replied, "For as long as the children are taught not only the tradition, but the reason for the tradition." Maybe that is where we are failing our children and, in turn, our civilization—by not teaching the "why."

T. S. Eliot said of tradition, "It cannot be inherited, and if you want it you must obtain it by great labor." Children cannot be expected to put great labor into following our traditions until we are willing to put great labor into showing them the value of maintaining them. Our children are the product of our efforts, or lack thereof. Traditions can be a steadying hand at the wheel as they face the storms of life. They can act as a compass and even a safe harbor to run to when the gale becomes too fierce. Traditions are rarely if ever passed down to the next generation by adopting a "Do as I say, not as I do," attitude. Traditions are passed down by the show-and-do method. If you don't like what your children are doing, take a look at what you are showing them. What traditions are you passing on to them? Have you given them a steadying hand at the wheel or setting them adrift?

Hodges is a nationally recognized speaker, trainer and syndicated columnist. He also hosts an interview-format television program, *Spotlight on Government*,

on the Tampa Bay Community Network which airs Mondays at 8 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (Bright House channel 950, Verizon channel 30). The shows can also be viewed at [www.hodgesvideos.com](http://www.hodgesvideos.com). Phone: 813-641-0816. Email: [bill@billhodges.com](mailto:bill@billhodges.com) Website: [www.billhodges.com](http://www.billhodges.com)

## CCW Card Party

The Council of Catholic Women of Prince of Peace Catholic Church invites anyone who likes to play cards or board games to make up your own table in advance and come to their monthly Dessert Card Party from noon to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14 in Conesa Center. They furnish cards, pencils and tallies and have an assortment of desserts and table and door prizes.

For more information, call (813) 633-2460.

## Nearly New Shop resumes winter hours

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 3, the Nearly New Shop, located at 1515 SR 674 (Sun City Plaza) – behind the Bon Worth Store, will resume normal business hours and will be back open twice a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 am-12 pm.

Donations can be left in the donation box located outside the store during the week. Arrangements for large items to be dropped off can also be made by calling (813) 642-9099.



### Positive Talk

By William Hodges

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[www.ObserverNews.net](http://www.ObserverNews.net)  
Published Every Thursday  
by M&M Printing Co., Inc. 645-4048

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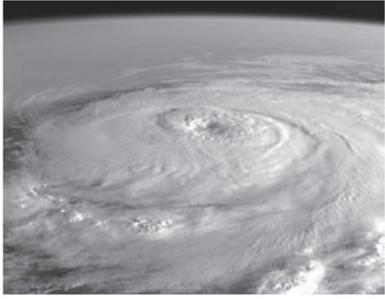


## Be safe, be prepared

You could say we “dodged another bullet” with Hurricane Irene. Hurricane Irene did not hit our area directly but lady luck is likely to run out. Will your home or business be secure should we get a direct hit from a Tropical Storm and/or Hurricane this year?

One way to make sure is have someone inspect your “roof” tiles and determine if they will withstand the effects of a storm. You also want to make sure the entire roof on your home or business does not need to be replaced due to wear and tear over the years. A old roof will leak or may collapse due to the effects of Hurricane or Tropical Storm.

We are only half way through Hurricane Season. The State of Florida is more often threatened by storms that develop in the Gulf and Atlantic during the second half-of the Hurricane season. We can all breathe a sigh of relief in Tampa Bay this time. But as you know the tropics are very active and we all still need to be vigilant until the end of hurricane season on Nov 1.



Tampa Bay Residents have not seen a direct hit from a Hurricane since the 1920's. But we have seen the effects of Hurricanes and Tropical Storms that skirt just past our area. And this is no time to get comfortable. Residents still need to secure their roof, their home/business and have a Hurricane Kit close by. But most Tampa Bay Residents don't take the threat of Tropical Storm or Hurricanes seriously because we have not had a direct hit in such a long time.

A secure roof is piece of mind for the homeowner/business owner that valuables inside and outside will likely be safe should our area see a direct hit from a Tropical Storm or Hurricane this year.

## September is Library Card Sign-up Month

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, and with Hillsborough County's students back in school, the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Libraries want to make sure that all children have one very important school supply – a library card! As a bonus, new Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library card holders will receive a free Sleek Aero ballpoint pen, while supplies last.



Library cards are free for Hillsborough County residents, and getting a library card is easy. Simply visit any public library in Hillsborough County to apply in person, or visit [www.hcplc.org](http://www.hcplc.org) and click on Get a Card for details and to download an application.

Having a library card provides students the resources they need to compete academically. Many public libraries provide students access to databases of news articles, encyclopedias and test preparation materials, as well as homework help and resources. Public libraries are the number one access point for free Internet, an important resource for families without Internet access at home. All Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Libraries offer Internet access and Wi-Fi.

“Today's libraries provide all types of students with the tools they need to succeed,” says Marcee Challener, manager of materials and circulation services. “Libraries provide young readers with exciting and engaging programs that make learning fun. It is for these reasons that now more than ever, a library card is most important school supply of all.”

For more information, visit any branch of Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Libraries, visit [www.hcplc.org](http://www.hcplc.org) or call (813) 273-3652.

## Upcoming special interest classes at your local recreation center

Hillsborough County's Parks, Recreation and Conservation offers Cheerleading, Dance and Self Defense classes at various neighborhood parks.

The following classes are offered in partnership with All American Youth Activities. Registration is \$10, and class cost is \$6 per week, pay-as-you-go.

Classes will be held at the following locations, days and times:

**Gardenville Recreation Center, 6219 Symmes Road in Gibsonton**

Cheerleading, Ages 5 - 8, Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

Cheerleading, Ages 9 and Up, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Dance (Hip Hop and Jazz), Ages 5 - 8, Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Dance (Hip Hop and Jazz), Ages 9 and Up, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

**Riverview Recreation Center, 7807 Capitano St. in Riverview**

Cheerleading, Ages 5 and 6, Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Cheerleading, Ages 7 - 9, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Cheerleading, Ages 10 and Up, Thursdays at 8 p.m.

### Class Descriptions

**Cheerleading** - This course is designed for making friends while learning the fundamentals of cheerleading. Choreographed pom-pom and dance routines will be taught along with jumps, stunts and other skills required for school tryouts.

**Dance** - Come learn elements of hip hop and modern jazz. Previous dance experience is not necessary. These classes improve movement, coordination, rhythm, timing, and teamwork. Classes are taught in a fun, relaxed, musical atmosphere and will help prepare students for future dance interests.

**Self Defense** - This course is designed for self-defense purposes only. Emphasis is placed on self-defense, communication and the appropriate use of skills practiced in class. Classes are taught by certified black belt instructors.

For a list of other Special Interest Classes offered through the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation visit click on the link or visit <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/parks/recreation/allspecialinterestclasses.cfm>

For more information and registration on classes offered in partnership with All American Youth Activities, call (813) 885-AAYA (2292).



Liberty Manor enjoyed a canoe adventure on the Alafia River on Aug. 16. Pictured are: Army Bronze Star metalist, Paul Rivas; Dan Garza - Army Ranger/CEO Operation Enduring Gratitude and CEO Liberty Manor - Connie Blaney.

## Liberty Manor committed to homeless veterans

Liberty Manor is a non-profit organization committed to promoting the development and social needs of veterans who have served our country, fought for our independence, but fallen victim to homelessness. Anyone interested in donating to this meritorious initiative is encouraged to contact Army veteran, Jeff Luddeke (813) 352-7856.

## Annual teenage battle of the bands accepting registration

What: 14th Annual Teenage Battle of the Bands

When: Saturday, Oct. 15 from Noon - 11 p.m.

Where: Hillsborough County Fair, 4810 E. State Road 60 in Dover

Registration: \$50 Entry Fee per Band by Oct. 7

The 14th Annual Teenage Battle of the Bands, hosted by the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, will be held Saturday, Oct. 15. The event is scheduled from noon – 11 p.m. at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds, 4810 E. State Road 60 in Dover, five miles east of Brandon at the intersection of Sidney-Washer Road and Highway 60.

Bands can apply now for the competition that provides free studio time to the top two winners. The entry fee is \$50 dollars per band and members must be between 13 and 20 years of age. Only one band member can be age 20. Styx of Fire was the winner of Battle of the Bands last year.

Contact Joe Soletti, Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, for registration information at (813) 376-5778.

## County fair seeks harvest awards nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the Greater Hillsborough County Fair's annual Harvest Awards to be presented Tuesday, October 11 at the County Fairgrounds. Deadline for nominations is Thursday, September 15.

The purpose of the awards is to “recognize individuals, organizations, corporations and other entities that have made significant or outstanding contributions to the fabric of Hillsborough County,” says Ken Anderson, president of the fair.

Anderson said nominations also may be made for those representing industrial, commercial, educational, moral, governmental and economical segments of the community.

Nomination categories are as follows:

- Farm Family of the Year
- Urban Agriculturalist of the Year
- Outstanding Public & Community Service
- Agribusiness of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award



Nominations can be submitted through US Mail to: Hillsborough County Fair, P.O. Box 100, Sydney, FL 33587 or on the website: [www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com](http://www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com). Tickets to the 5:30-8:30 pm event are \$20 and are available on the website.

For more information, contact: 813-737-3247 or George Parker at: [george@farmandranchnews.com](mailto:george@farmandranchnews.com), Josh Burgin at: [josh.burgin@gmail.com](mailto:josh.burgin@gmail.com), or Kathy Curry at: [katcurry@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:katcurry@tampabay.rr.com), [www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com](http://www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com)

## New meeting place for Weight Watchers

Weight Watchers is opening a new meeting. Join them every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. and learn about the new PointsPlus Plan.

It's located at the new Center in the Shoppes at Southbay (Sweet-Bay plaza) 10629 Big Bend Rd., Riverview. Free registration! For more information call 672-0902.

## Dates and locations for ACT and SAT exams listed

Eligible students from any school in Hillsborough County can register to take the exams at any of the listed locations, regardless of the school they attend.

Students can register online for the ACT at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org), or call 1-319-337-1270. SAT registration is available online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com), or by calling 1-866-756-7346. Registration is \$49 for the SAT. Registration for the ACT is \$49.50 or \$34 without the writing exam. Late registration for the ACT is an additional \$21, and an additional \$26 for the SAT.

**Brandon:** 10/1, deadline 9/9; 10/22 deadline 9/16; 11/5, deadline 10/7; 12/3, deadline 11/06; 12/10, deadline 9/16

**Lennard:** 10/1, deadline 9/9; 10/22, deadline 9/16; 11/5, deadline 10/7; 12/3, deadline 11/8; 12/10, deadline 11/4

**Riverview:** 12/3, deadline 11/08; 12/10, deadline 11/04

## Calling all former Marines and FMFs

The next meeting of the Riverview Detachment of the Marine Corps League will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 6, at American Legion Post#148, 7240 U.S. Hwy 301 S., Riverview.

This active detachment would like to invite all area Marines and FMF Corpsmen to attend this meeting and learn what they are all about.

For more information call Dennis Antle at 813-835-0551 or visit the web site at [www.mclriverview.org](http://www.mclriverview.org).



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# County school board redistricting now underway

■ By MELODY JAMESON  
mj@observernews.net

Working toward conformation of Hillsborough County's school board districts for the decade ahead, authorities now are wrapping up citizen meetings and preparing to evaluate resident input.

Propelled by 2010 U.S. Census population figures and the resulting requirements for representative area redistricting on county, state and national levels based on population changes, the county school system staff has conducted public meetings at high schools around the county during August. The county administration

completed its redistricting processes in early July. The state currently is engaged in public sessions regarding redistricting up and down the peninsula.

Hillsborough's seven-member elected school board includes five district seats held by the members elected from each of the five districts. The South County region at present is represented by Candy Olson from District 2 – the area including Gibsonton, Ruskin and Little Manatee South as well as the retirement communities of Sun City Center and Kings Point. District 2 also covers South Tampa. Stacy White represents District 4, a geographically large district

which in the South County region encompasses Balm, Riverview, Wimauma, and Sundance, as well as the age-restricted community of Valencia Lakes. District 4 also includes Plant City and northeast Hillsborough. Currently, the dividing line between the two districts in the South County is U.S. Highway 301.

However, that dividing line could be altered – in one instance radically – if either of two of the three potential district re-alignments were to be implemented.

At its citizen sessions, school system staff has presented three options – Alternatives A, B and C – which meet mandated criteria

related to conforming the districts consistent with population shifts. Those criteria include creating districts which evenly distribute the population to be served, are as compact as possible and which do not dilute the electorate in a minority district to the extent a minority representative could not be elected. From the school system perspective, District 5 encompassing east, central and north Tampa is the minority district.

Alternative A would push Olson's future District 2 in a wide swath eastward beyond U.S. 301 into White's current District 4, taking in a substantial portion of north Wimauma, Balm and large parts of eastern Riverview along Boyette Road. Parts of Plant City would remain in White's District 4, but the area north and east would join District 3.

Alternative B would create a much more compact District 4 by excluding most of Plant City and the northeast section of the county, populations which then would be added to District 3. In the South County, both Districts 2 and 4 would be unchanged.

