



October is Florida's Greenways and Trails Month. For information on how to take advantage of our beautiful trails see the story on **page 2B**

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THE OBSERVER NEWS

www.ObserverNews.net

Final chapter may be shaping up in hospital networks competition

■ By MELODY JAMESON
mj@observernews.net

Executives at South Bay Hospital and its parent company, Hospital Corporation of America, now are weighing what may be their last option in the years-long contest to win approval for a new facility.

Florida's Agency on Health Care Administration (AHCA) last week denied 10 exemptions that South Bay and HCA attorneys had pressed in an effort to regain footing lost to the St. Joseph's Hospital network in a Certificate of Need (CON) competition going back several years. At issue originally was South Bay/HCA's proposal to build a replacement hospital on Big Bend Road, leaving a limited-services facility on S.R. 674.

The ACHA denial gives South Bay/HCA 30 days to file an appeal, which, if pursued, would take the large medical services provider into a Florida district court.

In response to questions about another South Bay/HCA legal

effort, the hospital's public information office this week would say only that "we are currently reviewing the denial issued by AHCA and have not determined next steps at this time."

In a prepared statement, Marketing Director Natalia Diaz also noted that "We are disappointed by the final order because it impacts our ability to provide the community with greater access to high quality care." She went on to point out that South Bay is the only hospital in the county to earn a "Top Performer in Key Quality Measures" accolade from the Joint Commission and emphasized that such recognition means "we have been focusing on the right things."

It has been a long and twisting journey for both hospital networks going back to 2005 as they have competed for state approvals to build new medical complexes on their respective acreages abutting

See **HOSPITALS**, page 18



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

Kelley Weaver, founder of Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions, Inc., poses with her daughter Jenna and adopted greyhound Bee Bee (in brown) and foster greyhound Jellybean at the Century 21 Beggins Enterprises Easter Seals garage sale in Apollo Beach on Saturday. Weaver's organization is dedicated to finding homes for the retired, gentle racers.



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

Truvia Richardson leads the group through a range of movements.

New approach to physical therapy

■ By PENNY FLETCHER penny@observernews.net

SUN CITY CENTER — It's hard to believe people can improve their balance, stretch their muscles and develop more flexibility by visiting a restaurant.

They can though, if it's the restaurant in SunTowers retirement center in Sun City Center Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m.

The restaurant isn't open for meals then. The tables are pushed aside

See **TAI CHI**, page 13

Saving a gentle, fleet-footed spirit

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

Jellybean gave me a shy look with her big brown eyes and then buried her long snout between my arm and chest. I would not have expected a dog that can exceed the speed limit of most streets and even some highways to be shy and loving. But Jellybean, like most of her breed, has a gentle spirit. She can run 45 miles per hour for short distances but prefers to spend most of her hours sleeping — sometimes on her back with her paws up in the air; sometimes in a bed with her head on a pillow.

Kelley Weaver is the founder of Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions, Inc., a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to rescuing greyhounds and finding them forever homes.

"We get them from kennels — some of them don't make it on the track or they may get injured," she said. Financially, people have been having hard times, too, and can't take care of them. We find homes for them."

Tall and lean with long noses, greyhounds have been bred for millennia to chase. Among the oldest of purebred dogs, they first appear in ancient Egyptian records dating back 8,000 years. They are the only breed of dog mentioned in the Bible (Proverbs 30:29-31, King James Version). But despite their well-earned reputation for speed, they tend to be calm dogs who take to napping as much as they do sprinting.

"People are often surprised at how laid back they are," Weaver continued. "They'll see them sleeping and ask if they are OK and we'll just say, 'Yeah, it's nap time.'"

Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions receives the dogs from kennels as retired or injured racers. Perhaps they weren't fast enough for the track, perhaps they have merely reached retirement age but almost all are still relatively young and loving dogs in need of either a

foster or adoptive home. The Weaver family and volunteers foster all of the rescued dogs prior to adoption in order to learn the temperament and personality of each dog and to help the dogs adjust to life in a home environment.

"Many of them have never had the chance to be a puppy, so we try to teach them," Weaver said. "Their characters are all very different. They are happy and they play.

Some of them are thieves — a few of my daughter's toys have gone missing."

Her organization makes frequent appearances in South Hillsborough, as she did last weekend with Jellybean, a foster dog, and Bee Bee, a dog she adopted, at the Century 21 Beggins Enterprises Easter Seals benefit garage sale in Apollo Beach.

"There are so many

See **GREYHOUNDS**, page 2

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Greyhounds

■ Continued from page 1

misconceptions out there. A lot of people don't think about greyhounds, but if anyone wants to contact us to come to see the dogs, please do. A lot of people don't even think about greyhounds but they'll meet our dogs."

And they will steal your heart—thieves, indeed.

"I was born and raised in Clearwater and I used to go to the track when I was a kid just to watch them run," Weaver said. "Back in those days, there were a couple of tracks that weren't very nice to them. There are still a number of those tracks, but not in our area. I felt bad for them; I always wanted to have one. The greyhound has always been in my heart."

Today she is saving them.

"We usually get them at around 18 months and up," she continued. "And they live to be 12 or more years old. They generally have good health. They don't have joint problems or hip dysplasia or anything like that. They are also universal blood donors. Most all of our dogs are good with cats and children. And most of them have only ever known crates, so they can be adopted by people living in small homes or apartments."

According to Weaver, they also make the perfect companions for older people.

"A greyhound is a perfect dog for a senior because they're not hyper, they don't pull," she said.

Prior to placing a dog, potential adoptive families are screened by Weaver's organization. Although they tend to be adaptable and good with both children and other animals, she wants to make certain there is a good fit between the dog and a new family. She wants to ensure that it really is a forever home. A \$250 adoption fee is applied to defray the costs associated with ensuring the health of the dog.

"When they come off the track, they usually have had nothing done," Weaver said. "We spay or neuter them, get all of their shots up to date, clean their teeth and give them a full check, with worming and any medications."

Area veterinarians provide discounts in an effort to keep the adoption fee as low as possible. The organization also takes donations, either through the mail or via a link on their website at www.bayareagreyhounds.org.

Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions also seeks foster families to help introduce the dogs to life beyond the racetrack. Foster parents introduce the dogs to things that are new to them: stairs, pools,

sliding glass doors and even toys. Most greyhounds retired from racing have never seen or interacted with a child, but they are very tolerant, with the need for respect accorded to any other house pet. According to Weaver, they are wonderful houseguests who are mild mannered and easily potty-trained. Foster families are critical to the organization, as the number of available foster homes dictates the number of dogs that can be taken in to be placed into permanent homes.

With short fur and very little body fat to protect them from extremes in weather, they are indoor dogs that need only a fenced yard to play a little in, or to take a walk once or twice a day. On a walk, with the ability to hit 45 miles per hour, they generally need to be on a leash and they are trained to walk on a leash during their foster care.

As people begin pouring into the parking lot of Beggins Enterprises looking for bargains at the Easter Seals benefit, Jellybean curled her lean body into a ball on a blanket and settled in for a nap. She wasn't nervous, nor was she yapping or harassing people as they walked by. But she missed nothing. Greyhounds have eyesight so sharp that they can see a small, moving object from a half mile away.

"They can sleep almost 20 hours a day," Weaver said. "They are very, very laid back. You just need to be able to walk them a couple of times a day. Dr. Ott's dog park is also a great place."

With fur as soft as silk and big, sensitive-looking brown eyes, Jellybean was already well on her way to stealing my heart. Just petting her as she shyly hugged her body against me was a calming experience. She is beautiful, both in appearance and in spirit. Kelley said that the dogs usually pick the people they want. I wanted to take Jellybean home.

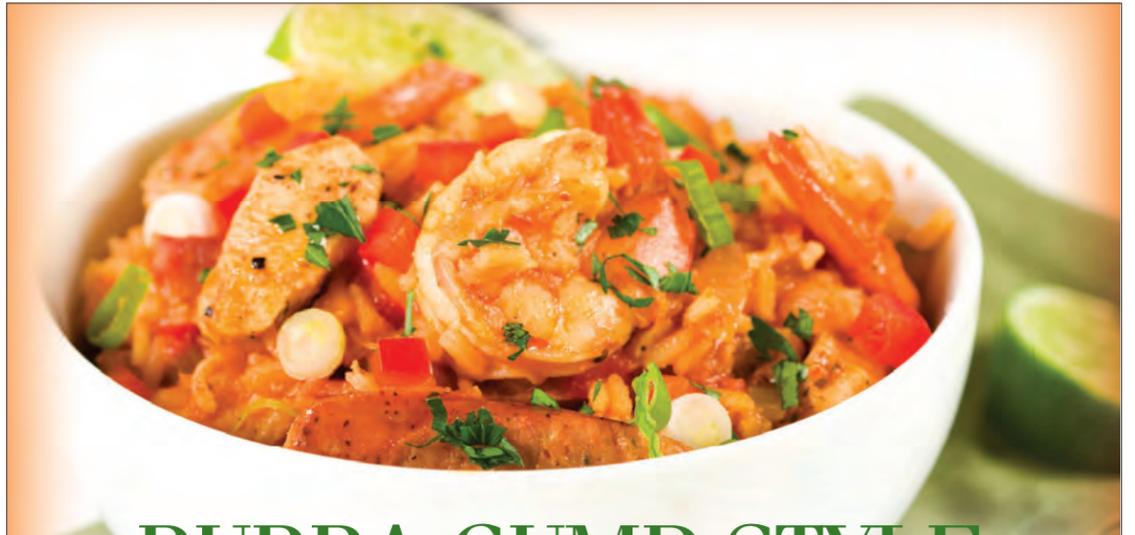
"This is very rewarding," Weaver said. "To find a dog a good home, to know that it will make a difference in their lives (both the dogs and the people). It is beautiful and very rewarding. My biggest thing is I would like people to look into adopting a greyhound because a lot of people don't realize what wonderful companions they can be."

For more information about Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions, Inc., visit www.bayareagreyhounds.org, email baga@tampabay.rr.com, call 813-272-2332, or write to Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions, P.O. Box 21641, Tampa, FL, 33622.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

Bee Bee the greyhound, adopted by Weaver and her family, makes frequent appearances at "meet and greets" in South Hillsborough as part of the efforts of Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions to introduce people to greyhounds.



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Sheriff to highlight crime awareness

SUN CITY CENTER – Ever wondered how to get the most information out of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's websites?

Curious about how the county's primary law enforcement agency is using recently-refined crime fighting methodology and technology?

Interested in more tips on protections against the constantly evolving range of frauds?

All of these topics are to be covered during a three-hour crime awareness seminar featuring Hillsborough's Sheriff David Gee on October 27. The Thursday seminar, opening at 9 AM, will be conducted in Community Hall, South Pebble Beach Blvd.

Gee, his top fraud detective along with other HCSO personnel will explain the uses of "intelligence led policing" and its application in Hillsborough's department, will review and reinforce the red flags of fraud, particularly those scams targeting retirees, in order to enhance protection, plus narrate a power point presentation on full, efficient use of HCSO information websites.

A similar program is set for November in Kings Point.

Woman on a mission

Human trafficking: not just a third world country problem

■ By PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

SOUTH COUNTY - When June Wallace attended a meeting of her Soroptimist group in April 2009 she had no idea her life was about to change forever.

At that meeting of the international organization dedicated to the betterment of women, Linda Smith, a former U.S. Representative from the state of Washington, spoke about child trafficking and prostitution in the United States.

Since then June has worked against trafficking and won many awards. Having moved to South County earlier this year, she is now beginning to raise awareness locally speaking to groups, and is planning an awareness event at the United Methodist Church in Sun City Center in January, which is Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

"I had no idea this was a problem in our country," said June. "I always thought this was the kind of thing that happens in third world countries like India or South America."

But Smith told the group about a government grant given by the U.S. Justice Department that produced a report stating that there are between 100,000 and 300,000 children in the United States trafficked each year. The

average age is 13, and although some of them are taken for forced labor, especially in lower socio-economic regions (with California, Texas and Florida being the hottest spots) most are taken for sex and prostitution.

June's statements were verified by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (www.missingkids.com). The Tampa office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was also contacted for this story.

Detective Morales of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office explained the difference between human smuggling and human trafficking. Human smuggling is the charge when a person is brought into the United States illegally, while human trafficking always refers to the sale of someone in the U.S.

"We had one case in the south end of the county where a girl was being held in a house used for prostitution. It was text book. She was locked in a building with boarded up windows and a padlock on the front door. They took her child to a remote central Florida location and told her she'd never see him again if she didn't do as they said when a neighbor alerted us that something was wrong in the building and she was found."

Most of the people involved

were arrested and some fled, Morales said.

"People don't realize these things happen in this country," June said. The day she heard Smith speak she joined the cause and now serves as the facilitator of The Tampa Bay Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking that covers Pinellas, Pasco and Hillsborough Counties.

June moved to Kings Point in Sun City Center from Largo where she had been raising awareness of trafficking leading the 300-member grassroots community coalition and working with the St. Petersburg College Regional Policing Institute to undergird the work of the Clearwater/Tampa Bay Department of Justice Human Trafficking Task Force in the three-county area.

For this and her work with other organizations, including the United Nations Association of Tampa Bay, the Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce, and 26 years with Soroptimist International, June was chosen that chamber's Citizen of the Year in 2010.

"My eventual goal is to fund the building of a shelter for victims that are rescued," June said. "That could be in dollars, land donations, any number of things. There are less than 100 beds in the whole country for these kids. A lot of people turn their backs because they don't understand. Some of the kids may be kidnapped, and may even eventually escape. But others are brainwashed to work as prostitutes. People look at



them on the streets, dressed by their pimps, and think they're there by choice when they've really been beaten, starved and then 'rewarded' by pimps to get their loyalty. Some even come to believe they love their pimps or abductors, so the only way the system has to deal with them is as juvenile offenders."

June has a diploma from the Florida Regional Policing Institute at St. Petersburg College and has arranged for trainers with that program to speak and give training at United Methodist Church in Sun City Center in January but a date has not yet been set.

Laura Heisler of the Center for Public Safety and Innovation at

St. Petersburg College said their office has been giving training such as June's since 2006 but as of July 2012, the funding for this project will run out.

"Groups will still be able to contact us for training but unfortunately we will no longer be able to offer it for free," she said. Until July they will continue to provide free training to groups of more than 25 that call 727-341-4437.