Similarly, Alternative C again would alter District 4 in the northeast part of the county, but have much less effect on the South County region, only adding a small portion of eastern Riverview to District 2.

Lorraine Duffy-Suarez, the school system's general manager for growth and planning, emphasized that redistricting is based on new population statistics provided by the decennial census, not on district size. The objective, she added, is equal distribution of the population in the system's five districts, and modifications "do not change which schools students attend". Reapportionment within the districts also does not alter bus stops or transportation to any particular school, she said.

Population in each of the five districts, if any of the three alternatives were implemented, would be in the 235,000 to 255,000 range.

Unlike county administration re-alignments which then require district commissioners to run for re-election, county school board members do not seek election again until their current terms expire.

Citizens interested in the school board redistricting can view the three color-coded maps outlining the possible alternatives online by accessing <http://redistricting.mysdhc.org>. Public comment also can be forwarded through this website.

The county school board is scheduled to meet for a workshop on the subject at 10 AM, Tuesday, September 13. Public comment is not taken during workshops.

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## Trends *(continued from page 1)*

Beach are so completely different, with the Apollo Beach area more like a corridor, and Ruskin a main street, they should be treated separately," Fernandez said.

Although there is still plenty of time for property owners and other interested residents to make suggestions and give input on the plan some basic trends have already come forth during the first meetings and on-line survey.

The survey was available from July 19 to Aug. 22 and was answered by 61 people. The graph passed out at the meeting shows that most people identified themselves as residents and not as those who owned property bordering the highway.

"We mailed out more than 400 notices to property owners before the original Open House held in May when we began this process," said Healey. "But just a handful show up."

This is the time to show your preference, he advised. Things that showed high interest in both the surveys and meetings concerning Apollo Beach were landscaping, buffers and setbacks, fencing, open storage, building location and design, and signs.

Photographs of Brandon's State Road 60 before and after an overlay was put into place were shown as an example of how these things can be improved using an overlay.

In Ruskin, there was more interest in the "uniqueness" of buildings, both in preservation of old buildings and style and design of any new ones built.

Preservation of Old Florida Style was high on the Ruskin list, but as Michael Peterson pointed out, "What that means to one person is not what it means to another."

While St. Augustine, Arcadia and Key West all are known for "Old Florida Style" architecture, they're all completely different," Healey said.

Since there is already a Downtown Committee working on a plan for Ruskin, and there is also a Historic Resource Committee, there is a danger if we do not get some clarity, Peterson stated.

Healey pointed out that these things would be addressed as the plan moves forward.

"Right now, we are just trying to get the issues down that we want to address," said Fernandez. "We will be taking on those issues at a later time."

The next meeting, which will take place at the South Shore Library on Sept. 29 at 6 p.m., will address "visual preferences" that came out of the survey and previous meetings.

Then recommendations will be dealt with at a public meeting Oct. 25, preceding another Open House Nov. 15 (all at 6 p.m. at the library unless changed later) after which the language of the overlay will be drafted, Fernandez said.

Then there will be a final public meeting before the overlay plan is sent to be voted on by County Commissioners.

Fernandez explained that a lot of things people were asking to be addressed cannot be addressed in an overlay. And others cannot be addressed by anyone other than staff at the Florida Department of Transportation because U.S. 41 is a state road, governed by FDOT.

Anyone can join in the planning process by attending the next meeting.

Meanwhile, all details, plans and meeting highlights are available on the Web at <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/zoning/cpiongoing/us41.cfm>.

# FISH TALES

## Check out the 'Fisherman's Paradise' barge

How many times have you heard that we live in an area that is 'A Fisherman's Paradise?'

There is now a three-story barge off the coast of Clearwater called 'Fisherman's Paradise.' This is not an ordinary barge -- well it was six years ago. According to the spokesperson Ryan Nelson, this barge has become a top rated hotel for the fisherman. It not only has high class rooms, a swimming pool, a gym, and all the luxury that one would have on a top cruise ship, but it is parked where the fishing is the best.

You can anchor your boat, eat the finest of food in a beautiful dining room, spend a while at the bar, and sleep in a first class room. The next morning you can fish from the barge. The barge has around 40 rooms, and I'm sure there will be those in line waiting for a night or two aboard this beautiful barge.

This barge will keep moving to strategic spots, where the best

fishing is. What a great idea. I'll bet many of you will be spending a night in this barge hotel.

Anglers this week are seeing red. Redfish will be in schools in our waterways, now through the next few months. They are in the bay as far south as the Skyway bridge, as well as both the Little Manatee and the Alafia Rivers. You may catch one per person per day from 18 inches or more than 27 inches.

Trout are still schooling around the mouth of the Little Manatee River in the deeper grassy flats. A few have left the pack and are around the piers. I have seen a lot of trout catches this week. I was told that some catches were made in spotted turtle grass.

Night anglers have reported many catch and release snook. This is a fish that has had a closed season ever since we had a freeze, which killed many of them. Snook season has been closed for a

season or two, with all recreational anglers telling me that there are many of them out there and they can't understand why we still have a closed season.

Now there is increased protection for permit, Florida Pompano, and African Pompano. I have been getting calls. They have two special management areas. South Florida is south of Cape Florida on the Atlantic coast. North of Cape Florida, and Cape Sable make up the other zone.

African Pompano is 24" in fork length and two only per person per day. Florida pompano is 11" in fork length and six per day. Permit 22" in fork length May 1 to July 31. State and Federal waters hook and line only. Outside SPZ (special permit zone) 11" not more 22" and two per day -- no closed season.

Those fishing between the rain have had good catches this week.

Fishing in the early morning has been the best bet, before the afternoon showers.

Sheepshead have again this week been a good catch. This is a lean



**Fish Tales**  
By Jonie Maschek

## Free boat safety inspections

Every Saturday the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary - Flotilla 75 [Ruskin] provides free, no-obligation vessel safety inspections for recreational boaters.

These safety inspections take about 15 minutes and are available from 10am until noon at Simmons Park [Ruskin] on the first and third Saturday of the month and at Williams Park [Gibson] on the second and fourth Saturday, also from 10am to noon.

For information call 813-645-6984.

## Cancer Concerns Group meets

Join the Cancer Concerns Group at the United Community Church, 1501 La Jolla Avenue on Friday, Sept. 9 at 1 p.m. Registered Dietitian Shirley Allen from South Bay Hospital will advise about dining out, in the local restaurants and the latest information about nutrition.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors. There will be information about health maintenance through nutrition that is valuable to you as a survivor, caregiver and general knowledge. There is no charge or reservations. For further information, please contact facilitator Hazel Martin at (813)642-9020.



white meat fish which is great for those watching their diet.

Silver trout have graced many tables this past week.

Flounder is also a lean fish and many have been lucky with great catches of some larger than usual size.

Spanish mackerel are making anglers happy this week with many anglers reeling in enough to grace their dinner tables.

Freshwater anglers are enjoying catfish fried with hushpuppies and cheese grits.

Largemouth bass are hungry and will take most any bait as they await your line and a shrimp in the upper waters of the Little Manatee and Alafia Rivers.

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*Aleta Jonie Maschek is a member of Florida Outdoor Press.*

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1'Brien PE, Dixon JB. Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding in the Treatment of Morbid Obesity. Arch Surg. 2003; 138: 376-382.

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## Goodwill donors receive free admission to the Florida Aquarium

Goodwill and The Florida Aquarium are teaming up with an offer for fall.

During September, each person who drops off clothing or household items at any Goodwill-Suncoast donation site will receive a coupon good for one free admission to The Florida Aquarium with each paid adult admission (up to three free tickets). The coupons are redeemable until Oct. 31.

That's a savings of up to \$65.85, just for getting rid of unwanted clutter.

Donations to Goodwill are especially needed in September, since donations typically drop off after school starts.

The partnership between Goodwill and The Florida Aquarium is a natural, since the two nonprofit organizations are linked by their mutual commitment to the environment, which is impacted every time someone discards an item that will end up in a landfill instead of being "repurposed" by Goodwill.

## Liberty Manor sponsors free BBQ

Free BBQ on Sept. 16 from noon-2pm at Liberty Manor for Veterans, Inc., 10015 N. 9th Street, Tampa

Attend this fabulous event that boasts BBQ, pork, brisket, chicken, HB and hotdogs with all the trimmings. Good food, music and games. This is a great way to kick off the weekend!

Liberty Manor is a non-profit organization committed to promoting the developmental and social needs of veterans who have served our country, fought for our independence, but fallen victim to homelessness.

For more information contact Connie Blaney 813-900-9422 LibertyForVets@aol.com



## FishHawk Ranch Schools Top the Honor Roll

Florida Department of Education gives community schools "A" ranking. All of the elementary and middle schools located in the FishHawk Ranch community have received "A" grades from the Florida Department of Education. FishHawk Creek Elementary School, Bevis Elementary School, Stowers Elementary School, Barrington Middle School, and Randall Middle School all received the state's highest grade ranking.

In addition, Bevis Elementary's individual score was also tied for first among all Hillsborough County and Florida schools. These rankings reinforce the advantages FishHawk Ranch offers children and families in the community.

"Education is a cornerstone to a successful, thriving community," said Rick Harcrow, senior vice president of operations for Newland Communities. "Many of the schools surrounding FishHawk Ranch have received straight 'A's for nearly a decade."

According to the Florida Department of Education, grades are calculated by determining annual learning gains of each student toward achievement of Sunshine State Standards, meeting proficiency standards and reviewing the progress of the lowest quartile of students. High School grades are expected to be released in September.

## C.A.R.E. Pets of the Week



### Cat - Callie

Callie is an adorable calico kitten that is just waiting to be brought to a forever home. She is very playful and has shown every volunteer her love of racing after cat toys, especially balls with bells, and slamming on the brake pads before coming to a screeching halt across the room. Whew! What fun. Come in and see this little racer and give her a loving forever home. Callie has been spayed and brought up-to-date on her shots as well as micro chipped. Micro-chip # 067-634-068

DOB: 06/02/2011

C.A.R.E. is open 10 AM to 3 PM on Tuesday - Saturday. For directions visit [www.CareShelter.org](http://www.CareShelter.org) or call 813-645-2273.

### Dog - Cindy

Cindy is a darling Terrier/Boxer mix who fell out of the back of a truck and was left lying on the road injured. A caring person stopped traffic and rescued her. After some much needed TLC, Cindy bounced right back. Cindy is a wonderful gal who has a loving personality. She will lift your spirits up and make you laugh. Not only does she thrive on human contact but she seems to like the other dogs too. Cindy has been spayed, microchipped, and brought current on her shots.

DOB: July 2, 2010.



## RUSKIN Moose Lodge #813 UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                   |                                    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| September         |                                    |
| Friday, Sept 2    | 7-11PM Tony John                   |
| Saturday, Sept 3  | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Sept 9    | 7-11PM Taylor and Taylor           |
| Saturday, Sept 10 | 5-7PM Women of the Moose Dinner    |
| Saturday, Sept 11 | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Sept 16   | 7-11PM Ella and JT                 |
| Saturday, Sept 17 | 5-7PM Steak Dinner                 |
| Saturday, Sept 18 | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Sept 23   | 7-11PM Tone Benders                |
| Saturday, Sept 24 | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Sept 30   | 7-11PM Calvin O                    |
| October           |                                    |
| Saturday, Oct. 1  | Breast Cancer Walk                 |
| Saturday, Oct. 1  | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Sunday, Oct. 2    | Octoberfest                        |
| Friday, Oct. 7    | 7-11PM Double Barrell              |
| Saturday, Oct. 8  | 5-7 PM Christmas in October Dinner |
| Saturday, Oct. 8  | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Oct. 14   | 7-11PM Bert and Sassie             |
| Saturday, Oct. 15 | 5-7PM Steak Dinner                 |
| Saturday, Oct 15  | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Oct. 21   | 7-11PM Top Shelf                   |
| Saturday, Oct. 22 | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |
| Friday, Oc. 28    | 7-11PM Southern Tide               |
| Saturday, Oct 29  | 7-11PM Karaoke with Kim            |

- No spaghetti til Oct. 5  
 Every Thursday - Wings from 5-7PM  
 Every Friday Fried, beer batter or Baked Fish 5-7PM  
 Live Music 7-11PM  
 Every Saturday - Karaoke with Kim Mullins 7-11PM  
 Horseshoes

Ruskin Moose Lodge #813, 1212 East Shell Point Road, Ruskin  
 Phone 813-645-5919 • [lodge813.mooselodge.org](http://lodge813.mooselodge.org)  
 All activities opened to qualified members and guest

## Labor Day Hours for Mary & Martha House

The Rose Boutique and the Thrift Store at the Mary & Martha House will be closed Saturday, Sept. 3. The Administrative office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5 for the Labor Day holiday.

Both stores will resume their regular store hours of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturday from 8 - noon. The boutique opens at 9 a.m.

The Mary & Martha House Inc. is a shelter for women and children in crisis, and supports emergency shelter as well as transitional housing in South Hillsborough County.