June, a retired certified financial planner who had a private practice in Orlando before moving to Largo, has never before been involved in social work and describes this cause as her passion.

See WOMAN ON A MISSION, page 6

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What Listening Can Do



Positive Talk

By William Hodges

Listening is one of the most important communication skills of mankind. It's a shame we spend so little time cultivating this very

powerful skill. I've written before on this subject and will probably do so again because it bears repeating that listening should be a required course from elementary school through college. Some portion of every day should be specifically designated as a time to develop our ability to listen. Here are some very valuable rewards we can reap, both for ourselves and for others, if we put our time into learning to listen.

1. Listening can enhance friendships. When we really listen to the feelings of those who are close to us, we deepen the relationship. Too many times, when speaking with a loved one, we do not pay full attention. Although they are telling us their hopes and dreams, we are busy thinking about what we're going to do tomorrow. Take a few minutes to concentrate on what the people closest to you are saying. You'll be surprised how much you will learn and how much they will appreciate your attention.

2. Listening is a great problem-solving technique. It may not solve your problems, but by simply giving another person your ear, you may well solve theirs. I have noticed that in many instances when people ask me for advice, they really don't want advice; what they want is someone to listen as they explain the problem out loud.

In many instances, they come up with their own solutions, and I get credit for helping because I was willing to listen.

3. Listening facilitates communication. In order to be complete, the communication process includes a speaker, a listener and then feedback from the listener to the speaker. If there is no feedback, there is no communication. Be sure you are spending your fair share of time in the role of listener.

4. Listening is a tool to reduce tension. One of the first things I teach the students in my customer relations seminar is to say little and listen a lot. If you smile and nod as you listen carefully to someone who has a complaint, it is amazing what a calming effect it will have upon the complainant. Most of us just want to blow off steam, especially if we feel we have been harmed. Give the other person the opportunity and you will disarm them, eliminating a great deal of stress and tension.

Listening is an easy way to become a good conversationalist. Dale Carnegie, in his classic book, *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, suggests listening as an excellent way to become a good conversationalist. He said all most people really want in a conversation is an interested listener. The next time you are in a conversation, remember the five Ws and use them liberally—Who? What? Why? When? Where?

Listening expands the mind. Begin with the belief that everyone has a story and that each person has a secret to tell you that could make you more productive, happier and healthier. It may be a very small secret and you may have to clear away a great deal of chaff before the grain is found. If you

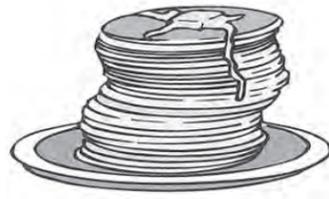
begin with this premise, you will be amazed at how much you can learn from everyone you meet.

Most of us can hear. Will you be one of the few who can listen? It's up to you.

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. Phone: 813-641-0816. Email: bill@billhodges.com Website: www.bill-hodges.com

Yumm! Pancakes!

Attend the Sun City Center Shrine Club Pancake Brunch from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23 at Community Hall, S. Pebble Beach Blvd.



All-you-can-eat orange juice, pancakes, sausage, coffee for only \$5.

Proceeds are for the benefit of the Sun City Center Shrine Club. Payments are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.

Open house hosted by Coast Guard Auxiliary

On Saturday, Oct. 22 Flotilla 75 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will host an informal open house for individuals and couples seeking volunteer opportunities. Join them for an informal meet and greet with members of the local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Find out how service to your community and service to your country can be accomplished with a great local organization made up of your friends and neighbors. Discover how your interests and skills might mesh with the needs of Team Coast Guard. Find out about on-water patrols, volunteer teaching positions, computer, radio and clerical operations, training programs, public outreach programs and social get-togethers.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the all-volunteer civilian arm of the U.S. Coast Guard. Considered a force multiplier by the Coast Guard and operating under orders the Auxiliary engages in port security patrols, at night, as well as during the day. The Auxiliary also conducts safety patrols primarily directed to benefit the recreational boater who might be in distress.

The Flotilla 75 located in Ruskin is one of the oldest flotillas in the U.S. and also conducts boating safety classes for the boating public and can be seen virtually every weekend providing free vessel safety checks. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliarists participate in many community activities: festivals, parades and boat shows are all part of their involvement.

At the open house there will be light refreshments, displays, demonstrations and Flotilla members will be glad to answer boating questions and provide information about the Auxiliary.

Join them from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Eberhardt Building (lawn bowling building), 909 North Course Lane, Sun City Center or for details, call (813) 633-5416.

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Every Wednesday	5-7 p.m.	'Best Spaghetti in Ruskin'
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Every Friday	5-7 p.m.	Fish Fry (baked, beer batter or fried)
	7-11 p.m.	Live Music
Every Saturday		Horseshoes
	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, Oct. 14	7-11 p.m.	Bert and Sassie
Saturday, Oct. 15	5-7 p.m.	Steak Dinner
	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim
Friday, Oct. 21	7-11 p.m.	Top Shelf
Saturday, Oct. 22	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim
Friday, Oct. 28	7-11 p.m.	Southern Tide
Saturday, Oct. 29	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim
Friday, Nov. 4	7-11 p.m.	Beach Monkeys
Saturday, Nov. 5	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Huge Garage Sale
Saturday, Nov. 5	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim
Friday, Nov. 11	7-11 p.m.	Bert and Sassie
Saturday, Nov. 12	5-7 p.m.	Luau
	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim
Friday, Nov. 18	7-11 p.m.	Caribbean Cowboys
Saturday, Nov. 19	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim
Friday, Nov. 25	7-11 p.m.	Top Shelf

Find out about Trick or Treat Street!

It's time once again for Trick or Treat Street. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce along with Riverview High School are preparing for this annual community event that provides children of all ages a safe environment to share in the tradition of Trick or Treating. It will take place from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, at Riverview High School, 11311 Boyette Road.



Local businesses and organizations show their community spirit by dressing up, decorating a façade or booth and distributing candy or small toys to children of all ages. Prize ribbons are awarded for booth design and decoration in several categories.

There will be costume contests for children of all ages with a \$3 registration fee prior to Friday, Oct. 21 or \$5 registration at the event.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners in each age group: 0-3 years; 4-7 years; 8-11 years; and 12 and older. Registration ends 30 minutes before each contest.

County offers afternoon recreation

Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation is pleased to offer a great deal in afternoon recreation. Rec2Six is a new program for children grades K-5, offered Monday-Friday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 18 recreation centers throughout Hillsborough County. The weekly rate is \$38, and reduced rates of \$30 and \$20 per week are available with a current school reduced or free lunch letter.

Rec2Six is an evidence-based, outcome-oriented recreation component that improves a child's quantity and quality of physical activity, motor skills, movement knowledge, and peer interaction, that measures fitness improvements throughout the year. The program also provides seasonal sports, fitness activities, art programs, and special activities.

Registration for a local Rec2Six program is now open weekdays from 2 to 6 p.m. at 664 Golf & Sea Blvd., Apollo Beach. 671-7635.

TSS Youth Sailing offers classes

TSS Youth Sailing will be offering adult and family learn to sail classes soon!

TSS Youth Sailing is hosted by the Tampa Sailing Squadron.

Visit TSS at 1250 Apollo Beach Blvd. or their website at www.sail-tss.org. TSS also sponsors Sea Scout Ship 185, a year 'round coed program for ages 14-20, with a focus on boating and sailing.

TSS Youth Sailing is seeking boats and equipment in good condition for resale. Generosity enables them to keep tuition low and scholarships available.



Young sailors enjoy sailing classes.

New meeting place and time SouthShore Toastmaster Club

The SouthShore Toastmaster Club has changed their meeting place, date and time. Their next meeting will be from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13 at the Alley, 10221 Big Bend Rd., Riverview. The club's regular meeting dates will be the 2nd and the 4th Thursday of each month, following the Riverview Chamber's "Take Care of Business Networking Group." Walk-in guests are always welcomed. Guests are encouraged to arrive early to take the opportunity to speak with a member about the Toastmaster Organization and its benefits, a path to polishing needed communication skills.

The Toastmaster International is a nonprofit educational association which networks throughout the world and is dedicated to helping people become better communicators. The SouthShore Toastmasters Club carries on this mission and guides members to hone-in their speaking, listening and leadership skills. These skills can assist in job hunting, achieve promotions, obtain personal goals and provide network opportunities. Members become an overall better communicator. For information, contact Christain Bieter, President christian.bieter@jwcemail.com; Jeanette Doyle, V.P. Membership apollobeach5@gmail.com, or William Hodges, Advisor bill@billhodges.com.



Toastmaster International winners of the Humorist Speech and the Evaluation Contest for Area 33 held at Progressive Insurance Company's Training Center in Brandon in September. Murali Venkatappa, Darel Pope, Andrew Magnan, Robert Tuller and Russ Kevala, SouthShore Toastmaster Russ Kevala, V.P. of Education.

Business seminar at SouthShore Chamber

There will be a free seminar at the South Shore Chamber of Commerce boardroom in the MiraBay shopping center from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

The seminar will be presented by Steve Black who is an international business consultant on developing and growing your business. He is the founder of BusinessSuccessTraining.com and MarketingSolutionsforSmallBusiness.com.

Black has published a book on the use of the social media for the development of your business. He recently did a one-hour seminar for Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce and amazed business owners with how much helpful information he gave in just one hour. Seating is limited.

To reserve a seat, call (813) 846-5844.

Ruskin VFW Post #6287

Ruskin VFW Post #6287, 5120 U.S. 41 N. has listed the following weekly activities. Meetings are: American Legion on 1st Wednesday each month; VFW and LAVFW on the 2nd Wednesday each month; and MAVFW on the 3rd Thursday each month.



Thursday, Oct. 13 — Bar Bingo at 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 14 — Fish Fry from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Music by Top Shelf from 5 to 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15 — Turkey Shoot at 1:30 p.m. Music by Night Life from 7 to 11 p.m. Barbara Billings Birthday.

Sunday, Oct. 16 — Fire in the Hole from 1 to 4 p.m. October Fest from 4 to 6 p.m. Music by a German band from 5 to 9 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17 — Early Bird Dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. George Hilton Birthday.

Tuesday, Oct. 18 — Games in Lounge from 1 to 5 p.m. Kitchen opens at 4:30 p.m. Bingo at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 19 — Parade Meeting at 5:30 p.m. American Legion Meeting at 7 p.m.

IN UNIFORM



Johnny Garcia

Army Pvt. Johnny Garcia has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, OK.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission and received instruction and training exercises in drill and ceremonies, Army history, core values and traditions, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, rifle marksmanship, weapons use, map reading and land navigation, foot marches, armed and unarmed combat, and field maneuvers and tactics.

Garcia is the son of Johnny Garcia of Apollo Beach Blvd., Apollo Beach. He is a 2011 graduate of East Bay High School, Gibsonton.

Golf tournament planned

The American Legion Post 148, Riverview is planning a golf tournament at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22 at Diamond Hills.

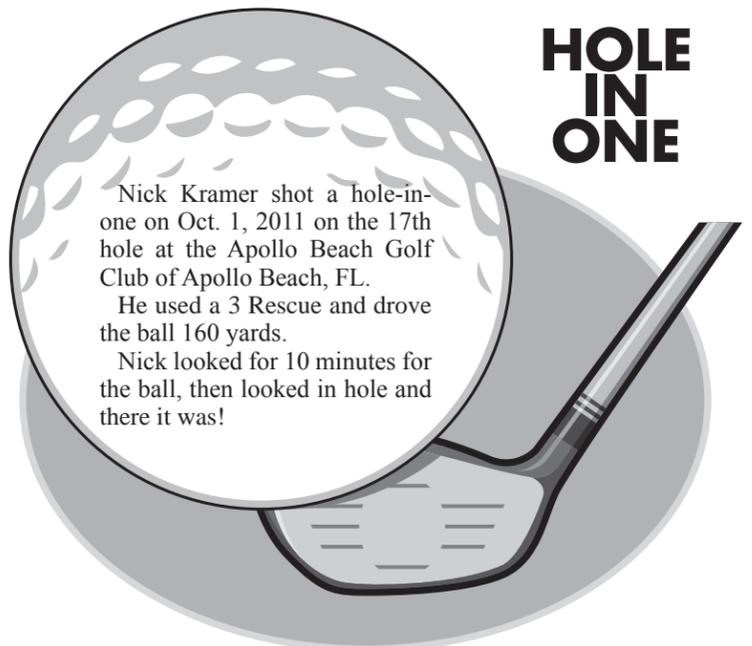
Enjoy golf, lunch and prizes for only \$50 per person. For more information, call (813) 677-6529.

HOLE IN ONE

Nick Kramer shot a hole-in-one on Oct. 1, 2011 on the 17th hole at the Apollo Beach Golf Club of Apollo Beach, FL.

He used a 3 Rescue and drove the ball 160 yards.

Nick looked for 10 minutes for the ball, then looked in hole and there it was!



Lt. Col. H. Spencer Faircloth, USAF (Ret) addresses MOAA luncheon

Retired Lt. Col. Spencer Faircloth was the featured speaker at the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) monthly luncheon held on Oct. 5, in the Florida Room at the Sun City Center North Side Atrium Building.

Faircloth held positions as an Air Force Personnel Officer from base level to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and served on the staff of the European Office of Aerospace Research at the United States Embassy in Brussels, Belgium. He also served as the Chief of the Casualty Assistant Branch, Headquarters, US Air Force, during the highest period of casualties during the Vietnam War.

One of his responsibilities was serving as a letter writer for President Lyndon Johnson and later for President Richard Nixon. He was chosen by the Secretary of the Air Force for a sabbatical on the faculty of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs of the University of Pittsburgh.

Faircloth was selected by the Secretary of Defense to serve on the White House Staff as the Executive Director of the Presidential Committee, Jobs for Veterans at the end of the Vietnam War. He entertained the MOAA members by relating the many and varied incidents and encounters he experienced during his association with white house staff and politicians during the Nixon era.



Photo by Frank Kepley

From left: Lt. Col. Faircloth, and Col. James Shumway, President of MOAA.

DAR's Constitution Week a big success

During the first event of Constitution Week DAR members, wearing colonial dresses, visited the Sun City Center and SouthShore Libraries. They encouraged visitors to sign a replica of the Constitution. They also handed out Bookmarks. David Floyd, Secretary of the Community

Association, read a proclamation from the CA the upcoming week as "Constitution Week." The proclamation also praised the DAR for its work in the community. Anne Marie Leblanc, Chairman of the 50th Anniversary, also thanked them for sponsoring a week of special events.



DAR members in costume are left to right: Wilma Elmer, Bunny Blackstone, Linda Berry, Sondra Harnishfeger, Pat Fricke, and CA Secretary David Floyd.

SCC vets to hear about Qatar today

VFW Post 1288 of Sun City Center will hold its next meeting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13 in the Sandpiper Room.

CPO Karen Leonard will relate her experiences while stationed in Qatar. All veterans are welcomed.

Beta Sigma Phi to meet

June Wallace, a speaker from Tampa Bay's "Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking," will present a program at the Laureate Zeta Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi's monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20, at the home of Naomi Herren in Sun City Center.

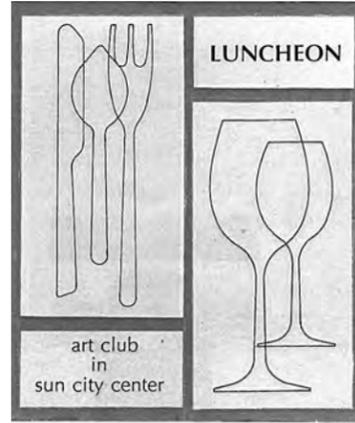
For more information, call (813) 634-9774.

Art Club presents fall luncheon

The Art Club in Sun City Center will present its fall Pot-Luck Luncheon from noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2. The luncheon which will be held alfresco, in tents, outside the Art Room, will coincide with the opening of a new exhibit in the adjacent Art Gallery, featuring the works of Nancy Cooper. There will be the opportunity to enjoy a pleasant luncheon with residents of the SCC community and then visit the Gallery to view Nancy's fine artworks.

Admission to the Gallery is free; admission to the luncheon is that you bring a dish of your choice: salad, dessert or other. The only prerequisite for luncheon attendance is that (if possible) you sign up beforehand in the Art Rom, indicating what gastronomic delight you intend to bring, so that the guests can anticipate a wide variety of dishes.

For those who cannot attend the opening or luncheon, Nancy's works will remain on display through the end of December and the Gallery is open to visitors from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday.



Volunteers efforts are recognized

Irene Glow spoke at a recent meeting of the Interfaith Council thanking them for the grant money the library received that was used to purchase large print books and DVDs for the visually impaired. Residents of the Greater Sun City Center area, 55 or over, have access to over 22,761 items including books, paperbacks, magazines, audio cassettes, video tapes, DVDs and CDs with their patron cards.

Grants from the IFC are made possible by proceeds from the Nearly New Shop in Sun City Center and the hard working volunteers at the shop. The Nearly New Shop is located at 1515 Sun City Center Plaza and is open from 8 a.m. to noon. Wednesday and Saturday. Donations are accepted anytime the shop is open or may be left in the drop box. Arrangements can be made to pick up larger items by calling 642-9099.



Left to right: Jay Sparkman, President of the Interfaith Council of SCC; Irene Glow, Sun City Center Head Librarian; and Pat Pelton, Vice President of the IFC.

Brandon Chai group to gather

A gathering of the Brandon Chai group of Hadassah will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19 in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at Beth Israel Temple, located at 1115 Del Webb Blvd. in Sun City Center.

The group is going to be extending their current group into Sun City Center, so this is the place to be to find out about joining, and hear all about Hadassah.

For more information, call Carol Balent at (813) 829-7227.

DJ Darlene to entertain

SCC Dance Club invites you to their dance from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at Community Hall.

Music by DJ Darlene with a variety of music. Attire is dressy casual. Members are free and guests are \$6 per person at the door. Singles are always welcome. BYOB and snacks.

For more information call (813) 633-7173.

Friday night at the movies

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West and the Good News Sunday School Class, will be hosting a monthly Friday Night At The Movies at 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 14 in Creason Hall.

The name of the movie is *What If*. It is about a young man who left his college sweetheart and his calling to be a preacher, to seek a business career. After fifteen years, and working himself up to become a high-paying executive, a trophy fiance and a new Mercedes, he has an opportunity to see what his life would have been like had he taken the path God had intended for him.

Dance the night away

The Oldies But Goodies Dance Club will host the October dance from 7 to 10 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 30 in the Community Hall.

The entertainers are "Ocean Road." The cost is \$5 per person for guests. Club members are free. BYOB.

For more information, call (813) 633-5649.

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Weight Watchers meeting scheduled
Weight Watchers meets every Thursday from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at United Community Church, 1501 LaJolla Ave., Sun City Center.
For more information, e-mail Sandy at samt1995@yahoo.com.

HOLE IN ONE
Ruth Kramer shot a hole-in-one on Sept. 14, 2011 on the 8th hole at the Sandpiper Palms Course in Sun City Center, FL. She used a 9 Wood.
This feat was witnessed by Phyllis Morgan and Homer Haley.

Planners assessing Tampa Bay water taxi for commuters

■ By MELODY JAMESON
mj@observernews.net

While many questions remain, professional planners now are examining an unusual transportation answer: a commuters' Tampa Bay water taxi from a South County site.

A feasibility study is underway and the consultant's preliminary report is expected when various area transportation authorities convene next week.

Hillsborough County has access to nearly a half million dollars in federal grant monies earmarked for engineering and construction work on just such a project.

And a cross-bay taxi service would markedly reduce driving times, take cars off roadways, perhaps even make commutes more enjoyable.

But would westbound workers starting from east side locales use the service and can it be made financially viable.

These are among the key issues transportation planners are evaluating as they consider the prospect of a water ferry from the mouth of the Alafia River to MacDill AFB, daily carrying both military and civilian personnel to and from the base that has become a strategic, multi-disciplinary, command installation.

The Hillsborough County Water Ferry Feasibility Study was initiated in March when area transportation leaders agreed the idea was

worth a look. The interested entities and agencies include MacDill, Hillsborough County, the Hillsborough Area Rapid Transit system (HART), The Planning Commission and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Subsequently, Jacobs Engineering, a Tampa-based firm, was commissioned by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), an arm of The Planning Commission, to examine whether a taxi service could be designed and whether it could become financially advantageous for users as well as for operators, according to Randy Kranjec, an MPO planner. Jacobs also works with Cambridge Systematics, a national firm with Florida east coast offices which has specific experience in water ferry projects, Kranjec added.

Initial consideration of the concept by transportation engineers and planners narrowed the range of possible routes across the bay to a first focus on the Alafia-to-MacDill trip accommodating South and East County residents commuting regularly to jobs or facilities on the base, the planner said. He noted that a large number of the person-

See WATER TAXIS, page 6

Woman on a mission

■ Continued from page 3

Originally from upstate New York, June is a widow with two grown children and two grandchildren. Her empathy for victims and their families keeps her going.

"My heart goes out to everyone who has been abducted or brought



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

June Wallace has been recognized with many awards for her work against human trafficking. Since moving to Sun City Center from Largo earlier this year, she has been working to make the public aware of the Tampa Bay Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking and how it affects South County.

into this, but especially to the girls involved in the sex trafficking. It's so easy for them to end up murdered or as suicides. Their average age is 13 and their life expectancy is only seven years (after the abduction)."

June will give presentations to civic and religious groups and any others who will listen. She is also hoping to catch the attention of fundraisers so she can start a project to build a shelter.

The January event will be a four-hour course entitled, "The Many Faces of Human Trafficking," and will be given by two experts, Dewey Williams, retired commander of the Tampa Bay task force and Sandra Lythe, who works with the task force in the three-county area. Both are adjunct professors at RCPI (Regional Community Policing Institute) at St. Petersburg College.

The event is funded by World Relief, which is the victim's services arm of the task force and is funded by the U.S. Department of Justice.

"The task force can't do legislation or fundraising because it is funded by the government, that has to be done by a grass roots organization," June said. Her hope is that local civic and faith-based organizations and houses of worship will ask for a presentation and become involved, either before, or after

the January event.

"The whole thing is about awareness," she added.

There are ongoing projects to help victims, such as SOAP, (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution) which was founded by Theresa Flores, once a victim herself who managed to escape. Eventually June would like to see a SOAP project in South County.

Now a licensed social worker with a master's degree in counseling, Flores's SOAP project puts labels on bath soap and delivers it to motels, especially in areas where a lot of people will be gathering, such as national political conventions and sporting events.

The SOAP project is national and details about it are available on line at <http://www.traffickfree.com/blog/2011/05/the-s-o-a-p-project>.

"The victims often get to be alone in the bathroom, and can see the hotline number on the soap," June said. The labels say "If you are being held against your will" and give a hotline number. There is always a chance that at some time they will be able to get to a phone and will know there is someone waiting to rescue them.

People who want to help, receive training or just find out more may call June on her cell phone, 727-688-0150 or email her at junewallace@gmail.com.

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LEW RESSEGUIE as Jim

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Free Community Shred-a-Thon!

Saturday October 15th | 10:00 am –2:00 pm

Local residents, bring your old documents to Cotter Financial where we will have a specially designed commercial shredding truck on site to destroy your documents before your eyes! Each 1,000 pounds of paper shredded saves one mature tree. So protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft and help the environment as well. Paper only, please. You need not remove staples and paper clips. Watch your documents being shredded on closed circuit television!

Complimentary refreshments (hot dogs, sodas, bottled water) provided by Cotter Financial, LLC. You may enter to win a great cross-cut shredder for your home. The drawing is free!

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Apocalypse Now???

Free Briefing | Tuesday October 18th | 10:00 am

Financial Markets are a rollercoaster. Are we too old for rollercoasters? Where will it all end? Gary Cotter, CFP doesn't think the end of the world is near, but he is advising investors to be cautious with their money. To get his perspective from three decades of experience, plan to attend a free one-hour briefing open to the public. Learn:

- Are there sensible ways to earn more income in today's low interest environment?
- Is anything safe anymore? Who backs up so-called guaranteed investments?
- Should you be out of the stock market altogether?
- What are smart investors doing now?

Don't miss this informative session. Light refreshments will be served.

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For reservations call (813) 634-2000



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SOUTHSHORE REGIONAL LIBRARY

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Kids' Program/Event Highlights

October 13 to 19

Teen Night: Anime Club

Thursday, Oct. 13 • 5 to 8 p.m.

For middle and high school students. Join them for an evening of Anime and Manga! Spend some time with other kids who love to read Japanese Manga and watch Anime straight from Japan! Refreshments provided by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

Family Story Time

Thursday, Oct. 13 • 7 to 7:30 p.m.

For ages 2-5 with a caregiver ~ Make reading time family time. Stories, action rhymes, songs, interactive activities, and crafts make up this fun 30-minute program that celebrates a love of reading. Children may wear pajamas and bring a blanket and favorite cuddly toy.

"Wee Artists": Let's Create*

Saturday, Oct. 15 • 10:15 to 11 a.m.

"Wee Artists," 3-6 years, will have fun creating a Halloween art project with our art instructor. Adult must be present. Limit 15. Registration required at Information Desk or by calling 273-3652.

"Expressive Artists": Let's Create!*

Saturday, Oct. 15 • 11:30am to 12:30 p.m.

"Expressive Artists," 11 years and up, will have fun creating a Halloween art project with our art instructor. Limit 20. Registration required at Information Desk or by calling 273-3652.

Spooktacular Spectacle*

Saturday, Oct. 15 • 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For kids in grades K-4th. Join them for spooky stories, fun games, and other treats! Kids can come dressed in their favorite costumes!

"Pee Wee Artists": Let's Create!*

Monday, Oct. 17 • 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

"Pee Wee Artists," 3-5 years, will have fun creating a Halloween art project with our art instructor. Limit 15. Adult must be present. Registration required at either the Library Information Desk or by calling 273-3652.

Baby Time

Monday, Oct. 17 • 1:35 to 1:55 p.m.

For children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. Early literacy begins at birth. Bond with your baby through stories, bouncy rhymes and songs in this 20-minute lapsit program that introduces early literacy skills and encourages language development.

Teen Advisory Board

Monday, Oct. 17 • 7 to 8 p.m.

For middle and high school students. Have a voice in creating library programs for teens and earn community service hours toward graduation, scholarships and more! Co-sponsored by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library & Domino's Pizza.

Toddler Time

Tuesday, Oct. 18 • 10:05 to 10:25 a.m. and 10:35 to 10:55 a.m.

For children ages 18-36 months and their caregivers. Stories, fingerplays, songs and interactive activities make up this fun 20-minute program that highlights early literacy skills and encourages reading readiness.

Story Time

Tuesday, Oct. 18 • 11 to 11:30 a.m.

For children ages 3-5 and their caregivers. Stories, action rhymes, songs and interactive activities make up this engaging 30-minute program that highlights early literacy skills, and encourages reading readiness and social interaction.

Baby Time

Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 10:05 to 10:25 a.m.

For children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. Early literacy begins at birth. Bond with your baby through stories, bouncy rhymes and songs in this 20-minute lapsit program that introduces early literacy skills and encourages language development.

Toddler Time • Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 10:35 to 10:55 a.m.

For children ages 18-36 months and their caregivers. Stories, fingerplays, songs and interactive activities make up this fun 20-minute program that highlights early literacy skills and encourages reading readiness.

Story Time

Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 11 to 11:30 a.m.

For children ages 3-5 and their caregivers. Stories, action rhymes, songs and interactive activities make up this engaging 30-minute program that highlights early literacy skills, and encourages reading readiness and social interaction.

Adult/Teen Calligraphy Class*

Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Join Art Instructor, Minnette Webster, and learn step-by-step instructions for creating calligraphy. Limit 20. Registration required at SouthShore Regional Library. Please visit the Library Information Desk at or call 273-3652.

*Free event is provided by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library. Go to www.southshorefriends.com or call (813) 634-1396 for more information about the Friends.

Pioneer family to hold reunion Nov. 12

Descendents of Earl Lincoln and Rosella 'Rose' Miller Manners Adams will hold a family reunion from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 12 at the Riverview Community Center on Riverview Drive in Riverview.

Earl and Rose left Jefferson County, Pennsylvania in 1908, with their nine children, heading for a forty acre plot on Tampa Bay. They arrived in 1909 after stopping in West Virginia to have their tenth child. Purchased sight unseen, their intentions were to forge out a living in what was advertised as a 'tropical paradise.' Finding a wild land with huge pine trees and feral animals and not the tropical paradise that they had expected, they continued to clear and work the land to build a community.