For more information on volunteering or to make a donation call 645-7874.



## HCC SouthShore campus enrollment hits record levels

Fall Enrollment has set a new record at HCC SouthShore, growing by nearly four percent. Enrollment has doubled since the campus opened in 2008. For the new academic year, more than 6,500 students are expected to attend classes on the campus. To meet the needs of a student body, the campus has added a Student Center, Financial Aid Processing Center, Fountain Patio, and Student Activities Pavilion. Beginning in September, the campus will be offering classes in the adjacent buildings of Lennard High School.

## Crested caracara shot; mate missing

The crested caracara is a state and federally protected bird of prey. A pair of the rare birds have been living and breeding undisturbed for the last four years in the Myakka City area - until now. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are conducting a joint investigation and looking for information about the shooting of the male caracara and its missing mate.

On Aug. 12, a concerned citizen called the nonprofit Save Our Seabirds in Sarasota to report that one of the caracaras had been shot. Lee Fox, a permitted wildlife rehabilitator and owner of Save Our Seabirds, retrieved the wounded bird and contacted the FWC to report the incident.

The male caracara is recovering well, but rehabilitators say the broken wing bones sustained as a result

of the shooting make its release back into the wild and reunion with its monogamous mate impossible. The pair had successfully nested near Myakka City for the past four seasons.

The female caracara, identifiable by her double leg bands, was part of a study conducted by Dr. James Dwyer from Virginia Tech.

Caracaras are listed federally as a threatened species. The colorful birds are common to Central and South America, but in the United States they occur only in open prairie areas of central and southern Florida and parts of Texas and Arizona. Caracaras eat carrion and



crested caracara

small vertebrates. The caracara is the national bird of Mexico.

Anyone having information about the shooting of the caracara is urged to call the Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922. Those reporting violations to Wildlife Alert may remain anonymous and be eligible for a reward if their call leads to an arrest.

For more information about the Wildlife Alert program, visit [MyFWC.com/WildlifeAlert](http://MyFWC.com/WildlifeAlert).

## Downsizing solutions

Dear Savvy Senior,

What tips can you recommend to help seniors with downsizing? I have been thinking about moving to a retirement community, but in order to move I need to get rid of a lot of my stuff. I have a four bedroom house as well as an attic and basement that are full. Any tips would be appreciated.



### The Savvy Senior

By Jim Miller

Overwhelmed Senior

Dear Overwhelmed,

The process of weeding through a house full of stuff and parting with old possessions can be difficult and overwhelming for many seniors. Most people in your situation start the downsizing process by giving their unused possessions to their kids or grandkids, which you can do up to \$13,000 per person per year before you're required to file a federal gift tax return, using IRS Form 709. Beyond that, here are a few extra tips and services that may help you.

#### Downsizing for Dollars

Selling your stuff is one way you can downsize and pad your pocketbook at the same time. If you're willing, have the time and access to the Internet, online selling at sites like Craigslist and eBay is the best way to make top dollar. Craigslist.org is a huge classified ads site that lets you sell your stuff for free. And eBay.com lets you conduct your own online auction for a small list-

ing fee, and if it sells, 9 percent of the sale price, up to \$100. Or, if you don't want to do the selling yourself you can get help from an eBay trading assistant who will do everything for you. They typically charge between 33 and 40 percent of the selling price. Go to ebaytradingassistant.com to search for trading assistants in your area.

Some other popular selling options are consignment shops, garage sales and estate sales. Consignment shops are good for selling old clothing, household furnishings and decorative items. You typically get half of the final sale price. Garage sales are another option, or you could hire an estate sale company to come in and sell your items. Some companies will even pick up your stuff and sell them at their own location – they usually take around 50 percent of the profits.

#### Donate It

If you itemize on your tax returns, donating your belongings is another way to downsize and get a tax deduction. Goodwill (goodwill.org, 800-741-0186) and the Salvation Army (satruck.org, 800-728-7825) are two big charitable organizations that will come to your house and pick up your donations. If your deduction exceeds \$500, you'll need to file Form 8283, "Noncash Charitable Contributions." You'll also need a receipt from the organization for every batch of items you donate. And be sure you keep an itemized list of donated items. See IRS Publication 526 (www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p526.pdf) for more information.

#### Disposal Services

If you have a lot of junk you want to get rid of, contact your municipal trash service to see if they provide bulk curbside pickup services. Or, depending on where you live, you could hire a company like 1-800-Got-Junk (1800gotjunk.com, 800-468-5865) or Junk-King (junk-king.com, 800-995-5865) to come in and haul it off for a moderate fee. Another good option is Bagster by Waste Management (thebagster.com, 877-789-2247). With this service, you buy the bag (it measures 8 feet by 4 feet by 2.5 feet) at your local home-improvement store like Lowes or Home Depot for around \$30. Fill it to a limit of 3,300 pounds and schedule a pickup which costs between \$80 up to \$205 depending on your location.

#### Get Help

You can also hire a professional "senior move manager" to do the entire job for you. These are organizers who will sort through your stuff and arrange for the disposal through an estate sale, donations or consignment. Costs for these services usually range between \$1,000 and \$5,000. See nasmm.com or call 877-606-2766 to search for a senior move manager in your area. Or, you can hire a professional organizer through the National Association of Professional Organizers at napo.net.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

## Saturation Point by Karey Burek

### The Screw Pine

Contrary to the name, the screw pine tree is actually not a pine tree at all but a member of the palm family. I first came upon this species of flora on the beautiful island of Bermuda while roaming the grounds of a water side resort. We stopped to take a photograph in a shady spot and realized we were standing under a giant tree that was as tall as it was wide. The root system immediately caught my eye because it was rooted in several places, making it ideal for climbing. However, I contained my urge to climb through the branches and instead photographed a funny looking bulb that was hanging from several of the limbs.

Although the bulb may be identified as a "fruit" these items are

very fibrous but edible; the meat of the bulb can be cooked or eaten raw. They do look closely related to the pineapple because of the indentations on the bulb, and are sometimes used in exotic flower displays to give the arrangement texture. Originating from Madagascar, this tropical tree can be found all over in warm environments. This plant craves full sun and can survive in all different types of soil, making it a robust species. They are not recommended for use in traditional landscaping because the leaves fall at will and are messy, and they seed very easily. However, the fiber from the leaves have been used for weaving because of its strength and can be used for clothing or even sails.



Make plans now to attend Labor Day weekend!

## GOSPEL CONCERT sponsored by FGMA

Friday, Sept. 2 | Saturday, Sept. 3 | Sunday, Sept. 4  
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## Adult Program/Event Highlights

**September 1 to 7**

**"A Call To All Adult Artists"**

for the John Crawford Art Education Studio  
**Thursday, September 1 • All Day**

The John Crawford Advisory Board is looking for artists (painting or drawing) to display their work in the Crawford Studio. Applications are available for juried shows during the months of May/June; or September/October; or November/December 2012. Please pick up an application at the Information Desk at SouthShore Regional Library. Applications are due October 15, 2011. Questions? Contact Laurie Burhop at 273-3652.

**Word: Introduction, Front and Page Formatting\***  
**Thursday, September 1 • 12:15 to 2:30 p.m.**

Learn to create, save, print, and edit documents. Discover the basics of font formatting, changing font type, size and color and page setup, margins, paper orientation. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended. Registration is available one hour prior to the beginning of the program.

**Art Night At Your Library!\***

**Thursday, September 1 • 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.**

Please join the John Crawford Art Education Studio welcoming over fifteen art instructors and their work comprising of painting, drawing and weaving in the Studio. Light refreshments provided. Some art instructors will be teaching classes immediately following the reception from 6:30 to 7:30pm.

**Great Books Discussion Group\***  
**Saturday, September 3 • 10 a.m.**

Come join a moderated discussion of George Eliot's classic work, *The Mill on the Floss*.

**Monday, Sept. 5 • All HCPLC Libraries Closed for Labor Day eBooks and eReaders\***

**Tuesday, Sept. 6 • 6 to 7 p.m.**

Want to read eBooks? Don't fret, help is on the way! Demonstration of the Overdrive Media Console and Adobe Digital Editions; learn how to check out & download eBooks to your PC or eReader. Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the start of the program. Presenter: Tampa Bay Library Consortium.

**SouthShore Needle People\***

**Wednesday, Sept. 7 • 6:30 p.m.**

Join other needle people to share techniques, tips and experiences about knitting and other fiber and fabric crafts. Beginners are welcome! Bring a project and ask us questions!

*\*Free event is provided by the*

*Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library*

# You, Me and Business

By: Dana Dittmar, Executive Director



This weekend is traditionally referred to as the "last hurrah" of summer. It's a three-day weekend



**You, Me & Business**  
 By Dana Dittmar

most of us want to spend hosting a cookout in the backyard or heading for the beach, umbrella and cooler in hand. We dream of taking a book to the hammock or cooling off in a movie theater watching "Cowboys and Aliens" with a tub of buttered popcorn and some Jujubees.

After all, this is Labor Day. First observed in 1882 in Boston, this day became a federal holiday in 1894 following the deaths of several workers at the hands of the US military during the Pullman Strike. President Grover Cleveland thought reconciling with the labor parties would ensure him a re-election. It didn't. But it gave us a great end-of-summer long weekend!

Originally, there were street parades to show the people the "strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations." This was followed by a festival for the workers and their families.

Politicians made speeches, especially in election years. And women were told they could no longer wear white until spring.

When scandal and corruption hit the labor unions and they searched high and low for Jimmy Hoffa's body, we saw less and less of the power demonstrations and more and more of the backyard barbeques. We also saw less and less of the praise for and celebration of the working class. In the evolution of the holiday, we seem to have forgotten the significance of the day.

Ironically, most of us end up spending our three-day respite from work doing...work! We mob the Home Depots and gardening stores and spend the long weekend painting living rooms and planting palm trees. As much as I would like to sleep in and work crossword puzzles on Saturday, I'll be helping office manager Kristy get moved into her new home. On Sunday, I'll be unpacking some more boxes at my "new" condo, painting a couple more walls and hanging the new headboard in the bedroom.

This is not what the founders of Labor Day had in mind.

So this year, I vow to observe Monday, the actual Labor Day, the way it should be observed: by doing absolutely NO WORK. No taking the trash out, no making the beds, no laundry, no balancing the checkbook. Monday I will honor the working folks and remember what this hard-fought day is really all about.

I will sleep in, read my growing stack of magazines, send a few emails to family out of state, watch whatever TiVo recorded and go out for a nice dinner. In other words, I will have a real day off! I encourage you to do the same.

## Alzheimer Support Group to meet

The Samaritan Services Alzheimer Support Group will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 7 at 2 pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church. The speaker will be Maria Lazzaro, from the Ruskin Adult Day Care Services speaking on their services.

For more information call the office at 634-9283 or Doris at 634-3489.



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- Only pay the prorated fee for the remainder of the 2011 year
- Join by September 1, fee will be \$1,000\* for a single and \$1,336\* for a couple
- Join by October 1, fee will be \$750\* for a single and \$1,003 for a couple
- Single membership includes a social membership for a person living in the same household

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Please call **Gary Adcock, Director of Membership** to discuss at **(813) 944-2020** or **www.caloosagolf.com**

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# Dumpster diving *(continued from page 1)*

Since then, the Anderson's grocery bill has declined significantly. The one thing they have spent money on, however, is a new freezer purchased from Craigslist. They needed it to store what they see as perfectly good food, but what their local grocery store sees as trash.

In less than two weeks, the new freezer has been filled with everything from London Broil steaks to frozen chickens and packaged pork and beef ribs. The haul has been so large that they've become picky in taking only the better cuts of meat and the leanest hamburger. On one day alone, they left behind 20 pounds of still-frozen 80 percent lean hamburger, choosing to only take the hamburger that was 97 percent lean. They also left behind more than a dozen packages of hotdogs, all still cold.

"Something new surprises us each day," Margie said of their discovery. "At first it was the immense wastefulness. Think about it. It took time and money and effort for farmers to raise the livestock. It costs money to butcher animals. It cost money to package meat and deliver [it] to stores and stock the shelves. And then it gets dumped."

Ron and Margie Anderson are not what anyone would consider run-of-the-mill dumpster divers. In fact, they aren't even diving into a dumpster, they are merely taking the products from the top — products that are still cold and haven't been contaminated by other trash. They are educated, professional and well known in their community. While they are appalled by the wastefulness of what they are seeing, they are also thankful for the abundance they've

been given. They are trying to come up with a way to share what they have reclaimed with others, at least those who may be willing to eat food that was once considered trash.

"We want to just be quiet and discreet and behind the scenes," Margie said. "We're not looking to become activists and confront grocery stores on their wastefulness or join other dumpster diver groups; we just want to quietly do our part to share our abundance."

Ron and Margie have shared their story on the condition that their real names are not used, nor should the city they live in be identified, nor should their grocery store be named. It is, however, part of a national chain of grocery stores.