Adamsville, between Gibsonton and Apollo Beach,

became their legacy, where descendents, to this day, still live around the loop of Adamsville Road and Kracker Avenue.

All descendents of William T. Adams, Mae Adams Moore, Roy O. Adams, Gould E. Adams, Norma



The original Adams family as it was in the 1920s when it settled in a part of Gibsonton called Adamsville. Seated are Earl and Rose Adams. Standing left to right are their children, Zena, Dewey, Gardner, Gould, Norma, Will, Mae, Roy, Hazel and Clark.

Adams Carley, Dewey F. Adams, Clark A. Adams, Hazel Adams Kushmer, Zena Adams Kushmer and P. Gardner Adams are invited. A bar-b-que lunch will be catered by Hungry Harry's. Family stories and photos will be shared and activities for the kids and adults will be available.

For more information as well as the cost, contact by email 2011ad-

amsreunion@gmail.com or call Linda Adams Lennard at (850) 652-2916; Sandy Adams Scott at (813) 973-1056; Donna Welchons Dean at (813) 685-1471; or Tamnah O'Neal D'Angelo at (813) 995-1669.

Network at the American Business Woman's meeting and vendor show

You are cordially invited to the American Business Woman's monthly dinner meeting and vendor show on Monday, Oct. 17. The program this month will be 'Members and Vendors Night.' All full members and non-members will have an opportunity to display their products and/or services and they will network for their meeting and everyone will have a few minutes to share information about their business. There will be no cost to display for full members (with National and Local dues paid), but there will be a cost of \$10 for all non-members or partial members to have a display. The meal charge will be in addition to this cost and is detailed below.

Times are as follows: 5:30 p.m. networking and sign-in, followed by 6 p.m. dinner and program at Apollo's Bistro, Apollo Beach Tennis and Racquet Club, Apollo Beach.

In order to promote networking and everyone being able to go to the different displays, they will have heavy appetizers, beverages and dessert, and the price will be \$16 per person (inclusive). Wine and beer will be available for purchase. RSVP early so the restaurant can prepare accordingly. Cash or check only; they cannot accept credit or debit cards for payment.

Bring a friend or business associate and plenty of business cards for networking and getting to know about all the businesses that will be represented from members and non-members. In addition, all attendees will have a moment to introduce themselves and their business whether they participate as a vendor with a display or not.

Space is limited so they will provide tables for displays and tables may be shared depending on the number of vendor reservations received. Vendors will also be limited to a total of 20, so get your reservations in early!

For more information, call Deb Adams at (813) 649-0400.

Riverview Memorial VFW Post #8108

7504 Riverview Dr.
(813) 671-9845

MEETINGS

Men's Auxiliary -- First Thursday at 7 p.m.

Ladies' Auxiliary -- Second Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Post -- Second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

MEALS

Wednesday Spaghetti Dinner from 5 to 7 p.m.

Friday Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m.

Sunday Breakfast from 9 a.m. to noon

CANTEEN HAPPENINGS

Bar Bingo Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Bar Poker with Lori on Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Fire in the Hole on Saturdays at 1 p.m.

Eagles Set Their Weekly Activities

The Ruskin Eagles, FOE, located at 1205 1st St. S.W. has scheduled the following weekly activities.

All events and activities of the Eagles Club are supported by the members and members' guests.

The FOE Aerie meet at 7 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. The Ladies' Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday. Eagle Riders meet the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11 a.m.

Thursday, Oct. 13 -- Bar Games from 1 to 5 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 14 — Feather Your Nest Game at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15 — Pasta Dinner at 5 p.m. Music by Nickles and Dimes at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 16 — Feather Your Nest Game at 6 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17 — Bingo at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 18 — Come on down and socialize.

Wednesday, Oct. 19 — Wings and Things (oh so good!) at 5 p.m. Bar Games at 6 p.m.

For more information, call the club at 645-2922.



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Rockin' the South Shore

The International Independent Showmen's Association presents a music festival at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 6915 Riverview Dr. in Riverview.

There will be live bands, the region's best food, games, and entertainment for the whole family. It will feature a 1000 sq. ft. kids' zone, and a reptile show.

Buy your tickets early and save! Group discounts are available www.SouthShoreMusicFestival.com.

For more information, call (813) 419-SSMF (7763).

Jazz it up with the Kiwanis Club



The Kiwanis Club SouthShore has engaged three jazz groups to play at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13 at the Community Association Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd.

The concert's first half will include the six-piece Dixieland group and the four-piece Sax Jazz. The second half will conclude with the 12-piece Jazz Big Band.

Tickets priced at \$15 per person may be bought at the Atrium ticket counter weekdays from 9 a.m. to noon, or from the SCC Chamber of Commerce weekdays during business hours or at the door the evening of the concert.

For more information, call Joe Nargolwala at (813) 633-8574.



The Savvy Senior

By Jim Miller

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you write a column on fire safety tips for seniors? With winter approaching, it's important that seniors know that home fires are far more common and deadly among the elderly, but there are things they can do to guard against it. Thanks for your help.

Fire Safety Council

Dear Council,

You're right! Because of physical limitations and slower reaction times, seniors are particularly vulnerable in home fires. In fact, according to the U.S. Fire Administration, seniors over the age of 65 are twice as likely to die or be injured in a home fire, than those younger. For those over 75, the risk nearly triples. But with a little awareness and a few precautionary tips (see firesafety.gov), seniors can go a long way in protecting their property and themselves.

Fire Hazards

While there are many possible causes of accidental home fires, the three most common among the elderly are caused by smoking, cooking and alternative heating devices. Here's a breakdown of what seniors can do to protect themselves in each of these key areas.

Fire Safety Tips for Seniors

Smoke Safely: Careless smoking is the leading cause of home fire deaths and the second leading cause of injuries among seniors. For those who smoke it's important to remember:

- Never smoke in bed.
- Put your cigarette or cigar out at the first sign of feeling drowsy while watching television or reading.
- Don't leave your lit cigarette or cigar unattended.
- Use deep ashtrays and put your cigarettes all the way out.
- Consider switching to fire-save cigarettes (firesafecigarettes.org) that self-extinguish when they're not being smoked.

Cook Safely

Home cooking fires are the number one cause of fire injuries among the elderly. Tips that can help include:

- Never leave food cooking on a stove top unattended. When leaving the kitchen, take a wooden spoon or potholder as a reminder to turn off the oven or burners, or consider installing an automatic stove shut-off device as a safety precaution. Cookstop.com, homesensors.com, stoveguardintl.com and pioneeringtech.com sell them.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing with hanging sleeves when you cook and keep towels and pot holders away from flames or burners.
- Never use the range or oven to heat your home.
- Double-check the kitchen before you go to bed or leave the house.

Heat Safely

Alternative heating devices like space heaters, stoves and fireplaces

are another potential fire hazard for seniors. Seniors who use these devices should keep these tips in mind:

- If you use a space heater, keep anything that can burn at least three feet away and always turn it off when you leave the house or go to sleep. Also, if you're buying a new space heater, look for one with a safety feature that automatically shuts off the power if the heater falls over.
- If you use a fireplace that burns wood, be sure you have a glass or metal screen front to catch the flying sparks and rolling logs, and have the chimney flue inspected annually and cleaned if needed.
- If you use a heating device fueled by gas, oil, wood or kerosene purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors to alert you to potential toxic gas problems.

Home Tips

Around 75 percent of seniors who die in fires each year don't have working smoke alarms in their homes. Seniors or caregivers

should make it a priority to install smoke alarms on every level of their house outside their sleeping area, and change the batteries at least once a year. It's also important to have an escape plan in the event of a fire.

For seniors who are hearing impaired, companies like Silent Call (silentcall.com) and Harris Communications (harriscomm.com) sell smoke and carbon monoxide detectors that work with flashing strobe lights and bed vibrators to alert you when a problem arises.

And, there are also home smoke and fire monitoring services like ADT (adtfireprotection.com) that can alert seniors, caregivers and the fire department if a fire happens.

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.

SOUTHSHORE REGIONAL LIBRARY

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Adult Program/Event Highlights October 13 to 19

Access: Table Relationships, Queries and Filters

Thursday, Oct. 13 • 12:15 to 2:30 p.m.

Learn about tables and relationships. Learn about queries and filters. Familiarity with Microsoft Access or relational database concepts is recommended. Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the start of the program.

eBooks, eReaders and Digital Media

Tuesday, Oct. 18 • 12:15 to 2:30 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. Learn about transfer media from CDs and digital cameras to your PC. Learn about creating MP3s and MP3 players Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the start of the program.

Adventures in Writing

Tuesday, Oct. 18 • 1 to 3 p.m.

Connect with local writers to discuss all aspects of the writing process. Inspire, encourage, and exchange ideas. Opportunities to share your writings and receive feedback will be available. If you've ever wanted to be a writer, this is the group for you! All levels of writers are welcome.

E-Mail: Attachments

Tuesday, Oct. 18 • 6 to 7 p.m.

Learn about sending and receiving attachments in your e-mail. Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the start of the program.

Adult/Teen Calligraphy Class*

Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Join Art Instructor, Minnette Webster, and learn step by step instructions for creating calligraphy. Limit 20. Registration required at SouthShore Regional Library. Please visit the Library Information Desk at or call 273-3652.

SouthShore Needle People

Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 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!

Mah Jongg Club

Wednesday, Oct. 19 • 7 to 8:45 p.m.

Join them for an evening of the popular table game, Mah Jongg, featuring enjoyable play for experienced players and instruction for beginners. We will be using the American Rules. Spectators are welcome! Please bring your own Mah Jongg sets or card if you have one. Limited to 16 players. Register in advance at the Library Information Desk or call 273-3652.

*Free event is provided by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library. Go to www.southshorefriends.com or call (813) 634-1396 for more information about the Friends.

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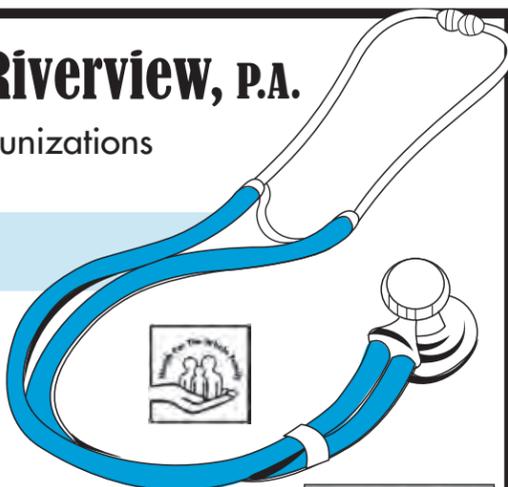
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SUN CITY
October 28 @ 2:00 p.m.
Bob Evans
102 Commercial Center Dr.

Call us for other dates in your area

Camp Bayou to serve up a day of family fun on Saturday

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

RUSKIN — Celebrate the beginning of autumn at Camp Bayou this weekend with some great food and music, along with the incomparable environment the outdoor learning center has to offer. On Saturday, Oct. 15 from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Ruskin's Camp Bayou will hold their second annual Beef 'n Bones at the Bayou, a fundraiser for the 501c3 non-profit nature conservancy.

The daylong event will feature music by The Front Porch Pickers, performing at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.,

with an assortment of guitars, banjos, mandolins, fiddles, washtub bass and the occasional spoon and washboard. Kayaks are available for rent at the center's new launch site on the Little Manatee River, or visitors are free to bring their own. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be served by Wild Dogs, and center volunteers will be on hand for water safety and fishing classes, as well as with information about the center's programs, including their "Sponsor a Gopher Tortoise" program. Additionally, there will be a silent auction and art sale running from noon to 7 p.m.

As the sun sets, things only pick

up for the event with Zebron & James taking the stage from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dinner will be ribs, chicken and sides along with beverages, including select beers and wines.

Tickets are available online or at the gate. Individual tickets are \$5 with a group gate pass for four people available for \$15. Children under six are admitted at no charge. For tickets online, visit www.campbayoubeefnbones.eventbrite.com.

For further information, contact Jennifer McCafferty at jentmail@hotmail.com or call 813-846-1316.

Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center is a 160-acre nature preserve located next to the Little Manatee River and proximate to the Cockroach Bay Aquatic Preserve and Tampa Bay. Their mission is to preserve a sample of Florida's

original habitats and to promote appreciation and understanding of the area's unique natural resources, local culture and history through environmental education and a hands-on learning center.

Camp Bayou is located 3 miles south of State Road 674 on 24th Street SE in Ruskin. For more information, visit www.campbayou.org or call 813-641-8545.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Camp Bayou will hold their second annual Beef 'n Bones fundraiser on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

MAKING SENSE OF MEMORY LOSS

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Presented by Carol White, MSW, CDP, Brookdale Senior Living®

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Join us for a special presentation that will address the challenges associated with providing care for Alzheimer's and dementia patients during the stressful holiday season. A Q&A session will follow, with the opportunity to interact with others also facing this time of the year. Make plans now to attend.

Wednesday, October 26 Alzheimer's and Dementia Holiday Travel and Visits

Boxed lunches will be provided at 11 a.m. Presentation to follow.

Reservations required. Please call (813) 633-4340.



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OCTOBER 11TH BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Presented by Terrie Jefferson, RN, CNO

Join us for an informative and inspiring lecture about breast cancer prevention and awareness.

All attendees will receive a Pink breast cancer bag.

OCTOBER 18TH "FIT TO DRIVE"

Presented by Susan Maroney, OTR/L, CDRS

Did you know that good health is an important part of being a good driver? Join Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist for tips to keep you in the driver's seat. All attendees will receive a free blood pressure screening.

OCTOBER 25TH - NO CLASS

NOVEMBER 1ST "HEART ATTACK 101"

Presented by Rhonda Burns, RN, Director of Emergency Services

Would you know what to do if you started having chest pains, sudden or severe headaches, nausea, sweating, or shortness of breath? Join our Emergency Services Director to learn what symptoms could mean big problems, when to call 911, and what to expect. All attendees will receive a stainless steel coffee mug.

NOVEMBER 8TH "HOLIDAY EATING DO'S AND DON'TS"

Presented by Carole Miller, RDLD, Clinical Nutrition Manager

The holidays often come with a wide array of tempting treats. Join our registered licensed dietitian for this interactive healthy eating class to learn how you can eat right and feel great while still enjoying your favorite holiday foods. All attendees will receive a Heart Healthy Cookbook.