"We have our own code [of honor]," Margie said. "We don't leave a mess, and if there is a mess, we clean it up. We close the dumpster door. We only take what we eat and can use. And we set stuff aside for easy reach for the homeless people that live in the woods — there are several micro-communities that we know about."

Except for construction sites primarily, there are typically no laws against climbing into a dumpster, apart from, possibly, trespassing. Even that, however, is somewhat murky as trash may be considered abandoned property. It is no different than the trashcan you leave for pickup in your driveway. By and large, law enforcement agencies don't need to obtain a search warrant to go through your trash, even though it is your trashcan, sitting on your boulevard.

Grocery stores have every right to request that people stay out of



Two photos that reveal the extent of the food Ron and Margie Anderson have reclaimed from the dumpster of a large grocery store. All of the food was still cold and none of it was past the expiration date.

their dumpsters. In the absence of a "No Trespassing" sign, however, that may require an employee to make the request. Upon reading Internet message boards dedicated to dumpster diving, most of those

who do it say that law enforcement officers will at most ask a person to leave. For a variety of reasons, from the potential liability should someone get injured by a dumpster, to someone getting

sick from eating discarded food, to simply losing a few customers, grocery stores are not fond of the practice and some have taken steps to eliminate it. Several South County grocery stores have also taken steps to eliminate the waste involved.

Publix Super Markets use a trash compacting system rather than dumpsters. Trash compactors are always closed and secured unless they are being emptied. According to Shannon Patten of Publix, secured and locked compactors are in use at 95 percent of their stores, including all South Hillsborough stores. Publix has also taken steps to address wasting food that simply may no longer meet their standards as products for sale.

"As far as our products that have reached (or are near) their expiration date, we have partnerships with the local food banks and donate many of our perishable items to those in need within our communities," Patten said. "Last year, Publix began a partnership with Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity. As the economy slowed over the last few years, donations to food banks also slowed just when the need was greatest. After assessing the situation, many food banks began to consider other strategies for how they could increase donations. Feeding America, and its affiliated food banks, realized they could increase what they offer to the hungry by transporting and storing refrigerated food. Instead of disposing of certain items, like luncheon meats, cheese, ground beef, dairy items, and produce that have reached their sell-by dates, Publix can now donate them to certain food banks."

See DUMPSTER DIVING, page 15



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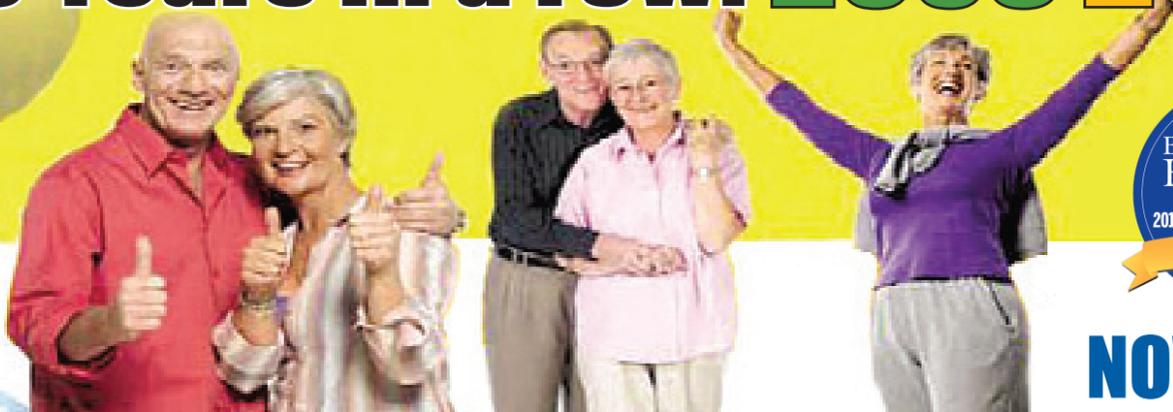
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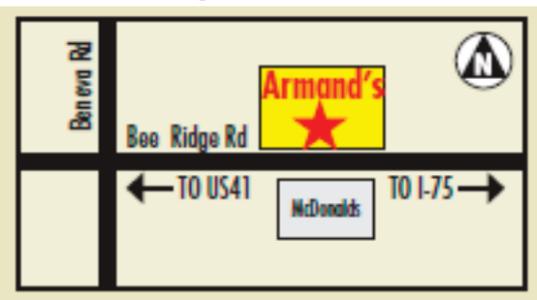
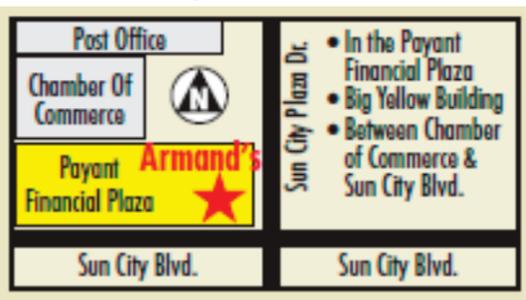
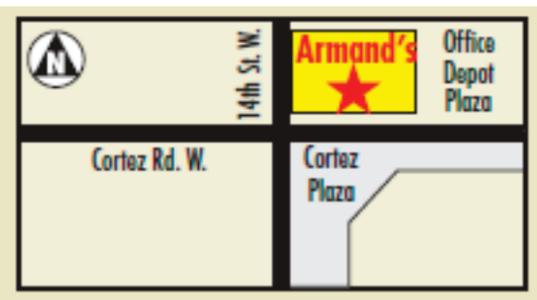
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# Cuba Today *(continued from page 1)*

Those natives get their food stuffs in local 'markets,' buildings designated for the purpose where butchered cuts of meats -- lamb, port, chicken -- are stacked on wooden counters. There is no refrigeration. But then, too, there is no additional charge for the extra black fly protein provided by the swarms hovering over the meat.

In fact, smart flies can vary their diet by zipping into a neighboring building where fruits and vegetables are similarly arrayed, again without any cooling mechanisms.

Of course, for a thrifty American living in the old city, what this market arrangement lacks in environmental sanitation might be balanced by the economical

budget. An entire leg of lamb, for instance, probably could be had for considerably less than the price of a three-pound beef sirloin at Publix. But, then the problem for the inner city dweller might be what to do with it at home without adequate refrigeration or cooking appliances.

### Agriculture crippled

Cuba's agricultural production under communism seems to have been strangled. The island nation now imports about 80 percent of its food, some of it from the U.S. under specific trade agreements. Rural roadways outside Havana disclose no herds of grazing cattle on the rolling grasslands. Few horses are seen outside the city. No hog pens are in sight. Only occasionally a few chickens are spotted. Ex-patriots complain that poor farming management under Castro's communism depleted the vigor of the land, wearing it out for useful crop production.

Perhaps this is among the reasons tour groups of diners visiting restaurants both in and outside the city often are served the same meal repeatedly. Another may be that it is more economical in terms of time, money, ingredients and personnel to prepare large quantities of the same dishes in the government-owned and operated restaurant kitchens. Still another may be that the meal apparently is considered classically Cuban.

### Eating Cuban

Regardless of the motivations, when part of a group taken to be tourists, I was served the very same four courses with little option for variation day after day, in both public dining rooms and private homes. The meal began with a glass of a soft red wine -- a real Sangria in one instance -- or, upon diner insistence, cerveza in a can (cold Cuban beer) or cold bottled water. This was followed by a small salad of shredded lettuce,



Historic "Nacional's" lobby, resplendent with polished tiles in Moorish designs, lacquered, dark woods and uniformed waiting concierges, hosts hundreds of visiting tourists every day, but it is foreign territory for many of Old Havana's citizens who have never in their lifetimes crossed its thresholds.

possibly with a little shredded carrot added, and a piece or two of anemic tomato. The third course became substantial with mounds of fluffy white rice and thick black bean soup to the side of a roasted, fried or grilled meat entre -- usually pork, sometimes chicken -- and perhaps even a little fried plantain. The meal then was finished with really sweet, creamy and cold ice creams in varied fruit flavors and, naturally, a cup of strong Cuban coffee.

Filling and not unpleasant, the meal essentially was the same whether at El Aljibe in Miramar or at Divina Pastora across the channel near Havana's famed fort in the El Morro Castle or at La Ferminia in the upscale Flores neighborhood.

None of these, of course, are frequented by Habanans living in

the old city. While Fidel Castro reportedly has dined with his party at La Ferminia situated in a restored colonial mansion, his countrymen by the thousands know the dining venues so popular on tour itineraries by name only. Nor, I suspect, do natives in the old city have any firsthand experience with most of the menu items.

My most delectable, more varied meals beyond Nacional's breakfast, though, I enjoyed with native Cubans who steered me to their haunts in the old city, ordering for me from menus detailed solely in Cuban. I did not think about the open meat market although, ultimately, I may have eaten from its counters. I know I would have found none of it on my own.

© 2011 Melody Jameson  
Next: There's more to Cuba than Havana



If meat is on the menu in the households of Old Havana's residents, they probably will have bought it from this open market building in the Old City. Located near a fruits and vegetables market building for almost-one-stop-shopping convenience, the meat counter usually offers lamb, pork and sometimes chicken, piled on paper or cardboard and displayed without benefit of any cooling mechanisms. The per-pound prices, however, probably would delight any American supermarket shopper.

### South County League of Women Voters to meet

Members of the South County League of Women Voters unit will meet at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3, in the computer room at the SouthShore Regional Library on 19th Avenue at Beth Shields Blvd.

League unit membership is open to both women and men who are interested in encouraging public education about government. Visitors at unit meetings are welcome.

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The Observer News

## CARRIER OF THE WEEK



Patricia Scheffler is new at *The Observer News*. She delivers to retailers in the Summerfield and Big Bend area. She is retired and has two sons. What stamina!! She does the job before the stores close on publication day. Patricia is turning out to be a real treasure...we couldn't do it without her. Our gratitude for her hard work!

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## Dumpster diving

(continued from page 12)

Patten went on to say that due to Publix safety standards, not all perishable food is eligible for donation, but the partnerships they have with food banks have greatly increased the amount of food that is donated.

Sweetbay Supermarkets also have corporate policies regarding both dumpster diving and donating food.

"Dumpster diving at our stores is prohibited," said Nicole LeBeau Gavin of Sweetbay. "As far as our food donations, we work exclusively with Feeding America and its affiliates because of its food safety standards in regards to salvaged food. We have an entire policy regarding salvaged food donations which food pantries must follow."

Like Publix, many Sweetbay stores, including the MiraBay location, use trash compacting systems.

The corporation that owns the store that Ron and Margie visit states that they are committed to donating both food and money to various food banks and world hunger organizations. It is unknown if the food they are finding in the dumpster is deemed outside the realm of a donation program or if that specific store is stepping outside of corporate policy in discarding food that can no longer be on the shelves.

But for Ron and Margie Anderson, they are simply reclaiming what would otherwise have gone to waste. And they have noticed that other people are coming by, including one man in a pickup truck, to join in the bounty. In one day alone, they took home seven whole chickens and two slabs of pork ribs, all still cold and none past their expiration dates. The value from that one day based on the price tags? \$75. They rinse everything they bring home in bleach water and repackage much of it for freezing. The total value of the food their grocery store considered trash is well into the hundreds of dollars.

"This has totally changed our lives," Margie said. "We're now looking into buying a canning system and learning how to can meat."

And they continue to be surprised by what they find.

"Another big surprise is how much better we're eating because of this," Margie continued. "Normally we wouldn't feel as though we could afford organic cherries but we pulled out five pounds of them. We've had bananas, lopes, radishes, portabella mushrooms, bags of red potatoes, onions, and an imported gourmet block of cheese!"

In this case, one person's trash is most certainly another's treasure.

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S

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**Prison volunteers present awards**

SCC prison volunteers Sharon Klassey and Nancy Williams, far left, presented certificates to the lady inmates of Hillsborough Correctional Institution who were in their "Fruit of the Spirit" class. This class utilized singing, original art, creative writing, drama and dance to share about love, joy, peace and the other spiritual "fruit." The presentation was given to inmates, volunteers and administrative staff. On hand for the performance was Chaplain Rex Henry, far right. Previously trained mentors will meet with Chaplain Henry from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17 for updated training and regulations. The coordinator for this training is Sharon Whiddon, volunteer chaplain at the prison and chairman of Prince of Peace Prison Ministry in SCC. For more information, call Sharon at 385-5492.



**Six new members welcomed at Redeemer Lutheran Church**

New members in the front row are: Helen Schwartz, Arthella Fritz, Sandra Manin, Rachel Spotts. Pictured in the back row are: Harold and Peggy Fisher (sponsors), Martin Schwartz (new member), Ron Fritz (new member), Ruth Lehnrs, Marie Schick, Jean Simonsen and Martin Lehnrs(sponsors) and Pastor Stiller. The Redeemer Lutheran Church is located on the corner of SR 674 and Valley Forge. Church Services are Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion is held on the first and third weekends. Bible Study is at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

**70 Members lose over 3500 pounds**

It was one year ago, August 1, 2010, that Dr. Warren Langer and his wife Karen decided to do something about their weight. They never expected the real impact would be Optimal Health.

By October 30 Dr. Langer had lost 65 pounds and Karen had lost 45. Dr. Langer's waist shrunk from 48" to 35". And both of them were able to reduce their dependency on their weight related prescriptions.

As Senior Pastor of Sun City Center United Methodist Church, people in his congregation were amazed by the transformation and asked how they could achieve the same results. As many clients often do, Dr. Langer became a coach for Take Shape for Life to pay what he learned forward. Nine months later he has helped over 70 members lose over 3500 pounds. More importantly because of their weight loss his clients were able to reduce their dependency on 98 weight related prescriptions.

When asked, Dr. Langer said the most rewarding part of helping clients create health in their lives was the personal perspective they had about themselves during the journey. His clients had a whole new self-confidence and pride. One of his clients had refused to leave her home because she was embarrassed how heavy she had become. Now it is hard to find her at home. The ultimate reward for a health coach is knowing the work you are doing is helping someone feel good about themselves for the very first time in their lives.

According to Dr. Langer Take

Shape for Life is not a diet program but a program that empowers others to understand and take control of their health. While most "diets" focus on weight loss, their focus is creating long term sustainable health. In addition, "diets" are designed to fix bodies. Take Shape For Life has the nutritional program to achieve significant weight loss, clients lose up to 2 to 5 lbs per week results may vary, but it also has a structured program to fix the most important part of long term success; the mind. When you spend many years living with an unhealthy mind, you must learn to think as a healthy person. The best part is you have a FREE Health Coach who has been through the process and will support and guide you through the entire journey to Optimal Health.

Through his example, twelve of his clients have been so moved they have stepped up to help fight the epidemic of obesity our country faces. He said he never imagined a year ago that his ministry would have such a positive effect on so many people. Not only has he helped improve the quality of life for so many people in the Sun City Center area, but through referrals he has helped his client's friends and family members get healthy in four different states. For additional information you can go to www.tsfl.com. Or, if you would like to have Dr Langer, or one of his local health coaches, support you, he can be contacted at 813-846-5844. His personal Take Shape For Life website is www.Icansucceed.TSFL.com.

**Love gospel music?**

The Florida Gospel Music Association Annual Convention will be held Labor Day weekend, Sept. 2-4 at the Wimauma Convention Center. The schedule is Friday, 7 pm; Saturday, 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 6 p.m.

Artists attending include: The Pickerings, The Vanderveens, The Accords, Pure Heart, The Reflections and many more.

For more information call 407-788-6556 or go to the web site www.fgma.org .

**Voice of the Faithful resumes**

The Tampa Bay Affiliate of Voice of the Faithful (9 Years), ending summer vacation, will resume meetings on Monday, October 10, 2011 at 1:30-3:30, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 16550 South U.S. Hwy 301, Wimauma.

Featured will be report and analysis on American Catholic Council Conference in Detroit attended by 2,000 people. All interested people are welcome, bring a friend. Free. For information, 634-9904 or larry\_v Vaughan@comcast.com .



Toby Isaacson

**Labor of Love is lesson topic**

Labors of Love will be presented by inspirational speaker and licensed Unity teacher candidate, Toby Isaacson at 10:30 am, Sept. 4, 2011, at Unity in Brandon's morning worship service.

In celebration of our nation's Labor Day holiday, let's recall how this holiday came into existence, how we live out this special day, and how we live out our "ordinary" days, as well. You'll find a whole new meaning to the idea of "Labor Day." Come hear how each of us can see this day or any day as "A Day Off," or "A Day On!"

Unity in Brandon is located at 129 N. Moon Ave., Brandon. For more information go to the web site www.unityinbrandon.org or call 813-263-6155.



**Thank You**

My everlasting thanks to all that helped my wife, Pat Fleming, during her battle with cancer.

To LifePath hospice, I am eternally in debt. Thank you nurse Judy, Sarah McGill and hospice volunteers.

A very and heartfelt thank you to Concepcion (Connie) Behren NA, who made Pats last days easier and more comfortable. Your love showed through tender for Pat. The love showed Pat by our neighbors, Margaret Osborne, Maxie Haney, Betty Eppich, Tom and Mary Mallak and Olive Daugherty can never be measured in this world.

God Bless you all,  
Phil Fleming

**Gospel concert**

Northgate Baptist Church at 1301 W. Linebaugh Ave. in Tampa will be hosting a Three Plus One anniversary concert on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 7 p.m. There will be additional performances by King's Messengers Quartet Reunion and Gospel Truth Quartet.

For more information call 813-988-6923 or 933-6741.

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 Telephone: 813-634-1292 • Website: sccredeemer.org  
 Worship Services on Sunday 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.  
 Holy Communion First & Third Sunday • Bible Class Thursday 10 a.m., Guests Welcome

**Friendship Baptist Church** WEEKLY SERVICES:  
**Rance Good, Pastor** (Southern Baptist)  
 1511 El Rancho Dr.  
 Sun City Center, FL 33573  
 Phone/Fax: 813-633-5950  
 Sunday 9 a.m. .... Bible Study  
 11 a.m. .... Bible Study  
 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. .... Worship  
 Wednesday 6 p.m. .... Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

**Ruskin United Methodist Church**  
 First Street & 4th Ave. NW, Ruskin (behind Suntrust Bank)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND WORSHIP WITH US:**  
**SUNDAY MORNINGS:** Nov. - April..... 8:30 a.m. Day Care Available  
 Rev. Richard Nussel and All Year..... 10:45 a.m. Mon. - Fri.  
 Phone: 645-1241 Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m. 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
 call 645-6198

**St. John the Divine Episcopal Church**  
 Growing by Faith from Generation to Generation  
**Rev. Tracy H. Wilder • Church Office: 813-645-1521**  
 Sunday Services: 9:00 a.m. - Contemporary Service and Sunday School  
 at West Campus (S.R. 674 and 9th Street SE, Ruskin)  
 8:00 a.m. - Traditional Service and 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion with Choir at  
 East Campus (1015 Del Webb Blvd., Sun City Center)  
 ALL WORSHIP SERVICES WITH HOLY COMMUNION AND HEALING HOLY OIL

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Sunday Worship: Blended 8:00 a.m.  
 Contemporary 9:40 a.m.  
 Traditional 11:15 a.m.  
 Nursery Provided  
**Pastor Jack R. Palzer**  
 5309 U.S. Highway 41 North • Apollo Beach  
 (across from MiraBay) www.calvarylutheranchurch.net 645-1305

**Southside Baptist Church**  
**"A Warm, Loving & Friendly Church"**  
 Looking for a church home?  
 Need the comfort of a warm and loving family?  
 Join us on Sunday to come home to the warmth of our church family.  
 Located in South Hillsborough County, just south of Stephens Road in old Sun City.  
**4208 U.S. Hwy. 41 S • Sun City, FL 33586 • 813-645-4085**  
 "Getting to Know You" (Donuts & Coffee) .....9:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Morning Worship .....10:55 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Evening Service .....7:00 p.m.  
 Thursday Morning Prayer.....10:00 a.m.  
**Dan Collis, Pastor**  
 Come join us to learn about God's Word and salvation in Jesus Christ

**The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center**  
 1210 Del Webb Blvd West • 634-2539  
 http://www.sccumc.com  
**Come Belong Grow Serve**  
 The United Methodist Church  
 Sun City, FL 33586  
**Worship Services**  
 Saturday 4:00 PM Creason Hall (Casual Service)  
 Sunday 8:15 AM Sanctuary (Communion Service)  
 9:15 AM Creason Hall (Oasis Contemporary)  
 10:55 AM Sanctuary (Traditional with Choir & Bells)  
**Pages of Life** PASTOR: DR. WARREN LANGER  
 Bookstore 633-8595 PASTOR: DR. DANIEL WHITE

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 of RUSKIN, FL  
**820 COLLEGE AVE. W.**  
**RUSKIN, FL 33570**  
**645-6439**  
 www.fbcruskin.org  
 A Resource for Families  
 Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship.....8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
 Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Night Service.....7:00 p.m.  
 Awana .....7:00 p.m.  
**Dr. Barry Rumsey**  
**CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
**K-2**  
**THROUGH 12TH GRADE**

## Area Places of Worship

### Prince of Peace Catholic Church

702 Valley Forge Blvd., SCC, FL 33573  
Phone: 634-2328 • Fax: 633-6670  
www.popcc.org



**Masses:**  
Sunday..... 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon  
Saturday Vigil ..... 4:00 p.m.  
Daily..... 8:00 a.m.  
**Confessions:**  
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. and Sat. 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

### NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

"Loving God, Loving Others,  
Serving Beyond Borders"

Sunday School (all ages)..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship .... 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday (all ages) ..... 6:30 p.m.



Dr. Samuel (Sam) A. Roach, Pastor

1301 U.S. Hwy. 41 N., Ruskin, FL • 645-1121 • www.nbc.org

### First Baptist Church of Gibsonton

"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Traditional Worship Service  
Old-Time Gospel Hymns  
Nursery Available  
\* Interpreter for the Deaf

\*Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
\*Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M.  
Mid-Week (Wed.) 7:00 P.M.

9912 Indiana St. • Hwy 41 & Estelle Avenue  
Gibson, FL 33534

Malcolm S. Clements, Pastor  
813-677-1301

3059 042408

### UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ United Church of Christ

1501 La Jolla AVE, Sun City Center, FL 33573-5329

A Caring Church United in God's Love Serving Our Community  
All Are Welcome!



Rev. Dr. Michael F. Evans ~ Worship Service ~ 10 AM  
(813) 634-1304 ~ www.uccinscc.org



### Unity COMMUNITY OF JOY

Spirituality Rather Than "Religion"

Henry Gibson Social Hall, Beth Israel Synagogue  
1115 Del Webb E. • Sun City Center, FL

Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.  
813-298-7745

www.unitycommunityofjoy.com

### THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

INVITES YOU TO THE SERVICES NOW WORSHIPPING IN THE "CHAPEL"

AT SUN CITY CENTER FUNERAL HOME 10:30 AM ON SUNDAYS  
**NO CREED...BUT CHRIST**  
**NO BOOK...BUT THE BIBLE**

1851 RICKENBACKER DRIVE • 813-938-4955  
Minister - DR. DAVID CAMPBELL

### First Church of Christ, Scientist

204 2nd St. N.W. • Ruskin, FL 33570

Christian Science Heals

Sunday Service..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Service..... 5:00 p.m.  
Reading Room.....Wed. 4-4:45 p.m. • Sat. 1-4 p.m.

All Are Welcome



### St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.

Casual Service 11:00 a.m.

Prayers with anointing for healing and wholeness during worship the second Sunday of every month.

Pastor: Dr. Mark E. Salmon

Meet friends in Fellowship Hall after the Service.  
Refreshments served.

1239 Del Webb Blvd. West  
Sun City Center, FL 33573  
Church is Handicap accessible

Phone: 813-634-1252  
For information visit:  
www.standrewatssc.org

### Saint Anne Catholic Church



Fr. John McEvoy  
Pastor

813-645-1714  
SaintAnneRuskin.org

U.S. Hwy. 41 • 106 11th Ave. NE • Ruskin  
SouthShore: Apollo Beach, Ruskin, Sun City and S. Gibsonton

MASSES

Vigil Mass Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Mass.....8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Contemporary)  
Daily .....Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Holy Days ..... Contact Parish Office for Schedule  
Español ..... Domingo - 12:30 p.m.; Jueves 7:30 p.m.  
Confession..... Wednesday 6:45 p.m.; Saturday 3:45 p.m.

## Obituaries

### Roger Martin

Roger Martin, 67, formerly of Ruskin, FL, passed away at Gulfside Regional Hospice in Zephyrhills on Monday, August 22, 2011 after losing his battle with cancer. Roger was born April 23, 1944 in Marion, VA where he lived until joining the Navy, where he served for 4 years.

Roger then lived in Massachusetts until moving to Florida in 1978 where he continued construction work before becoming a prototype craftsman for Wellcraft.

Roger is survived by his 5 children; Kim Wong of Bradenton; Kerri Myers of Mt. Airy, NC; Roger, Jr of Modesto, CA; Karen Yeatman of Odessa; and Tammy Bird of Westminster, CO as well as 15 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by 2 sisters, Peggy McKinnon of Marion, VA and Wanda Thomas of Kernersville, NC.

Due to Roger donating his body to cancer research, there will be no immediate services. Upon return of his remains, a memorial will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2011 at the Chula Vista Clubhouse; Chula Vista Landings off Gulf City Road, Ruskin, FL from 11am – 2pm.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to Gulfside Regional Hospice, 5760 Dean Dairy Rd, Zephyrhills, FL 33542.

### Alejandro Martinez

Alejandro Martinez known as Alex was born in Goliad, Texas on April 12, 1940. He died on August 20, 2011.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria; two daughters, Sandy Valencia and Loretta Ruiz; one grandson, Miguel Angel Ruiz; four sisters, Eva Serrno, Maria Elna Delgado, Christina Maldono, Paula Hernandez; and four brothers, Guadalupe, Adam, Juan and Santo Martinez and many nephews and nieces.