NOVEMBER 15TH "CONQUERING INCONTINENCE"

Presented by Claudia Ramey, RN, ARNP

Did you know that incontinence affects 1 in 3 Americans over the age of 60? Join us to learn the different types of incontinence, the causes of incontinence and what you can do to lessen and treat the symptoms of incontinence. All attendees will receive a blue tote bag.

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Tai chi for seniors

■ Continued from page 1

and people are seated on rows of chairs. By ten after ten, background music is playing softly and Jeanette Craig and Truvia Richardson have begun to instruct the group in therapeutic Tai Chi.

Their class is open to everyone, not just to SunTowers residents or residents of Sun City Center, and there is no cost.

"Gather in your arms," says Truvia as she spreads her arms out wide and makes a circle, starting at the bottom and working her way up over her head. She takes her time. Others take theirs.

Part of the benefit of therapeutic

Tai Chi is that the movements are slow and very deliberate.

"Bow and arrow," she calls next. "Pull the strings on the right side. Turn slowly and pull the strings on the left."

First-timers to the group follow her lead well because she makes it easy for them and Truvia demonstrates everything in the front of the room.

Meanwhile, Jeanette walks through the aisles between chairs giving one-on-one assistance to those who want it.

The two therapists have been giving the therapeutic Tai Chi

class for about a year after taking a course in balance instruction where they learned moves they wanted to incorporate into their therapy routines.

"It's much simpler, especially for people who have trouble with regular exercises, than regular Tai Chi because balance exercises are built right in," said Truvia. "Anyone who has balance or endurance issues should consider taking it."

It's a good thing for people who use assistance devices such as canes or walkers too, she added.

Jeanette urges people who cannot stand to do the exercises while seated in their chairs. Others hold the back of a chair in front of them as they stand. Everyone participates as much as they can.

Denny Hanson, 74, who has lived in the area for eight years, coming from Minnesota, has been taking the class about six months. He works at many forms of exercise, especially dancing. He goes to classes in Latin, rhythm and line dancing and also works out in the gym at least twice a week.

"I love the (therapeutic Tai Chi) class," he said. "It gives you many health benefits and it helps you gain a lot of control."

Another reason cited for liking it is because it's safe to practice at home.

Jeanette decided to offer the class both sitting and standing because those who can't stand and exercise can work the same core muscles in the mid-body sitting down.

Jeanette is an occupational therapist at SunTowers and Truvia is a physical therapist. Both say mixing therapy with Tai Chi - an ancient Chinese system of physical exercise and control - is an excellent fit.



George Long uses his Hur card for the first time. When swiped like a credit card, the card recognizes the person and tells each piece of equipment how long and at what speed (or weight) he or she is to exercise as prescribed by the therapist.



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTOS

Jeanette Craig gives one-on-one instruction to newcomers in the therapeutic Tai Chi class held in the restaurant at Sun Towers in Sun City Center. The class is open and free to people from every community in South County and is held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. The movements taught are especially helpful for people with balance problems or those that need the assistance of a walker or cane.

Their class is different from regular Tai Chi classes because it is designed around movements used in physical and occupational therapy.

"Many of the moves in Tai Chi work the same muscles the same way as we would in regular therapy and are more fun, while helping a person create a sense of balance," Truvia said.

A respiratory therapy group which is part of a Better Breathing group joins them once a month as well.

"This is much safer for someone with respiratory problems than many other forms of exercise," Jeanette said.

There is no need to register or call ahead to participate in the Wednesday class.

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Nothing more to lose

A friend I have known since second grade sent an email telling me his dog had been diagnosed with lymphatic cancer. In the email, he included a quote from an Indiana Jones movie: "We have reached the age where life stops giving us things and starts taking them away."

On that day, the quote certainly appeared apt. A coworker, a woman I have come to admire and love, lost her husband. He was a good man; he had a good spirit. I know that because I could feel it whenever he came into the office. Everything around him brightened.

Also on that day, Apple co-founder Steve Jobs passed away. Regardless of your opinion of Apple products, Mr. Jobs had something in his heart that few people possess or have the courage to unveil. I am certain that history will show him to be the Thomas Edison of our time. He changed the world; he changed how we see the world. In my home, I have more Apple products than I care to admit. I don't own those products from being a "fanboy" (a term often used to describe those obsessed with Apple), I have them because they work, and they do what I want and need them to do. Every article I have ever written, every photo I have taken has gone through a Mac before it has landed on your driveway. Furthermore, despite this being the age of disposable consumer electronics, in more than a decade of using Macs and other Apple products, I have yet to throw one away — none of them

have stopped working yet.

I don't know what kind of a man Steve Jobs was because he was intensely private beyond the public image he displayed as CEO of Apple. I've heard all of the descriptors: charismatic, dictatorial and so on. I do know that he conceived of things that people didn't yet know they wanted. That is something special. I do know that he created

what has been, at times, the world's largest company from a business he started in his parent's garage. That, too, is something special. I know that he made my life better. I've accomplished things using Apple computers that I would not have been able to accomplish otherwise. Personally, I'm grateful to him. On a larger scale, I'm

grateful that he was an American, and that he kept this nation at the forefront of what the entire world has recognized as some seriously cool technology. But his genius and billions of dollars in the bank couldn't prevent his passing.

Then the following day, one of my wife's co-workers passed away, leaving behind a disabled husband and a 13-year-old daughter. The woman was younger than my wife was. And then, my boss at The Observer discovered her own doctor was on medical leave and it was uncertain if he would be able to return. "If he can't save himself, how can he save me?" she asked with sadness about his fate in her voice.

We are all going to die someday. Across this planet, approximately 100 people die each minute,

See **OBSERVATIONS**, page 18



Observations
By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net



Apple co-founder Steve Jobs is remembered on the Apple website. "Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose," he told graduating seniors at Stanford University in 2005.

Water taxis

Continued from page 6

nel assigned to the base in recent years have purchased family homes in communities on the east side of Tampa Bay.

The Alafia-to-MacDill route might begin at or near Williams Park which is located on the river a short distance inland from the point where river and bay meet and in the vicinity of Mosaic's phosphate processing plant. The phosphate mining and processing giant is aware of the concept under discussion and has not raised any objections, Kranjec said.

The planner also noted that a commercial, passenger-carrying, water taxi or ferry across the bay has been batted around without any notion of funding options for the last 10 to 15 years. The idea began to get more serious attention, he added, when Hillsborough learned a couple of years ago that it could access \$475,000 in grant monies from the Federal Highway Administration, if the funds were dedicated to such a project.

Appealing though the notion may be to some, Kranjec cautioned there are a number of questions yet to be answered and a raft of details to be worked through before such a taxi or ferry can go from drawing board to waterfront. The concept will require a private operator "to make it happen," the planner said, adding the project will have to be financially appealing to such an operator.

Then, there are the matters of travel times in real time and costs to users along with vehicle savings that would make such a commuting method desirable enough to build ridership. There are "a lot of rungs on this ladder and we're still on the first one," the planner emphasized.

Some of the answers may begin to take shape next Friday, October 21, when transportation planners hear the engineers' first assessment of the concept's viability, based on the South County to military base route. The public meeting is scheduled for 1:30 PM in planning commission Tampa offices, Kranjec said, adding that public comment is taken at the end of each session.

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Typical New York City water taxi.

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



TABITHA

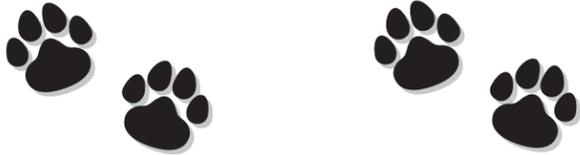
Tabitha is a gray tabby female with white feet. There isn't a volunteer who can pass by her bed without picking her up and cuddling. She is very high on the cute scale and exploding with the energy of a kitten. While not quite a TV star yet, Tabitha has all the looks that can bewitch the hearts of all volunteers. Won't you provide her a forever home? Tabitha as part of her adoption has been neutered and brought up-to-date on her shots and microchipped. DOB: June 23, 2011.

C.A.R.E. is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For directions, visit www.CareShelter.org or call (813) 645-2273.



ELVIS

Elvis is a Chihuahua who was left locked in the house that his owners abandoned. Another day or two, Elvis would not have been with us. Fortunately, a kind realtor found him while showing the property and brought him to C.A.R.E. Elvis is gaining weight every day. We believe he will make a full recovery. Elvis is super cute and affectionate. He also seems to like both cats and dogs. As part of his adoption, Elvis will be neutered, microchipped, and brought current on his shots. DOB: May 2, 2010.



Pipeline design is public meeting topic

The Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department has scheduled a public meeting to discuss the design of a new sewage pipeline in the area of I-75 and S.R. 674 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 18 at Southshore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way in Ruskin.

The \$6 million project will install approximately 10,000 feet of 30-inch sewage force main from Cortaro Drive and S.R. 674, to the South County Wastewater Treatment Plant on the western side of I-75.

The route will take the line through the Villages of Cypress Creek community. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2012, and last nine months.

The work is the second phase of a two-part project to build a new sewage pipeline from U.S. Highway 301 to the South County Wastewater Treatment Plant. The first phase, along S.R. 674 from U.S. 301 to Cortaro Drive, has already been completed.

The new line is being built to accommodate growth in the south county area and to increase overall system reliability by providing a second transmission main along the S.R. 674 corridor. The project is being funded through the Water Enterprise's Capital Improvement Program.

Public utilities staff and design firm representatives will be at the meeting to talk about the construction of this second portion of the pipeline and answer questions.

All meeting facilities are accessible in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Any additional necessary accommodations will be provided with a 48-hour notice. For more information, call Steve Valdez, Client Services Manager at 307-8386.

It's all about Veterans!

Liberty Manor for Veterans, Inc. has a free BBQ every 3rd Friday of the month (Oct. 21) from noon to 2 p.m. at 10015 N. 9th Street, Tampa.

Attend this fabulous event that boasts BBQ consisting of pork, brisket, chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs with all the trimmings, plus grilled fish and steak – this is more than the traditional BBQ!

Meet some of the veterans that are responsible for the freedom that we enjoy today. 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.

The Patriots Club is extending its fundraising drive for the 'Wounded Warriors' until Oct. 31. So, if you were not able to attend the 9/11 Observance, you still have a chance to contribute to this worthy cause. Checks should be made out to: Patriots Club of Sun City Center, marked 'FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS.' Mail your donation to: The Patriots Club of SCC, 1009 N. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center, FL 33573.

For more information, contact Connie Blaney at (813) 900-9422.



Left to right: CEO, Liberty Manor, Connie Blaney; Dave Braun, Hillsborough County Veterans Council; and Connie Odell, Rolling Thunder.

Fiber artist sought

The John Crawford Advisory Board is looking for Fiber Artists (quilting, weaving, felting and handmade paper art) to display their work in a group show at the Crawford Gallery during the months of March/April 2012 at SouthShore Regional Library.

Applications are available on Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Information Desk at SouthShore Regional Library. Applications are due Dec. 1.

For more information, call Laurie Burhop at (813) 273-3652.

BBB offers consumer support

Eric Ogbelsby, a mediation/arbitration specialist, will be presenting information about the complaint and resolution support offered by the B.B.B., as well as general information regarding the bureau.

Eric works with over 25 volunteer arbitrators and closely with B.B.B. This meeting will held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20 at the South Shore Regional Service Center 410 30th St., S.E. in Ruskin.

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South Hillsborough Elks Lodge #2672
Upcoming Activities



Every Wednesday: Best Spaghetti in Town -- \$7, All You Can Eat, for all Elks and their guests. Music by Bryan from 5 to 8 p.m.

Every Friday: Seafood and Sandwiches for all Elks and their guests from 5 to 7 p.m. Karaoke by Bryan from 5 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15: 50s Dance for all Elks and their guests from 6 to 9 p.m. with music by Double Density. \$7 with light snacks. Dress up in your 50s outfits.

Monday, Oct. 17: \$7 Blue Plate Special. Menu: Chicken & Noodles with all the trimmings. Only 50 tickets will be sold.

Saturday, Oct. 29: ENF Fundraiser. Entertainment is the Crazy Carol Show. Hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m. and the show is scheduled for 6 p.m.. The cost is \$8. Carol has put together a completely new program.

Feb. 12-19, 2012: Join S. Hillsborough Elks Lodge Valentine's Western Caribbean Fundraiser Cruise, 7 days from only \$643.00.

The South Hillsborough Elks Lodge is located at 1630 U.S. Hwy. 41 S., Ruskin, FL 33570. The Club has a clean, smoke-free environment. For more information, call (813) 645-2089.

Haunting tradition

E.G Simmons Park, 2401 19th Ave. NW in Ruskin, will be having its 2nd annual 'Simmons Park after Dark' from 5 to 10 p.m. on Oct. 28, and from 5 to 11 p.m. on Oct. 29, from 5 to 11 p.m.

There will be a 1/2-mile haunted trail recommended for ages 10 and up, a kid's hayride around the park and many other family friendly activities. Food and beverages will be sold at the event.

There is a \$2 park entry fee per vehicle up to 8 people. The haunted trail and hayride will be one ticket and each tickets cost \$5. They only accept cash and do not have an ATM on site.

For more information, call (813) 617-7655.

Parenting classes for Divorcees

Classes are being offered from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 26; Nov. 9, 30; and Dec. 7 at the Hillsborough County Extension Service, 5339 C.R. 579 in Seffner.

Hillsborough County Extension is offering classes for those who are going through a divorce and have children. The four-hour course is required by the State of Florida when a child is involved in the divorce or custody process, and includes: shared parenting and permanency of the parental role, child development stages and impacts of a divorce on children, communicating with your children, communicating with the other parent, child abuse/neglect and spouse abuse, legal concepts and community resources, families in transition, helping your children understand and cope with divorce

Couples may only attend the same session with special permission. The cost of the class is \$25 and includes a workbook. A sliding fee scale is available. Children are not permitted in the class. You must bring a picture identification to class, such as a driver's license. A certificate will be given at the end of class. You must arrive on time. Late arrivals may not be admitted. To register online with a credit card, click on "Divorce Class Registration" at <http://urlmin.com/HillsboroughParenting> or call (813) 744-5519 x140.

Library hosts book sale

Friends of the Ruskin Branch Public Library are hosting a book sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15 in the Pauline Dickman Lawler Community Room.