 **BETH ISRAEL** The Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center, 1115 Del Webb Blvd. E. Sun City Center (813)634-2590  
SHABBAT SERVICES FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM  
TORAH STUDY SATURDAY AT 12 NOON  
MORNING SERVICES 2ND AND 4TH SATURDAY 10AM  
RABBI: PHILIP ARONSON - CANTOR: DR. SAM ISAAK  
ALL ARE WELCOME

  
**Come and experience the power of Jesus to change your life.**  
Sunday @ 9 & 11 AM • Servicio en Español @ 6 PM  
[www.aplace4everyone.org](http://www.aplace4everyone.org)  
2322 11th Ave. SE • Ruskin, FL • 813.645.3337

**Basic Traditional Burial \$2,500** includes 20-gauge steel casket  
DIRECT CREMATION \$925  
*Zipperer's Funeral Home*  
1520 33rd Street SE • Ruskin, FL 33570  
813-645-6130  
[www.zipperersfuneralhome.com](http://www.zipperersfuneralhome.com)  
Only onsite Crematory in South Hillsborough County  
Family owned and operated since 1979  




### One Good Samaritan helps another

Becca Butner, (center) youth liturgist for NCWS (Nondenominational Christian Worship Services) is shown presenting checks totaling \$2112 to Theresa and Rev. Bill Cruz, Executive Directors of the Good Samaritan Mission. The donations were from the love offerings for July. Rev. Cruz said, "We would like to thank NCWS for their tender loving kindness toward our ministry, toward what we do, and for believing in us." Becca said, "It's a real blessing to assist my grandparents and to see the impact the all volunteer itinerate ministry is making on the community." For more information regarding NCWS, call Jim Butner at 634-3114.

### Saint Anne Remembers

The Saint Anne Council #7210 of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a special Mass on Sunday, Sep. 11, to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of 9/11 by celebrating the memory of all those who passed away and honoring all our heroes. Participating will be local Military, Veterans, Fire Fighters, Law Enforcement, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. The Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. followed by a short ceremony in the courtyard to dedicate the new Saint Anne Catholic Church flagpole. The activities will conclude with a brunch in the Saint Joachim Hall.

All past and current military, law enforcement, fire department, and other first responder members are encouraged to attend in uniform. The Memorial Service will take place at Saint Anne Church, Route 41, Ruskin.



### Woman's Bible study

A women's interdenominational Bible study is held each Monday, 9:30-11a.m. in Creason Hall, United Methodist Church in Sun City Center, 1210 W Del Webb Blvd.

This is an in-depth study, music, prayer and fellowship.

For more information, call 813-633-9083.

 **SEEDS FROM THE SOWER**  
Michael A. Guido, D.D.  
Metter, Georgia

When Marino Marini was a young man, he fashioned in bronze the first in a series of a man on a horse. The rider appears happy and hopeful.

But as Marini grew older, the riders appear less confident and less cheerful.

Reflecting on the changes, the artist said, "If you look at my statues of the last 12 years, you'll notice that the feeling of panic increased. In every figure, I tried to express a deepening sense of enslavement by uncontrollable forces."

But God wants you to trust, not tremble; to be victors, not victims. "He makes us victorious through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Visit us at: [www.TheSower.com](http://www.TheSower.com)

## Good things come in small packages

*A little known but proven device will pay for itself quickly.*

Jack Tichenor, Manatee County Extension Agent

Are you interested in virtually eliminating overwatering your lawn after a rain event while improving the health and appearance of your lawn? How about the possibility of cutting your water bill, conserving resources, and reducing water pollution as well? There is a very good thing that comes in a small box at a very affordable cost that can make this happen at your residence or business. It is a rain

This is all time-based information – day of the week, turn on at a certain time and off so many minutes later, etc. Unfortunately, the basic time clock has no way of knowing if the lawn really needs water, if it's raining, or if the season has changed to winter when less water is needed. It turns on the sprinklers regardless of real world conditions. That's why you may see sprinklers going a day or so after a heavy rain. What a waste!



Rain Sensor Irrigation Shut off Switch

Florida law since 1991.

For a detailed rain sensor switch brochure visit the webpage: [http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/lawn\\_and\\_garden/water\\_wise/index.shtml](http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/lawn_and_garden/water_wise/index.shtml) then look under "Fact Sheets & Publications," or call or stop by for a free copy.

Manatee County Agriculture & Extension Service, 1303 17th Street W, Palmetto, FL 34221. (941)722-4524

## Accessory fashion show to be presented

South Shore Christian Women's Connection presents an Accessory Fashion Show from the Heart's Desire Store by Vicki Rollo. Their inspirational speaker, Shirley Solid, is a clothesline junkie who has found peace in the spin cycle of life. The presentation and luncheon will be held at Club Renaissance, 2121 South Pebble Beach Blvd. on Thursday Sept. 8. Doors open at 11 a.m., luncheon and program 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Reservations or cancellations before noon Monday, Sept. 5. Cost \$17.00 inclusive.

All ladies are welcome, no membership required. Call 813-938-4320 or 813-383-7540 or email [aunt.butler@gmail.com](mailto:aunt.butler@gmail.com).

## Camp Bayou sponsors photo contest

Camp Bayou is again sponsoring a photo contest this year. The following rules apply to all entries:

- Open to all ages.
- All photos must have been taken at Camp Bayou.
- Previous Camp Bayou winning photos are ineligible.
- There is no fee to enter; photos are not returnable and become the property of Camp Bayou.
- Entries are due by Nov. 5. Winners will be announced at the end of year event, "A Natural Education Weekend."
- The photos need to be matted, unframed, 8" x 10" black and white or color photo, either glossy or matte.

Information must be securely affixed to the back and must include:

name, address, phone number and/or email address, approximate location where taken, date taken.

Entries may be brought to Camp Bayou during regular operating hours, Thursday- Saturday, 9am-2pm or mailed to:

Camp Bayou Photo Contest, P.O. Box 549

Ruskin, FL 33575-0549.

Questions? Contact Jeri at [campbayou@gmail.com](mailto:campbayou@gmail.com)

Camp Bayou is neither a campground nor a summer camp. It was an RV park before the County's ELAP program purchased the land but it is now open for day use only to the general public. Through volunteers, donations, membership and grants, the RCDF offers pre-scheduled programs to schools, youth groups, adult groups and families plus it's open from Thursday- Saturday from 9am-2pm for passive recreational pursuits such as wildlife watching, nature photography and trail walks. General admission is still free.

The Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center is a public-private partnership between the non-profit Ruskin Community Development Foundation, Inc. (RCDF) and Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation. Camp Bayou is located 3 miles south of SR 674 at the end of 24th St SE in Ruskin. More information is on the web at <http://www.campbayou.org> or call 813-641-8545.



sensor shut off switch. A rain sensor shut off switch is an automatic irrigation control "accessory" that prevents a sprinkler system from operating after an adequate rainfall.

Automatic lawn sprinkler systems are controlled by an irrigation "time clock" that faithfully turns the sprinklers on and off according to how it is programmed.

Independent university research has shown up to a 31 percent drop in overall irrigation water use if a rain sensor is used. It will pay for itself after just a few skipped irrigation events plus your lawn will be healthier. Do-it-yourselfers can install one for about \$30 or irrigation contractors will do the job for around \$100 or so. This will deliver the most water saving potential for your buck. Additionally, customers of Manatee County Utilities may be eligible for a 100% rebate up to \$125 of their documented cost for installing a sensor. Having a functional rain sensor switch on automatic irrigation systems has also been a

**Bead Connection IS NOW OPEN!**  
*We have been closed for 3 weeks due to a death in the family.*

**SEPTEMBER SPECIAL**  
**Buy 2 Strands of Beads, Get a 3rd FREE!**

Large Supply of  
**BEADS • TOOLS • SWAROVSKI CRYSTALS**

**VILLAGE SHOPPES FLEA MARKET**  
**431 19th Street NE • Ruskin, FL 33570**  
**(813) 293-2442**

Booth open Fri., Sat. & Sun. • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Join us for... **CLASSES** in

- Silversmithing Jewelry Making (Cold Connections)
- Wire Wrap Jewelry

Call or stop by for details

**SUMMER SAVINGS**

**Riverside Golf**

**FOURSOME SPECIAL \$50** 4 Golfers Exp. 9/30/11

**\$23** ..... before noon  
**\$20** ..... after noon  
**\$18** ..... after 2 pm

**\$10<sup>00</sup> OFF Any Round**

Includes 18 holes and cart. Tax Included.  
 Valid only with this coupon. Exp. 9/30/11

**Golf Lessons \$20** | **LEAGUES WELCOME**  
 Reserve your tee time today

**Riverside Bar & Grille**  
 Casual Waterfront Dining  
 Steaks, Seafood, Burgers and Other Delicious Fare  
 FULL LIQUOR BAR  
 Live Music Every Thursday and Saturday  
**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
 Tuesday-Saturday 11-8 pm  
 Sunday 11-3 pm  
[www.RiversideBarAndGrille.com](http://www.RiversideBarAndGrille.com)

Visit our New, Improved PRO SHOP **813.645.2000** 1 Pier Drive, Ruskin

**How we can help you help yourself.... for as little as 2 hours to 24/7**

Some of our many services include, but not limited to:

- Personal Grooming
- Meal Preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Medication Set-ups and Reminders
- Alzheimer Assistance
- Companions
- Grocery Shopping
- Private Duty In-Home or Facility
- Doctors Appointments
- Injections
- Transportation For All Your Needs
- Emergency Room Assistance

**Hanson Services, Inc.**  
 has been located in Sun City Center for 11+ years and is only a phone call away

Call **634-6617**

We accept most long-term care insurance policies.  
 References upon request.  
 Bonded • Licensed • Insured

All caregivers are background screened. **You DO have choices.**

FREE in-home and private consultation to see how we can help you with your needs to be comfortable in your home. Lic #30211040

  
 Georgana Collins, ADM

**LOOSE DENTURES?**

Learn About The Amazing

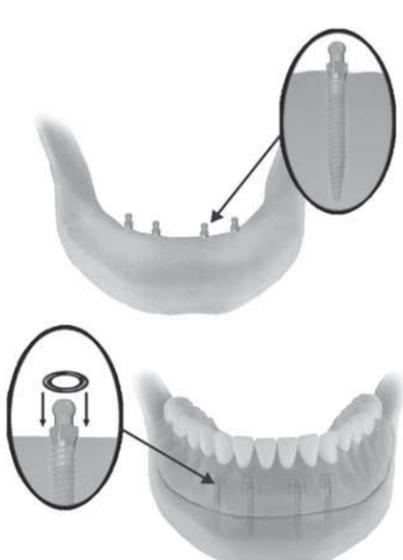
**MINI DENTAL IMPLANT SYSTEM**

This is a one-step dental procedure that involves minimally invasive surgery, no sutures, nor the typical months of healing.

**FREE SEMINAR**  
 "The Amazing Mini-Implant System"  
**Friday, September 16 • 1 p.m.**  
 at the office of  
 Zamikoff, Klement, Jungman & Varga  
 703 Del Webb Blvd. West, Suite B  
 Sun City Center, FL

**SEATING IS LIMITED, PLEASE CALL FOR RESERVATIONS**  
**813-634-3396**

LIC# 6193  
 LIC# 9109  
 LIC# 11099  
 LIC# 15328







To place an ad call  
**813.645.3111 ext. 201**  
 Fax: 813.645.1792  
**\$17.00**  
 up to 20 words  
 30¢ addl. word  
 Deadline is Monday  
 at 4pm

# THE SHOPPER

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

M & M Printing Co., Inc  
 weekly publisher of the  
 The Observer News, The SCC Observer and The Riverview Current  
 210 Woodland Estates Ave., SW  
 Ruskin, Florida 33570

The Observer News  
 will be closed Monday,  
 Sept. 5 in observance of  
 Labor Day. Deadline for  
 classified line ads will  
 move to Friday, Sept. 2  
 at 4pm. for the  
 Sept. 8th edition

### ANNOUNCEMENTS 100

#### 115 LOST & FOUND

Found brown & white male dog, Saturday 9/20 in vicinity of Gulf City Rd., Ruskin. Call 941-713-5344 to identify

### FARMER'S MKT 200

#### 260 FRUITS/VEG.

Read the entire newspaper online including the classifieds by going to [Observernews.net](http://Observernews.net). Community news & advertising 24/7 is only 1 click away.

### MERCHANDISE 300

#### 310 GARAGE/YARD SALE

Almost New Thrift Store. 10008 Indiana St., Gibsonton (1 block off US 41, 1 block north Gibsonton Dr.) Wednesday thru Saturday, 9am-3pm. Clothing, furniture, lots misc. Ministry First Baptist Gibsonton. 813-671-0036 to donate

Garage sale. 8am-2pm. Saturday, Sept. 3. US-41 to 11th Ave. to Mira Lago, left on York Dale, first right to 1707, 1709, 1711 Bonita Bluff Court.