The event is for adult, teen, and children age groups and is open to the public. Books are available in the bookstore and in the Pauline Dickman Lawler Community Room.

Friends of the Ruskin Branch Public Library memberships will be available at the door.



You, Me, and Business

By: **Dana Dittmar, Executive Director**
SCC Chamber News

My friend Julie's husband is the Coupon King. Recently retired, he has the time to leisurely flip through the inserts in the Sunday paper and cut out coupons for free appetizers at Ruby Tuesdays and BOGO hotdogs at Publix. I'm not sure if he's ever figured out how much he saves doing this, but I'd be willing to bet it's a lot!

I wish I had the time to do this. I don't even look at the Groupons that come in my email. They're fantastic deals, but usually for a bikini wax in St. Pete or a spa retreat in Safety Harbor. If I don't have time to clip the coupons for Walgreen's, I don't have time to drive across the Bay to be pampered.

Coupons are God's way of telling us we deserve a little treat at a slightly better price. And in this economy, we can all use all the better pricing we can get. As my mother used to say, "take care of the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves."

So we are pleased to announce the Chamber has created a Discount Coupon Book for the Southshore area, featuring some super deals by our local businesses. You can pick up a book for \$10 at the Chamber office.

Several restaurants are featured: Seafood Dive, The Docks Bar and Grille, Wild Dogs, and Bella Cucina. If you don't feel like going

out, Take Out Butler will deliver for free.

Want to go on a fishing trip? Snooky Bear Charters will take \$50 off the cost. If golf is more your thing, we have discount coupons for Freedom Fairways and ClubLink at Club Renaissance.

Need carpets cleaned, your AC system inspected or some handyman services? We've got coupons for those, too! Don't forget the pooch. Dog Paws on the Go is giving a discount on Fido's grooming.

Personally, I want the discounts for Spa Celeste at Club Renaissance and the in-home massage from Impact Wellness!

Thinking about losing some weight? Take Shape for Life will give you a week's worth of their food free! And several of our local medical offices have coupons for free exams: vision, hearing, the veins in your legs...

AlumaCar has some deals on a golf cart and both Ed Morse Cadillac and Firkins Automotive have great deals on a new car.

No matter what you need, I'd be willing to bet we have a coupon for it! So come on by and purchase your discount book while they last - it's first come, first served.

I think I can find time for that free hand paraffin treatment! And a nice dinner.



You, Me & Business

By Dana Dittmar

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Hey, you sound like that **other** bear. What's his name? Smokey! Yeah, that's it.



Fire Safety Matters!

Do you know any firefighters? Everyone likes to talk to them about their jobs. It's fun to visit the firehouse or have firefighters come and talk at school. They like to talk about preventing fires and display pieces of their equipment. Three safety messages that firefighters share with students are:

- Get out of the house quickly if there is a fire.
- Call the fire department from a neighbor's house.
- If your clothes catch on fire remember to **STOP, DROP AND ROLL!**

Read our fire safety and prevention words scattered about this puzzle. Notice the letters already placed in the puzzle. Use them to help you fit the fire words into the puzzle.

Cut out the list and talk with your family about each idea.

Family Fire Safety Checklist

- Cook in the **kitchen** only when an adult is helping you.
- Don't touch matches, lighters or candles. They are for **adult use only**.
- Do you have **smoke detectors** on every level of your home? Test them monthly. Change the batteries at least once a year.
- Do you know **two** or more ways out of the house?
- Never use elevators (**stairs** are much safer) if there is a fire.
- Smoke rises. If there is a fire, stay low: **crawl** under the smoke.
- Have you picked a place to **meet** the rest of your family once you are all out of the house?
- Once you are out of the house, **stay out** of the house.



Millions of people go hiking and camping each year? How great is that!? Hikers and campers can help keep wildfires from starting by making sure that they put out any campfires they make!

So...are **you** that fire bear? Are ya? Are ya?

No! Please stop asking.

Why do you think firefighters need to keep in good physical shape?

Because they:

1. climb _____
2. carry _____
3. fight _____
4. use heavy _____

How do fire fighters stay in top physical condition?

They:

1. get enough _____
2. _____ every day
3. _____ a healthy diet

Firefighters Keep Us Safe!

To stay strong, we like to work out lifting these:

This is tougher than it looks!

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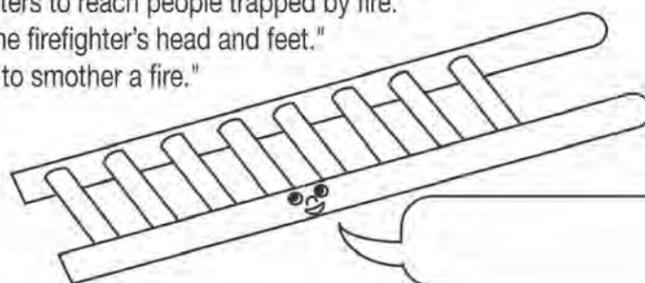
Visit our website to print out some new puzzles: **3 Ways to Help With Fire Safety, Explorers, Fall Family Activities, Sports Fun in the Fall, and Fun Words.** Don't forget to print out reading logs too: www.readingclubfun.com



Fighting Fires!

Firefighters learn to use many different pieces of equipment to fight fires. **Finish these cartoons by filling in the "bubbles" with the explanation of the job each piece of equipment does.**

- "I help firefighters to reach people trapped by fire."
- "We protect the firefighter's head and feet."
- "I spray foam to smother a fire."



Observations

■ Continued from page 14

around 146,000 pass each day. The awareness that we won't last forever always strikes me whenever I read the comments on news articles in the St. Pete Times or the Tampa Tribune. There are some very angry, vindictive people in the world and, apparently, they enjoy spewing that anger and vindictiveness in news article comments. Why are they so angry? Where is that anger going to take them? No one has ever survived life — that anger will mean little in your final hours and afterwards. From my perspective, leaving behind ill will and resentment is not the best way to depart what is for all of us a very short time on Earth.

What would you do if you found out this were your last day? Would you hug your spouse or your children a little longer? Would you be nicer or more considerate to others?

One of the final days of school in Mrs. Kaiser's sixth grade class at West Elementary in Worthington, Minnesota, was a rare and beautiful day in which the frozen memories of the long winter were still fresh, but the promise of the summer to come was unmistakable. Mrs. Kaiser took the entire class out into the schoolyard, sat us all down under the trees, and asked us that very question: What would we do if we had 24 hours to live?

Most of the boys, being pre-adolescent humanoid-shaped-yet-largely-brainless entities, said they would rob a bank or steal a sports car. When the question came around to Tim Middagh, a somewhat shy and quiet farm kid, his answer made a significant impact on my life: He said he would plant a tree.

Wow. Even as a pre-adolescent, brainless humanoid entity myself, I knew he had just uttered words of wisdom far beyond his years. The tree would grow for decades, becoming his legacy — something his descendants, generations later, could appreciate. It was one of the most incredible things I had ever heard — it still is.

A year or so after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Steve Jobs, during a commencement address, told the graduating seniors at Stanford University that "Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose."

Being a celebrity and a billionaire didn't change the outcome for Steve Jobs. He died, just as you and I will one day die. It is not morbid to say that it could be tomorrow — because it could. We don't know these things. But if so, how do you want to leave this life? How do you want your kids to remember you? Or your wife, or your neighbors?

You have a choice in shaping your own legacy. You can plant a tree simply through your own behavior and interactions with others. You could count the value of a billion dollars in the bank, but I don't believe the value of the love of your spouse, partner or children can actually be counted.

The saying is that you can't take it with you. When talking about what is in your bank account or the toys you have, I believe that to be true. When you are dead, and, I'm sorry to report that you will be one day, none of that will have any value. I do believe, however, that you can take the love in your life with you. I believe that love

transcends death and I think that is one of the greatest gifts of life. It also means that life doesn't stop giving. Follow your heart, love with all of your heart and turn the other cheek now and then. I believe you can take that with you, but even if I'm wrong, I know that it will make your days better.

I miss my coworker's husband; he was a good man. I'm glad I had the opportunity to meet him. Without being aware of it, he pointed to a better course for me. It is a course that will lead to a happier life and beyond for me. I'll take it with me.

Godspeed to those who have left us. While my bank account may be a little scary now and again, I'm a wealthy man. Although my wallet is thin, my heart is full from those who have shared their lives with me. Yes, I'm at an age where things are being taken away — often painfully — but I treasure them still. They are still in my heart. They have guided my soul to the path that is mine and I am grateful. I have love, which makes me wealthy beyond measure.

Life doesn't stop giving. Just open your heart and you will know that, too. You have nothing to lose by trying.

Hospitals compete

■ Continued from page 1

Big Bend Road, east of I-75. They have been in and out of different courts on first one CON petition and then another as they vied for the necessary go-aheads. At one point in time, both networks had approvals simultaneously as a favorable legal finding for one overlapped state agreement for the other.

Most recently, the two hospitals' managements have moved in different directions. South Bay/HCA has undertaken interior refurbishing of portions of its facility on S.R. 674, immediately west of Sun City Center, and has become involved in talks with a coalition of parties committed to establishing a senior medical care research, teaching and treatment center in the Sun City Center area. That coalition includes both the College of Medicine at the University of South Florida and local community leaders such as Dr. Pat Crow, retired physician, and Ed Barnes, SCC Community Association president.

Meanwhile, St. Joseph's, acting under CON approval, has moved ahead with planning and designing a new, acute care hospital along with free-standing medical offices on the south side of Big Bend Road at Simmons Loop. Lisa Patterson, the hospital network's public relations director, said this week that ground is to be broken for St. Joseph's South in October, 2012. The targeted date for its opening is 2015.

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Old-fashioned Halloween Social

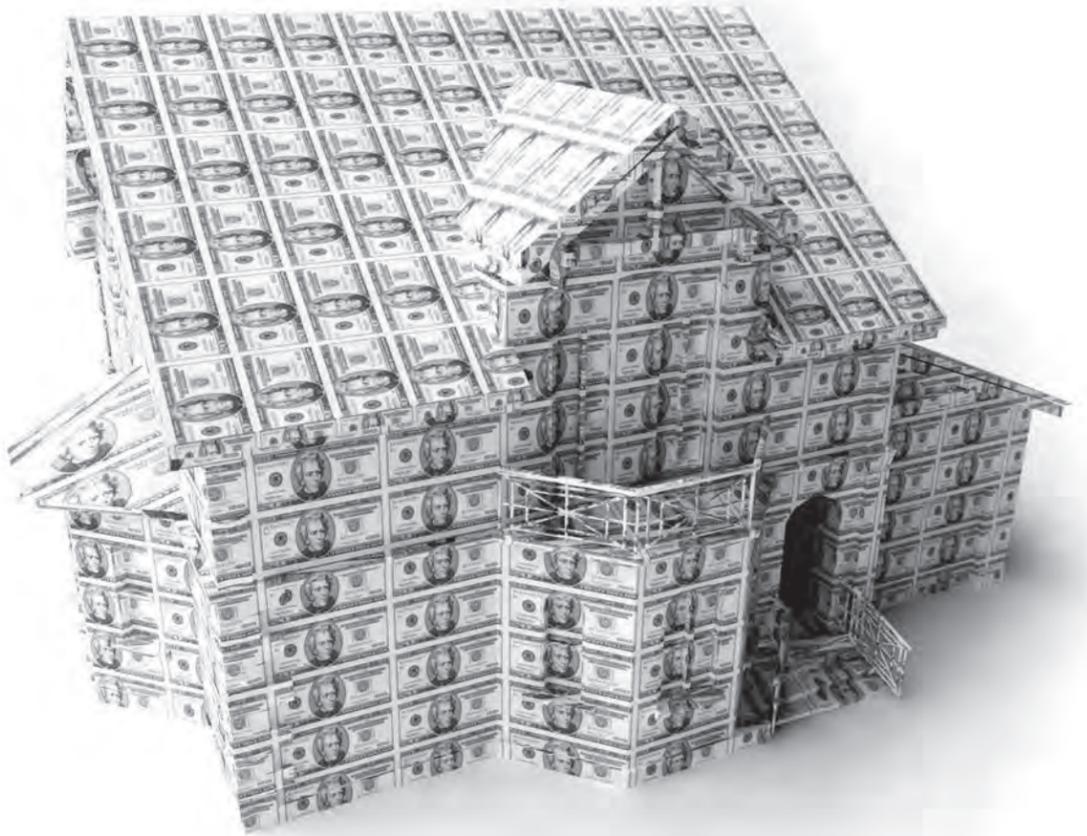
PALMETTO — If you're looking for a fun, safe, free way to celebrate Halloween, join us October 28, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Palmetto Historical Park and Manatee County Agricultural Museum. No trick, a really sweet treat is in store for you and your family! Located at 515-10th Ave. W., Palmetto, FL 34221, call (941) 721-2034 for more information.

Activities will include:

- Trick-or-Treating (bring your own bag!)
- Enter the 6:30 p.m. costume contest
- Games and crafts
- Fly into adventure with Peter Pan and his friends
- Fortune telling by the "Fabulous Fatimir"
- Test your skill in the Pirates-Marauders Speed Pitch - \$1
- Take a chance at Scooby Doo's Mystery Spin
- Visit the 100 Acre Woods and a "silly old bear" in the Library
- Make a wish at the Troll's wishing well
- Enjoy Alex's Lemonade Stand and bake sale
- Demetrio's will sell pizza for \$2 a slice. That's a monster of a deal!

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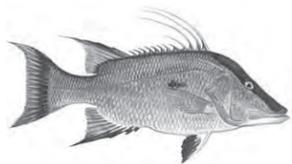

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Fishing's good when moon is full

Our Fall season has started and mullet are invading our waterways in schools, preparing to spawn. As they feed off the bottom, stirring up mud, it attracts larger fish to follow eating the prey they leave behind.

If you want to catch a variety of fish, follow this mullet school and cast into it as they pass by your boat. Use at least a 20 pound test line with a circle hook. If you can throw a cast net in a circle over a school of mullet, you probably will catch enough for your family and all of your neighbors.

Mullet are a fatty fish, so if you are on a diet, you need to catch flounder, or sheepshead. Both are a lean white meat fish and great for your diet.