Multi family garage sale. Friday/ Saturday. Sept. 2 & 3. 1107 Ventana Dr., off Cypress Village Blvd., Stuff for everyone.

Large multi family garage sale. 11818 Lark Song Loop, Summerfield Crossing. Saturday, Sept. 3, 8am-noon

**Calvary's Angel Attic**  
 Thrift Store  
**Wednesday, Friday & Saturday**  
**9 a.m. - Noon**  
**End of Summer Sale Swimsuit SALE!**  
**Buy 1 Get 2 FREE**  
 Also 'Secret Sale'  
 1424 E. College Ave. • Ruskin  
**813-641-7790**  
 Ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church

Classified Is Convenient

#### 312 ESTATE SALES

**DENNEY'S ESTATE SALES**  
  
**"The Price is Right!"**  
 • Licensed •  
[www.denneysestatesales.com](http://www.denneysestatesales.com)  
**(813) 477-1793**

**NETTIE'S ESTATE SALES**  
  
**741-0225**  
 Cell: 382-7536  
 Personalized Service

#### BEVERLY'S ESTATE SALES SUN CITY CENTER

**2102 West View Dr.**  
*(Caloosa Country Club)*  
**Sept. 2 & 3 • 7:30am-1pm**  
 Leather Couch & Loveseat (Light), Loveseat & Sofa, Sofa Bed, King Bedroom Suite (White), White Wicker Queen Suite, Kitchen Table, 4 Chairs (Casters), Dining Table, 6 Chairs & China Cabinet (Light), Marble Dining Table, White Leather Recliner, Lanai Furniture, TV Tables, TV, Stereo System, Wedge-wood Dishes (White, Blue Raised Trim), Desk, Wooden File Cabinet, Cut Crystal, Kitchen Linens, and many Decorator Items.  
**633-1173 or 508-0307**

**AAA Furniture**  
*New & Gently Used Furniture*  
**BUY & SELL**  
**Daily Trips to SCC**  
 Mon.-Sat.  
 9 a.m.-5 p.m.   
**6819 U.S. 301 S., Riverview**  
**(813) 677-8180**

#### 312 ESTATE SALE

**DON'T HASSLE WITH ESTATE SALES**  
**Let us get done in one day what it takes the other guys a week to do. We will pack-up and pick-up one room or the entire house for a QUICK, PROFITABLE, TROUBLE-FREE EXPERIENCE.**  
 CALL **BUTTERFIELD'S AUCTIONS**  
  
**(813) 783-2700**  
[www.ButterfieldsAuctions.com](http://www.ButterfieldsAuctions.com)  
 Butterfield Auctions AB2706/AU3549

#### 314 ANTIQUES/COLLECTIBLE

1921 Antique Singer treadle sewing machine, model 127. Egyptian Sphinx decal. Serial #G9062418. In fair condition, would be great for decorative piece in a home or shop. Can email photos, [chere1212@mac.com](mailto:chere1212@mac.com)

Collectibles: Glassware, pottery, brass items, large amount of items for flea market. Blue & white dishes/ lots of misc. 813-634-4323

#### 331 APPLIANCES

GE Profiler Performance model, refrigerator/ freezer, black, water softener with extra cartridge. \$299 obo. Great condition. 813-634-3920

Side by side refrigerator \$200. Smooth top stove \$200. Microwave \$100. Dishwasher stainless interior \$200. (White) Excellent condition SCC 813-642-9005

#### 335 MUSIC

Standard model PR-2 Dulcimer, four string, barely used, paid \$250, including case. Will sell for \$190 obo. 813-633-7981

#### 354 MEDICAL

Jet 3 Ultra power wheelchair \$700. Drive electric hospital bed. \$1,000. Both in excellent condition. 813-645-1447

#### 360 GOLF CARTS

Golf carts wanted. Buy sell, trade. Chargers, parts all related. Ronny's Carts & Parts. 813-484-9855 or 813-645-4515

#### 370 LAWN AND GARDEN

Hydroponic stacker, 4 stacks, 80 pots, 60 gal tank. Automatic, submergible pump, growing media & hydroponic nutrients, timer, DVD training. \$500 obo. 813-633-7981

Lawn Boy mower, self propelled, 20" cut, almost new. \$200. 813-260-3397

#### 390 MISC. FOR SALE

Hillsborough Memorial Gardens, Brandon. Mausoleum (Chapel of Palms) inside double crypt. Will sell for \$9,800 obo. 813-634-5024

To Place a classified ad  
 Call Beverly 813.645.3111.

### MARINE 400

#### 425 SLIPS OR STORAGE

South Bay RV & Boat Storage. Specializing in outside storage for RVs, boats & trailers. 813-677-2000 [www.SouthBayStorage.com](http://www.SouthBayStorage.com)

### TRANSPORTATION 450

#### 458 PARTS & SERVICE

**★ WANTED ★ DEAD OR ALIVE**  
 Cars, Trucks, Vans, SUVs,  
 Farm Trucks & Equipment  
**WE PAY CASH**  
 7 Days a Week  
 Go Green Auto Recycling  
**(813) 247-5865**

#### 461 TRAVEL TRAILERS

200 HR Alumascap 34ft 5th Wheel, 3 slides, 1 super slide. Setup in nice park on Little Manatee River. Deck & shed included. Can be moved. Asking \$10,000. Come see, make offer. Contact John 813-956-4961

#### 465 RV LOT RENTAL

RV lot for rent in Ruskin. \$275 monthly includes water & sewer plus deposit. 941-737-1944 or 813-345-6860

### REAL ESTATE 500

#### 511 HOUSES FOR SALE

**RE/MAX SOUTH SHORE REALTY**  
**Roberta Rowe**  
 Realtor  
 Cell: 813-215-7127  
  
**SCC 3BR (split) SPA and therapy pool..... \$199,000**  
**RENTALS**  
**1BR/1.5BA w/expanded lanai....\$650/month**  
**1BR/1.5BA w/larger lanai, furnished.....\$700/month**  
**2BR/2BA furnished.....\$695/month**  
**2BR/2BA Siesta, furn., GC.....\$850/month**  
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### RENTALS 600

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2 bedroom, 2 bath on Simmons Lake off South Pebble Beach Blvd., Annual rental, unfurnished. For more details call 813-938-4437

#### 611 HOUSES FOR RENT

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**RENTAL: RUSKIN POOL HOUSE**, unfurnished 2BR+Den-Office/2.5BA, inside utility, garage, new screened pool, and access to canal in backyard. Home has new kitchen, new wood floors, new windows, new CHA. \$1,050/month + deposit. **CALL CLAIRE TORT 363-7250**

**CUTE RUSKIN CONCRETE BLOCK HOUSE, A BLOCK FROM RIVER:** 2BR/1BA, carport, utility-rm, newer metal roof, on deep lot with shed. Peaceful area close to everything. \$64,900. Adjacent lot for sale for only \$20,000! **CALL CLAIRE TORT 363-7250**

**AFFORDABLE MOBILE-HOME:** Perfect starter/winter home on nice own lot, no association fees, no flood insurance needed. 2BR/1BA furnished, large enclosed lanai, screen porch, carport and shed. \$30,000. **CALL CLAIRE TORT 363-7250**

**ANOTHER GREAT MOBILE-HOME ON LARGE LOT:** 2BR/2BA split plan, huge air-conditioned addition, inside utility, 2-car-carport and large tool/storage shed. Almost 1/2 acre lot with beautiful fruit trees. \$46,900. **CALL CLAIRE TORT 363-7250**

**INVEST NOW, BUILD LATER!** Great location on busy State Road 674. 3BR/2BA house amid huge oak trees, but value is in the land. 2.1 acres with SMU6 land use. Multiple possibilities. \$799,900 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672**

**COMMERCIAL SITE** located close to Hwy. 41 in Ruskin with over 200 feet of road frontage. Zoned General Commercial with county water & sewer. Mobile home on property brings rental income. \$198,900 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**SUPER PRICE REDUCTION!! ALMOST 5 ACRES FILLED WITH OAKS AND AZALEAS.** Easy access to Hwy. 301 & I-75. Corner location and two parcels. Older family home that needs your tender loving care. 3BR/2BA, C/H/A, old oak flooring, fish house with 1/2 Bath. Bring the kids and animals and turn them loose. \$124,500. **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**GREAT LOCATION** on 4.7 Acre Parcel(MOL) in a very convenient location, minutes from Hwy. 674 and I-75. Great area for a small development or your own private estate. \$129,900 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**PRIME LOCATION CLOSE TO HWY. 41** w/easy access to I-75 pole barn w/bath & small living quarters. Property formerly a nursery. Now has cows grazing. Approx.. 45 usable acres. Phase one environmental survey & traffic study completed. Reduced to \$999,000 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**VERY NICE 70x108** lot on a nice pond in Beautiful Bimini Bay. Ready to build your dream home and choose your own builder. \$69,900 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**QUAINT & COZY COTTAGE** on a large corner lot surrounded by oak trees! This 2BR/1BA home has 1,352 sq ft and has been meticulously maintained. Other features include beautiful wood floors, stained glass windows, and a nice inviting deck area. \$89,900 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**HISTORIC RUSKIN HOME BUILT IN 1910.** A must see to appreciate the uniqueness of this home. Lots of room for kids and toys , storage galore , mobile home hook up, large shade and fruit trees. Beautiful interior that has to be seen to appreciate.\$349,000. **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**AWESOME COMMERCIAL LOCATION ON BUSY HIGHWAY 41 IN RUSKIN!** .84 Acre with 150 feet on Highway 41. Easy access to I-75. Property is zoned CG/General. \$164,900 **CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

**NEW LISTING!** 2BR/1.5BA waterfront condo with a deepwater boat slip. Special features include: a nice Florida room with glass enclosure, hardwood floors in the living room, carpet in bedrooms, eat-in kitchen and more! \$79,000 **CALL ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201 or KAY PYE 361-3672**

**BANKERS, NOT LAND HOLDERS.** Bank not interested in being land owner has just listed repossessed property at appraised value and is looking for offers. 2+ acres for \$35,000 and 14+ acres for \$155,000. Check out development potential, be ready for recovery. **JUDY ERICKSON 468-0288**

**DO NOT CALL TO SEE** this condo if you love having a yard to mow or a garden plot to plow. The outside maintenance of lush green grass, numerous tropical plants, pool, and clubhouse is all taken care of with this great 2BR plus den/office/TV room. Fireplace, central vac, loft, extra storage. \$119,900 **JUDY ERICKSON 468-0288**

**BUILD TO SUIT** your needs and wants. Hard to beat a brand new house that you have designed yourself. So put your pencil to the planning paper and create a dream home for this lot in Apollo Beach priced to sell. \$18,500 **JUDY ERICKSON 468-0288**

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**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY – PRIME LOCATION ON HIGHWAY 41!!** This property has 200 ft on US Hwy. 41 and is set up for both office and warehouse space. The property is completely fenced in with parking for over 30 vehicles. This is a great location for a business that needs easy highway access and flexible space. Owner will also consider a lease or lease purchase. Don't miss this opportunity! Price reduced to \$474,500!! **CALL CATHY GRIGGS 391-8653**

**AWESOME HOME IN SUN CITY CENTER!!** 2BR/2BA 2-car garage and conveniently located to all of the amenities that Sun City Center has to offer. Built in 1994 this home has been meticulously maintained with new a/c in 2006, a new roof in 2007 and much, much more. You don't even have to mow your lawn as lawn maintenance is part of the homeowner's association agreement!! Sun City Center has much to offer with golf courses, tennis, softball, two indoor pools plus over 200 clubs and various other activities. A golf cart friendly community to local shopping and activities and it is conveniently located to airports, beaches, Tampa, Sarasota & St. Petersburg. All this for only \$135,000. Come and enjoy the Florida lifestyle today!! **CALL CATHY GRIGGS 391-8653**

**DELIGHTFUL** 4BR/2BA home in desirable Bloomingdale community. Great room and split bedroom plan, light bright eat-in kitchen, large screened backporch overlooking conservation area, two car garage, grandfather oak shaded front yard and the list goes on. A must see! Reduced to \$155,000. **CALL JO ELLEN MOBLEY 645-1540.**

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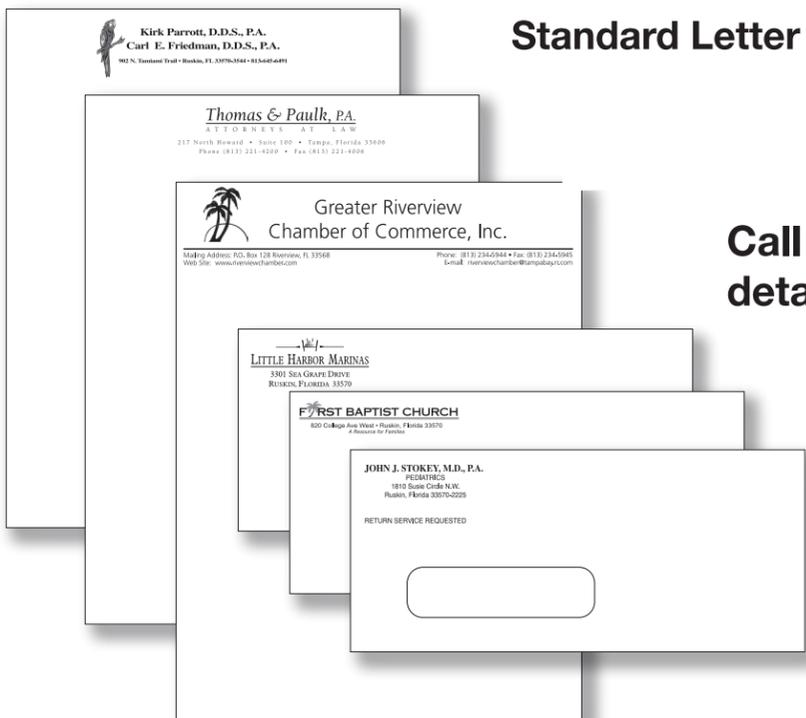
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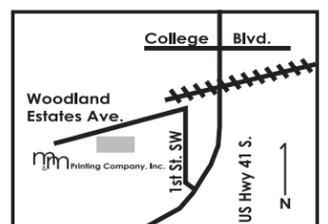


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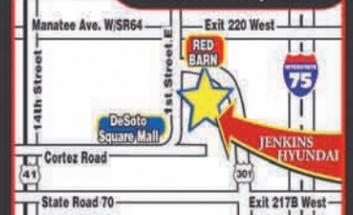
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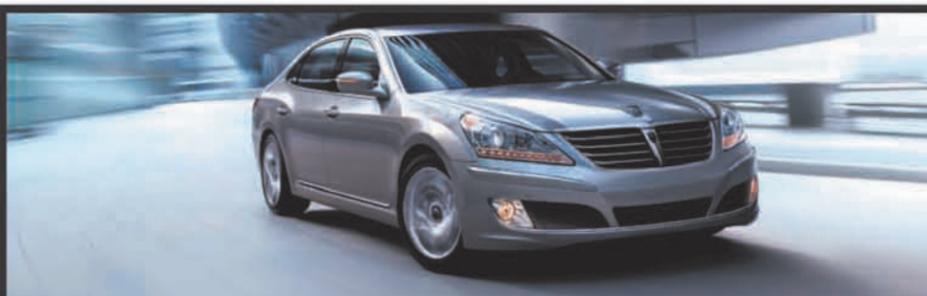
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## Tomato and Heritage Festival needs volunteers and vendors

The Ruskin Tomato and Heritage Festival will return, on a new weekend, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3 and 4, 2011 at E.G. Simmons County Park in Ruskin. Watch for updates in the next few months or follow the feed on Facebook.

The Festival committee is looking for a few more volunteers to help put on another great festival. If you liked the festival in the past, please consider joining the little band to really make this year's festival the very best yet! Contact the festival chair, Frank Cummings, at 813-363-8071 or email [ruskintomatofestival@verizon.net](mailto:ruskintomatofestival@verizon.net) for more information.

There is also space available for more vendors. Area businesses are encouraged to consider becoming a sponsor to help make this festival the best it can be. Proceeds earned from these festivals help fund local causes and promote community projects. Information on these opportunities and more can be found on the festival webpage: [www.ruskintomatofestival.org](http://www.ruskintomatofestival.org).

The Ruskin Tomato and Heritage Festival is a project of the Ruskin Community Development Foundation, Inc., a community non-profit in Ruskin. The RCDF has been involved in many projects in the area for nearly two decades, including the Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center, the boardwalk in Commongood Park, assisted in starting the restoration of Marsh Creek plus several other cleanup and enhancement projects. The most recent project is the Firehouse Cultural Center which is being developed in the old firehouse in Ruskin. More information is available at the website: [www.ruskinfoundation.org](http://www.ruskinfoundation.org).



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### UPCOMING SEPTEMBER EVENTS

**Tues., Sept. 6 • 10-11 a.m.** • Michael Wills from Morgan Stanley Smith Barney presents: **Investing During Volatile Markets**. Michael focuses on risk management & wealth preservation. Detailed update on recent market volatility and what it means for you and your portfolio.

**Tues., Sept. 6 • 2:30-4 p.m.** • **Congestive Heart Failure "CHF" Support Group**. Facilitator Shayne Kull, MSR, from Hometown Homecare introduces cutting edge resources. Exclusively for those living with heart failure, their families and caregivers.

**Wed., Sept. 7 • EVERY WEDNESDAY! • 10-11 a.m.** • **Therapeutic Tai Chi** open to the public! Our therapists have advanced training for Seniors and provide guidance in this healthy exercise. Offered EVERY Wednesday due to increased demand. Number of guests limited, RSVP as soon as possible!

**Thurs., Sept. 8 • 2:30-4 p.m.** • Edmond Dubreuil MSW, RCSWI mental health professional facilitates this support group for those suffering from **depression, loss or grief** or are the caregiver of someone facing those issues. Supported by: South Shore Coalition on Mental Health & Aging and The United Methodist Church of SCC.

**Mon., Sept. 12 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** • **Life Bio is back!** Accredited Life Bio instructor will help you create your personal life history to pass down to future generations. This 4 week class will end with a graduation ceremony 10/24/11. Don't miss this opportunity to record your past for the future! RSVP is a must!

**Tues., Sept. 13 • 10-11 a.m.** • **"Surviving in The Health Care System"** Dr. Harold Crow will cover topics such as medical insurance problems for seniors, senior healthcare and how we as a community can push for better, more focused care.

**Tues., Sept. 13 • 2:30-4 p.m.** • **COPD Support Group** Joy Barlaan, ARNP and Jan Whitaker, LPN from Ace Homecare have over 50 combined years of experience and will be your facilitators. Resources are endless!

**Thurs., Sept. 15 • 2:30-3:30 p.m.** • **Low Vision Support Group:** Diane Lawrence, RN from Vital Care Home Health Care will facilitate. If you are facing the challenges of low vision or caring for a loved one who is, this support group is a must! FREE quick vision health questionnaire assessment provided.

**Tues., Sept. 20 • 2-3:30 p.m.**

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## Ten tips to help you get ready for retirement

By JEAN STEZLAND

Vice President, Financial Security, AARP Education and Outreach  
A happy and fulfilling retirement means different things to different people. Once you determine what will give you peace of mind in retirement, it's important to know how you can get there financially. AARP can help you get started with 10 simple (and fun) tips.

### Step 1: Define Your Retirement

Write down your top five goals for retirement. Keep a scrapbook or start a journal but be practical to rule out unnecessary expenses.

### Step 2: Take Stock of Your "Assets"

Write down how much you bring home each month, how much you have in the bank and how much you have in your retirement account. Then take the time to list all of your hobbies and skills – many can be turned into real income. Visit [www.aarp.org/work/job-hunting/info-06-2009/recareering\\_transferable\\_skills.html](http://www.aarp.org/work/job-hunting/info-06-2009/recareering_transferable_skills.html).

### Step 3: Evaluate Your Health – Now

Schedule your checkups and preventive exams now, from the annual physical to the teeth clean-

ing. Commit (or re-commit) to eating healthy, exercising, getting enough sleep and staying mentally sharp with brain games, puzzles and books.

### Step 4: Determine When to Collect Social Security

The longer you wait to claim Social Security, the greater the benefit for you and your family. AARP's Social Security Benefits Calculator will show you when best to claim: [www.aarp.org/socialsecuritybenefits](http://www.aarp.org/socialsecuritybenefits)

### Step 5: Network through Social Media and Other Means

Include a networking strategy in your retirement plan. It may involve joining a community book club you discovered via Facebook or starting a morning meet-up group at a local coffee shop to discuss ideas with other soon-to-be retirees.

### Step 6: Decide How Much You Want (or Need) to Work

Weigh the pros and cons of working – including how many hours per week - now. The sooner you get comfortable with this deci-

sion, the more secure you will be in your retirement planning. Visit [www.aarp.org/jobs](http://www.aarp.org/jobs).

### Step 7: Create a Retirement Budget

Create a retirement budget and do a financial checkup of your investments. The AARP Retirement Calculator can help: [www.aarp.org/retirementcalculator](http://www.aarp.org/retirementcalculator). Additional resources are available at [www.aarp.org/financialfreedom](http://www.aarp.org/financialfreedom).

### Step 8: Find New Ways to Cut Your Expenses (and Start Saving More)

Saving more now will always make you better prepared for retirement. Start by listing your bills and then figure out ways to trim them. Another strategy that works for many people: pay off your smallest debts first, regardless of interest rate, which can give you a sense of accomplishment. Visit [www.aarp.org/money/credit-loans-debt/info-09-2010/controlling-debt-and-finances.html](http://www.aarp.org/money/credit-loans-debt/info-09-2010/controlling-debt-and-finances.html).

### Step 9: Prepare For the Unexpected

Take time to consider how you'd pay for minor issues, like a roof leak, to serious ones, like a grave illness. Discuss the big issues with your family or those closest to you. Visit <http://www.aarp.org/decide>. Also check all your insurance policies to make sure they are adequate.

### Step 10: Stick to Your Plan

Joining AARP's online community will connect you with others going through the same life changes for support and networking. Log onto [www.aarp.org/online\\_community](http://www.aarp.org/online_community).

## Genealogical Society resumes luncheons

The South Bay Genealogical Society resumes its luncheon meetings at noon on Sept. 20.

This meeting will be held at the SouthShore Regional Library and will feature Don Churchill, speaking on "the Day of the Dead," a Native American traditions.

This meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. Golden Anniversary Luncheon, following a noon luncheon at the SouthShore Regional Library.

Reservations for the luncheon (\$13) are required by Sept. 14 by calling Beth Clarke at 642-9329.

The Society provides "Ask a Genealogist" assistance at SouthShore Regional Library on a scheduled basis, holds monthly program meetings, as well as workshops and Seminars, to assist those tracing their family history. Membership is open to all South County residents who have an interest in genealogy.

## University of Florida study strengthens concerns about long-term use of certain painkillers

Painkillers such as ibuprofen, naxopren and celecoxib provide needed relief for many patients who have chronic pain. But an ongoing source of contention is whether those drugs and others in their class known as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs, are linked to harmful health effects.

Now a new study from the University of Florida raises the concern about potential risks to a higher degree than before, finding a doubling of deaths from heart attack, stroke and related events among people who have both hypertension and coronary artery disease and use the drugs long term.

The findings, based on data from the international INVEST clinical study of hypertension therapies, are published in the current issue of *The American Journal of Medicine*.

"It does strengthen our practice recommendations," said lead author Anthony A. Bavry, M.D., M.P.H., an assistant professor of cardiovascular medicine in the UF College of Medicine's department of medicine.

Physicians already discourage the use of NSAIDs among the elderly and after heart attacks, on the basis of several studies showing that the drugs are linked with a higher risk of stroke and heart attack.

But the UF researchers, including senior author Carl J. Pepine, M.D., a professor of cardiovascular medicine in the UF College of

Medicine, advise patients to talk to their doctors before stopping use of prescribed treatments.

"It's a tricky issue, because NSAIDs are useful for relieving pain, and that is much of what we do in medicine -- alleviate pain and suffering," said Deepak L. Bhatt, M.D., M.P.H., an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of cardiology at the VA Boston Healthcare System, who recently published findings that NSAIDs are linked to a higher risk of stroke. "Unfortunately, most medications have some potential side effects, and it's important to know what those might be." Bhatt was not involved in the UF study.

Patients who have both high blood pressure and coronary artery disease are generally put on aspirin, a unique type of NSAID, to reduce their risk of a heart attack. Physicians are concerned that giving those patients other NSAIDs for pain relief could cancel out aspirin's beneficial effects and raise the risk of negative cardiovascular effects.

The UF research team took advantage of the availability of INVEST study data from 882 chronic NSAID users and almost 22,000 intermittent or nonusers to try to settle the question. They looked at patients who reported using NSAIDs over an average of about three years, to see whether there was an increase in adverse events or cardiovascular-related death

compared with patients who did not use those pain medicines long term.

The risk of death from cardiovascular causes was 2.3 times higher among patients who chronically used the drugs than among other patients.

NSAIDs are thought to act in a variety of ways to increase cardiovascular risk. They are thought to prevent aspirin's protective anti-clotting effect by preventing the aspirin from binding properly to platelets in the blood. Some NSAIDs might also increase bleeding risk. In addition, NSAIDs raise blood pressure, thus potentially raising the risk of heart attack and stroke. Some NSAIDs have already been removed from the market because of concerns about an elevated risk of heart attack and stroke.

While randomized clinical trials are still needed to definitively show a link between NSAIDs and cardiovascular effects, the current study is only the latest in a growing body of research that strongly suggests an association.

"There have been enough studies now that it certainly raises suspicion," Bhatt said. "The question that's still open is, is it all NSAIDs, or are some worse than others?"

The UF study did not compare specific NSAIDs, so more research has to be carried out to determine the level of risk that might be associated with each.