HOGFISH

For some reason I have never written about hogfish, but this week as I made my rounds I heard a lot of 'Fish Tales' about hogfish. I looked up hogfish and found that a ladyfish is a Spanish hogfish. It has fair food value, but not many people keep them to eat. Average weight is one pound, and reaches a length of 2 feet.

The hogfish changes its color with size. Average weight is 2 pounds. This fish lives mostly on the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico. It likes shrimp bait, but will bite all

kinds. Gag grouper are going south with each cold snap. You can spot a few around our ship channels, says one angler, but others tell me that they are out in the deeper water. You might be lucky and find some that haven't caught up with the schools and are lurking behind in the mouth of the Little Manatee River.

Our water temperatures are starting to cool a bit, so a majority of the fish are hanging around the roots of the mangroves or closer to shore. Try an oyster bar, if it has some moving water. Cast around it, or the mangrove root and you will have good luck with some species, either a redfish, trout, or snook.

Redfish seem larger than usual, as they ride the incoming tides in shore to feed.

Glass minnows, are most often in our area in the spring, but for some reason they are schooling in our area now with plenty of fish following them. Joining the parade are jack crevalle, spanish mackerel and ladyfish. Birds are following them, so follow the birds to make a catch.

A full moon shines over us as of Oct. 11. Fishing is always good during a full moon. Some tell me that if there is a circle around the moon, don't go fishing. Fish won't bite in that phase.

Fish for fun, fish for food, fish for exercise, fishing is good.

Aleta Jonie Maschek is a member of Florida Outdoor Press.



Fish Tales
By Jonie Maschek

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Adult Computer Classes for the Technologically Challenged

eBooks: Introduction • Oct. 14 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Learn what hardware and software is required to download eBooks from our library.

Craigslist: Introduction • Oct. 18 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Learn how to become a member, browse, search, and buy items on Craigslist. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

Craiglist: Listing & Selling • Oct. 18 • 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.
Learn how to create a listing, and sell items on Craigslist. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

Email: Open an Account • Oct. 20 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Open an email account, compose and send a letter. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

Email: Messages • Oct. 20 • 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.
Read, forward, and delete messages. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

Email: Attachments and Address Books • Oct. 21 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Learn about sending attachments and creating address books. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

Windows-7: Introduction • Oct. 25 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Learn the parts of a window, how to navigate in the Windows environment, and file management.

Windows-7: Control Panel, Files and CDs • Oct. 27 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Learn what can be done through the Control Panel, how to install and remove software, and run a disk cleanup.

eBooks: Introduction • Oct. 28 • 3 to 4 p.m.
Learn what hardware and software is required to download eBooks from our library.

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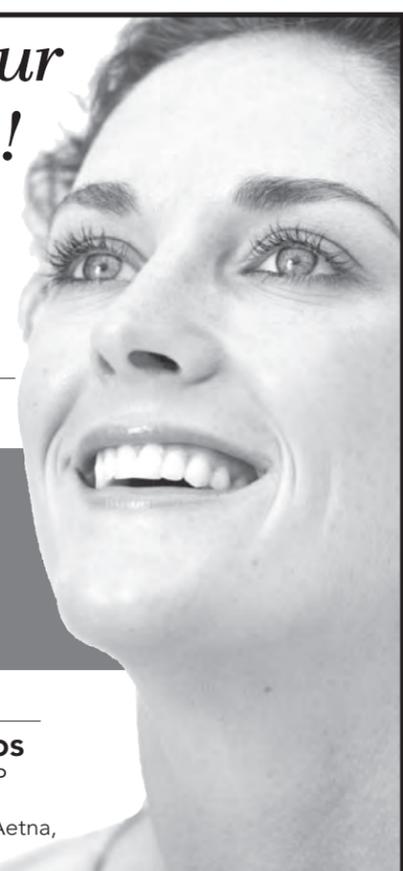
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VALENCIA LAKES

Auction to benefit scholarships

The Valencia Lakes Women's Club will hold both a live and Chinese auction on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 1 p.m. at the Valencia Lakes Clubhouse, 16003 Valencia Lakes Drive, Wimauma, (off U.S. Hwy. 301, between 674 and Big Bend Road). The auction is open to the public with no admission charge.

The Women's Club is a charitable organization whose mission is "Striving to Help Others." All proceeds from the auction will go to college scholarships for local high school seniors.

The auction will be held in two parts. Raffle tickets will be sold both for the Chinese Auction and for a 50/50 cash drawing. Registration for the live auction will begin at 1 p.m. Over 100 items will be available for the auctions. Some of the items up for auction include a seven day vacation for two to Myrtle Beach, dinner for eight at Bonefish Grill, four piece Samsonite Spinner Luggage, local restaurant and merchandise gift cards, wine baskets, Theatre tickets, and many other items. Credit cards and cash will be accepted for live auction purchases.

Refreshments will be available for sale. For an entertaining afternoon and for a worthy cause, plan on attending the auction at Valencia Lakes.

Business News

Thana Mayes Joins Keller Williams Realty

Williams Realty

Team Leader Gary Kaukonen has announced that Thana Mayes has recently joined the South Shore Keller Williams Realty Office. "Thana and her husband, Brent, recently moved to Florida from Virginia, and we were very pleased that Thana has chosen our office to begin her Florida real estate career. With our cutting-edge technology and web-based training support, we expect Thana to have a long and successful career with Keller Williams Realty," said Kaukonen. To learn more about Keller Williams Realty, call Gary Kaukonen at 813-641-8300.



THANA MAYES

Health Care Heroes award

Congratulations to Debbie Caneen, Director of Admissions for Sun Towers Retirement Community for being selected as one of the finalists for the Tampa Bay Business Journal's 2011 Health Care Heroes Award. Debbie is a Board Member of the Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce, the South Shore Coalition for Mental Health and Aging and also volunteers time to assist with the Samaritan Alzheimer's Association. She established and continues to provide guidance to several support groups within Sun Towers which are open to the public which include: Congestive Heart Failure, COPD, Grief, Loss or Depression, Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group, Parkinson's, Low Vision, Diabetes and C.O.A.P (Children of Aging Parents). For information about the support groups, please contact Debbie at 813-892-2990.



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Chase Bank now open

On Friday, Sept. 23 the new Chase Bank in Riverview hosted a special grand opening celebration including a Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting ceremony. Branch Manager, Sharon Moss and friendly staff are a close-working team dedicated to meeting the community's banking needs. Chase Bank is located 10391 Big Bend Road in Riverview. To learn more call (813) 672-0524 or visit online www.chase.com.

Business News

South Shore Young Professional Association plans events

Please join SSYP members for their October events. The SSYP is collecting new, unwrapped toys for its Toys for Tots Holiday Drive. Bring one to the following events and get in free.

SSYP After Hours

Casual Networking with Like-Minded Young Professionals in your Community

Coffee Talk

Morning Multitasking: Professional Development over Coffee

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7:30-9 a.m. at Apollo's Bistro, 6520 Richies Way, Apollo Beach. Free for members, \$5 for guests unless they bring a new, unwrapped toy.

The speaker is Joel Meek, agent and owner of All Bay Insurance Group. He will present, "Protecting Yourself as a Young Professional." Topics will include an overview of life insurance and liability insurance and how individuals can protect themselves, their businesses, and their families.

Originally from Tennessee, Joel completed his Bachelor's degree in Finance in 1998. Following college, he accepted an analyst position for a local trucking company. After two years, he began his insurance career as a financial analyst for Allstate Insurance in Nashville, Tenn. A few years later, he was moved to Allstate's corporate office in Northbrook, Ill., where he served as a financial manager and consultant.

In 2006, he and his wife Irma moved to Florida to open All Bay Insurance Group. Joel and Irma currently reside in Ruskin with their two children Amelia and Brody.

Joel is an active member of the South Shore community. He is President-Elect of the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, Secretary of the South Shore Round Table, Treasurer of the South Shore Young Professionals, and an active member of the Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce and South Shore Business Association.



Joel Meek

visit The Observer at www.observernews.net

Vascular surgeon joins Watson Clinic

Watson Clinic is pleased to welcome Peter J. McDonnell, MD, to their team of expert specialists. Dr. McDonnell is a vascular surgeon who specializes in the evaluation and medical, endovascular and open surgical treatment of arterial and venous diseases.

Dr. McDonnell received his medical degree from Rosalind Franklin University/The Chicago Medical School in North Chicago, IL, where he also performed his internship in general surgery. He then performed his residency in general surgery at Providence Hospital in Southfield, MI, and his fellowship in vascular surgery at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, OH.

Dr. McDonnell is a member of the American College of Surgeons, Society of Vascular Surgery, Society of Clinical Vascular Surgery, the Florida Medical Association, and the Polk County Medical Association. He is board-certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery with a certificate of added qualifications in vascular surgery.

Dr. McDonnell will see patients from the Main Clinic location at 1600 Lakeland Hills Boulevard in Lakeland. Appointments are scheduled at 863-680-7490. More information and physician credentials are available online at www.WatsonClinic.com.



Peter J. McDonnell, MD

About Watson Clinic LLP: As one of the largest multispecialty medical clinics in the southeast, Watson Clinic provides comprehensive healthcare services to residents of Lakeland and surrounding communities. First established in 1941, Watson Clinic has grown to include over 200 board-certified physicians representing 40 medical and surgical specialties. The Clinic continues the legacy of improving the delivery of health care at the Main Clinic, 1600 Lakeland Hills Boulevard in Lakeland, as well as at 16 other convenient locations in Polk, Pasco and Hillsborough counties. More information is available at: www.WatsonClinic.com.

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Car Negotiating Help

I just recently purchased an economy car, and I would like to share the following tip. Take along your own calculator and Consumer Amortization Guide. The guide lists debt amounts and payment required to repay this debt. They can be purchased in any bookstore.

The car salesmen try to get you to agree to a payment amount, and then they structure the deal (assign you an interest rate) that matches the payment amount and years to repay. It took me an hour to get them to tell me what interest rate we "qualified" for based upon our credit histories.

Needless to say, we went through our credit union and saved 4 1/2% per year. It's funny how they couldn't find a calculator when I needed one!

Lisa B.

Want to live better on the money you already make? Visit <www.stretcher.com/index.cfm?TipsSyn> to find hundreds of articles to help you stretch your day and your dollar! Copyright 2011 Dollar Stretcher, Inc.

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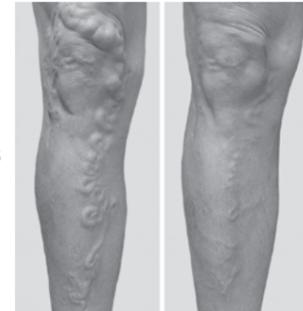
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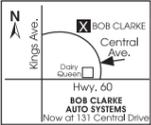
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UF researchers report

Beneficial bacteria can help keep Florida coral healthy

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Bacteria that could potentially help corals resist the devastating disease white pox have been found by researchers at the University of Florida and Mote Marine Laboratory.

The findings could help maintain the health of Florida's coral reefs, which bring in billions of dollars to the state annually and are important for tourism, fisheries, shoreline protection and pharmaceutical research.

"Coral reefs are a major attraction for tourists in Florida," said Max Teplitski, a microbiologist and an associate professor at UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. "They support the economies of South Florida, and they're also important for fisheries and, in general, healthy ecosystems."

"Unfortunately, in the past 20 years, corals have been degrading due to global environmental changes and direct human impacts, like overfishing and other pressures," he said. "And also, diseases have been wiping out stressed corals in South Florida."

White pox is caused by *Serratia marcescens*, a bacterium that commonly occurs in feces of animals and is capable of attacking a variety of animals and plants.

To combat white pox, Teplitski and a team of researchers began studying the interactions between the pathogen that causes the malady and other microorganisms that live on corals.

Their findings are detailed in a study Teplitski co-authored in this month's issue of *The ISME Journal: Multidisciplinary Journal of Microbial Ecology*.

Corals are ancient creatures that recruit microorganisms such as bacteria to protect themselves from disease. Their characteristic structure is built by animals known as polyps.

In the study, the researchers screened several hundred bacteria isolated from coral and non-coral polyps for the ability to help ward off white pox.

The researchers found four bacteria that stopped white pox disease progression under controlled laboratory conditions and, to some degree, protected the polyps from getting sick.

They also noted that polyps containing the bacteria survived white pox infection, whereas those without the bacteria died.

Based on these results, scientists may begin checking individual polyps for the presence of beneficial bacteria before introducing them into a reef system as part of coral reef restoration.

Kim Ritchie, senior scientist and manager for the marine microbiology program at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, said Florida's coral reefs are some of the sickest in the world.

"They seem to be in the worst shape," said Ritchie, a co-author of the study. "But the more we can learn about the balance of beneficial bacteria and pathogenic bacteria, the easier it will be to help the coral reefs in the Keys become healthier."

The research was funded by sales of Protect Our Reefs specialty license plates, a statewide program administered by Mote Marine Laboratory Inc. Learn more at www.mote.org/4reef.

Study authors also include Ali Alagely, a former UF undergraduate student, and Cory Krediet, a doctoral student in the interdis-

plinary ecology program at UF's School of Natural Resources and Environment.

BY IFAS PHOTOGRAPHER TYLER JONES

Polyyps are shown growing (right) in a University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences laboratory. To help combat the devastating disease of coral known as white pox, researchers at the University of Florida and Mote Marine Laboratory began researching the interactions between the pathogen that causes the malady and other microorganisms that live on coral. They screened several hundred bacteria isolated from coral and non-coral polyyps and found four bacteria that stopped white pox disease progression under controlled laboratory conditions and, to some degree, protected the polyyps from getting sick.



Stone crab season to open; FWC extending state regulations into federal waters

Get your claw-crackers ready, because Florida's recreational and commercial stone crab harvest seasons open Saturday Oct. 15.

Stone crab claws must be at least 2 3/4 inches in length to be harvested legally, but claws may not be taken from egg-bearing female stone crabs. Recreational harvesters are

allowed to use up to five stone crab traps, and there is a daily bag limit of one gallon of claws per person or two gallons per vessel, whichever is less. Recreational and commercial traps may be baited and placed in the water beginning Oct. 5, but none may be pulled until Oct. 15. The season lasts until May 16, 2012.

Though stone crab harvest rules will remain the same, the FWC voted in June to extend state management regulations for stone crabs into federal waters. This came after the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council voted to repeal the Fishery Management Plan for stone crabs in federal waters and allow the FWC to manage them in all waters surrounding Florida. This change goes into effect Oct. 24.

For more information on harvesting stone crabs for fun, as well as commercial stone crab regulations and licensing information, go to MyFWC.com/Rules and click on "Fishing - Saltwater."

Visit the Fresh from Florida website at FL-seafood.com for

ideas on how to turn your stone crab catch into a feast the family will love.

Marinated Stone Crab Claws

- 1 pound Florida stone crab claws
- 1 cup tarragon vinegar
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2/3 cup Florida sugar
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- salad greens

Crack the claws and remove the outer shell leaving meat attached to one side of the claw. Combine vinegar, oil, sugar, salt and garlic; mix until sugar and salt are dissolved. Pour over crab claws; cover. Marinate in refrigerator at least 2 hours. Drain. Serve on a bed of salad greens as an appetizer.



FWC PHOTO

Stone crab claw harvest season opens Oct. 15 for both recreational and commercial harvesters. Claws must be at least 2 3/4 inches in length to be harvested legally.

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Bargains for a good cause

With cool temperatures and blue skies that remained so before the rain began later in the day, it was a bargain hunters paradise in the parking lot of Century 21 Beggins Enterprises on Saturday with the Beggins Bazaar, a huge garage sale in which people purchased items based not on prices but on how much they were willing to donate. The event was part of the annual fundraising by Beggins Enterprises for Easter Seals. The company is a leader in fundraising for the charitable organization in the Tampa Bay area, as well as one of the biggest fundraisers among all Century 21 offices nationwide. Easter Seals is an organization founded in 1907 dedicated to providing services, education, outreach and advocacy for people living with disabilities. For more information, visit www.easterseals.com. For more information about Century 21 Beggins, visit www.c21beggins.com.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS



Laura Minutello, Ms. Wheelchair Florida runner up, attended the event. Minutello, born with cerebral palsy, is a psychology major at the University of Central Florida with plans to pursue a master's degree. "She's the reason we're doing this," said one Beggins' employee at the fundraiser.



From clothing to furniture and even a basketball hoop, there were treasures to be found at the Beggins Bazaar fundraiser. Shoppers could even get their cars washed.



One young shopper found some very unique items to take home.



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www.ObserverNews.net



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

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with a Trick-or-Treat Party

FAMILY FEATURES

Make no bones about it — Halloween is all about having some spine-tingling fun. This year, why not share the scare by hosting a Trick-or-Treat party for school friends or even the neighborhood?

With these tips and ideas, you can throw a monster bash on a budget that's not frightening at all.

Set a Spooktacular Scene

Whether you want to go all-out scary or keep it all in good fun, you can combine store-bought decorations with homemade creations to save money.

- Line fake gravestones along your walkway. Buy them pre-made, or make them yourself using foam or cardboard and spray paint.
- Perch eerie, fake birds near your doorway, and hang cobwebs anywhere you can reach.
- Place creepy-crawlies, like plastic spiders, everywhere.
- Add scary inflatable figures to your yard — the designs get more elaborate every year, and they store easily when deflated.
- Turn an inexpensive, thrift-store stockpot into a spooky kitchen-

table centerpiece. Just add dry ice and warm water for frightfully fun fog. Always wear gloves when you handle dry ice and always store it in a ventilated container.

- A jack-o-lantern is a Halloween classic. Easy stencils make complex witch, werewolf and scary-face designs a breeze.
- Use rechargeable outdoor tea lights and Halloween-themed string lights as safer alternatives to candles.
- Build a scarecrow — all you need is wooden garden stakes, pillows, straw and old clothes.
- Use unexpected items in a whole new way. Spray paint branches or old lamps black and orange and use them as centerpieces; make spooky skeleton cut-outs with poster board; use toilet paper to wrap someone up in a nifty mummy costume; or bring the outdoors in with hay bales and mums.

Frightfully Fun Games

Kids and grownups alike will get a kick out of these Halloween games.

- **Halloween Charades** — Write down Halloween characters, places and things on pieces of paper. Fold the papers and put them in a bowl. Then have each person, in turn, pick a piece of paper and act out the written words until the game's audience guesses what's being acted out. Want more competition? Split the group into teams and award candy prizes for correct answers.

- **Pin the Nose on the Pumpkin** — You'll need a pumpkin (either real or made out of orange construction paper), pushpins or tape, a blindfold and several pumpkin noses (black construction paper will work). Draw eyes and a mouth on your pumpkin's face, and hang it up. Blindfold a player, spin them around, hand them a paper nose (secured with a pushpin for adults and tape for children) and direct them toward the pumpkin. The player who attaches the nose closest to the right spot wins. You could also play Pin the Wart on the Witch, or Pin the Smile on the Scarecrow.

- **Pumpkin Decorating Contest** Set out markers, stickers, glue, construction paper, buttons and other household items. Give guests a pumpkin and a decoration time frame. Award prizes for the "Prettiest," "Scariest" and "Most Interesting." Don't want winners or losers? Let kids decorate and take home their pumpkins.

Bewitching Costumes

If you don't have the time or patience to sit down and sew a costume, that's okay. This is one of the reasons Walmart has so many costumes in stock at prices that won't scare you.

If you want to go the extra mile and create some gory additions to your costumes, whip up some fake

blood, wounds and face paint.

- **Face Paint:** Combine 1 teaspoon cornstarch, 1/4 teaspoon water and 1/4 teaspoon food coloring with 1/2 cup of cold cream.
- **Wound:** Petroleum jelly makes creepy wound shapes. Fill the wound with 2 or 3 drops of red food coloring and a pinch of cocoa powder.
- **Fake Blood:** Mix 1 teaspoon red food coloring and 1 squirt of dish soap with 2/3 cup white corn syrup. Just be sure to keep your fake blood away from your mouth and eyes. For more Halloween party tips, decoration ideas and activities, visit www.walmart.com/halloween.



Set up a cookie decorating station and let guests create their own monstrously good goodies.

Eerily Good Eats

For a super-simple treat make

Crunchy Ghosts:

- Pick up bags of mini-marshmallows, popcorn, chocolate chips and a stick of butter.
- Microwave about 40 mini-marshmallows and 2 TBLSP of butter in a bowl, until completely melted.
- Pour the mix over popped popcorn and toss well so all the popcorn is evenly coated and sticky.
- Then, using hands that have been well-greased with remaining butter, form the popcorn into oval shapes with flat bottoms and pop two chocolate chips on your "ghost" for eyes.

October is Florida's Greenways and Trails Month — *time to celebrate!*

October is the perfect time of year to celebrate the health, wealth and happiness to be found through Florida's beautiful trails and greenways and the nature-based tourism they support. Governor Rick Scott has proclaimed the month of October as Florida Greenways and Trails Month. The Florida Park Service and its Office of Greenways and Trails invites you to take part in this signature program to highlight the benefits and value of the state's diverse trail network.

Trail-related activities throughout the state will include festivities such as dedications, educational exhibits, trail rides, paddling excursions, bird and butterfly viewing programs, trail blazing and clean-up events will be listed on this website and updated weekly. To register an event for Florida Greenways and Trails Month, please submit a registration form. For more information call (850) 245-2052 or email kae.craig@dep.state.fl.us.

To learn more about the activities planned throughout the state, as listed by region and date, see the statewide Greenways and Trails Month calendar at FloridaStateParks.org.



Photo by Doug Alderson 2011

The signature image for the 2011 Florida Greenways and Trails Month is that of the Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail—the first state rail-trail to be paved in Florida. After twenty years of service, the Trail was recently resurfaced and widened. A ribbon cutting to mark the reopening of the Tallahassee-St. Marks Trail will help kick off Greenways and Trails Month.

GOLF

Hogans golf

1st : Rich Lucidi, 4 skins
 2nd : Rube Jones, 3 skins
 3rd : Burt Easter, 2 skins
 Low-net: Rube Jones 74
 Low-gross: Rube Jones 93
 Also playing: Anna Kuhnley & new member Bob Mayhew

Caloosa Golf League

1st place winner with 115
 \$6.00
 John Mc Dougal
 Tom Montgomery
 Bob Brown

2nd place winner with 117
 \$5.00
 Bob Dufresne
 John Franks
 Jim Brubaker

3rd place winner with 118
 \$4.00
 Ron Jewell
 Bill Stonefield
 Roy Long

4th place winner with 120
 \$3.00
 Jim Bodner
 Max Jessup
 Chuck Reeves

SCC 50th Anniversary Tournament

According to Russ Stutz, tournament director, registrations are now being accepted for a scramble golf tournament (four-person teams) on Oct. 30. The tournament is part of SCC's 50th Anniversary event scheduled at Caloosa Golf & Country Club Pro Shop.

A 12:30 p.m. shotgun start at Caloosa Golf & Country Club will get the scramble tournament underway. Play will be limited to 30 teams. (Teams must bring their own golf carts.) Cost for the day will be \$80 per team, payable to Caloosa Golf & CC.

After the tournament, participants will gather for a social period with wine, cheese and door prizes. There will also be a 50-50 raffle.

For more information call Russ Stutz, 634-4084.

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Open auditions have begun

Applications are being taken for the 1st Competition & Talent Show hosted by Hacienda Heights Activities Committee, set for the finals on March 31, 2012, to be held at Hacienda Heights Community Center, 10731 El Paso Drive, Riverview, Florida 33569 (Off Highway 301, south of Boyette Rd). Grand Prize is \$300.00. Top 4 spots get prizes. Semi finals and finals will be voted by a panel of judges and the audience. Possible future performances available for winners. Auditions are being held now until Oct. 31. Entry fee is \$5. For more information and to make an appointment call Tony or Connie at 813-655-6920.

visit The Observer at
observernews.net

Sarasota Opera artists to appear

Artists from Sarasota Opera will appear in concert on the stage of Freedom Plaza at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1. This program is open to all who enjoy beautiful music sung by beautiful voices and will include Broadway melodies as well as familiar operatic arias. A refreshment period after the concert will allow the audience to meet and greet these budding opera stars.

Tickets for \$10 can be reserved by calling Peggy (642-1213) or, if still available, will be sold at the door. All proceeds go to the Sarasota Opera Apprentice Program.

Nov. 1 marks the 10th consecutive year young artists from Sarasota's Apprentice program have appeared at Freedom Plaza as Ambassadors of Opera. These young singers are already well on their way to operatic careers, having graduated from music colleges—some holding post-graduate degrees—sung with various companies and “paid their dues.” They won a year's contract with Sarasota Opera through grueling competition and are now taking advantage of “hands-on” (or should we say “voice-on”) training with a major opera company, a necessary step on the road to opera stardom.



Artists from the Sarasota Opera

HCAB Management Committee Schedules Meeting

The Hillsborough County Health Care Advisory Board Management Committee will meet Thursday, Oct. 13 from 3-5 p.m., in Conference Room B on the 26th Floor of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa.

For more information, contact Tina Brown, Health and Social Services, at 301-7364.

Code Enforcement Board Will Meet

The Hillsborough County Code Enforcement Board will meet Friday, Oct. 14 at 9 a.m. in the 2nd Floor Boardroom of County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd. in downtown Tampa.

The Board is authorized to hear violations concerning all codes and ordinances of Hillsborough County in order to maintain health and safety standards.

Any person who decides to appeal the decision of the Code Enforcement Board with respects to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purposes, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. An appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days after the execution of the Code Enforcement Board's Order.

For more information, contact Karen Matches, Citizen Boards Support Manager, 272-7181.

Visit Simmons Park after dark

E.G Simmons Park will be having its 2nd annual “Simmons Park after Dark” on Oct. 28, from 5-10 p.m. and Oct. 29, from 5-11 p.m. There will be a 1/2 mile haunted trail recommended for ages 10 and up, a kids' hayride around the park and many other family friendly activities. Food and beverages will be sold at the event. There is a \$2 park entry fee per vehicle up to 8 people. The haunted trail and hayride will be one ticket and each tickets costs \$5. Cash only. For more information contact E.G. Simmons Park, 2401 19 Ave. NW in Ruskin (813) 617-7655.

Contract Negotiations with AFSCME Union Scheduled

Pursuant to Florida Statute 286, notice is hereby given that a contract negotiation session between Hillsborough County BOCC and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Local 167 has been set for Friday, Oct. 14, 2011, at 9 a.m. at the Hillsborough County Medical Examiner, 11025 N. 46th St. Tampa, FL 33617

For more information, call John Wever, Manager, Labor Relations & Workforce Planning, Human Resources – Professional Development at 276-2755.

Animal Advisory Subcommittee Will Meet

A Hillsborough County Animal Advisory Subcommittee will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 6 p.m. to discuss proposed changes to the Ordinance pertaining to community cat issues. The meeting will be held at the Humane Society of Tampa Bay, 3607 N. Armenia Ave., Tampa.

The public is invited to attend. There will be a time scheduled for any public comments. For more information, call Animal Services, 744-5660.

Seeking new members

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 10 a.m. 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 10 a.m. to noon. 813-645-6984.

Looking for a rewarding way to help others? Have some spare time? The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 75 Ruskin, invites you to their open house at the Eberhardt Bldg. 909 North Course Ln. in Sun City Center on Saturday Oct. 22 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Open to US Citizens, men and women, over 18. Refreshments served. Call 813-633-5416 for further information.

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FAMILY FEATURES

Vampires Invade!

It's fright night! Vampire-themed goodies cast a spooky spell on ghoulish guests this Halloween. To charm your gathering long past dawn, entertaining experts from Wilton recommend serving an array of lip-smacking snacks and a sip of "blood red" Strawberry Cooler. These supernatural recipe sensations are sure to summon vampires of all ages to enjoy your devilishly delicious treats...and maybe a few tricks.

Vicious-Delicious Vampire Cake Pound Cake (recipe available at www.wilton.com)

Dimensions 3-D Skull Pan
Buttercream icing
Black Icing Color
Red Sparkle Gel
Black string licorice

Prepare pound cake in Skull Pan following recipe instructions. Cool completely. Assemble skull halves, attaching with icing, on cake board or serving plate.

Tint small amount of icing black with black icing color. Tint remainder of icing gray with small amount of black icing color.

Fill in indented mouth and eye area with black icing; smooth with finger dipped in cornstarch. Build up cheeks and nose with gray tinted icing. Cover skull with tip 18 gray stars. Add tip 8 black outline eyebrows. Pipe tip 5 white teeth, fangs and eye highlights. Add red Sparkle Gel lips. Insert licorice for hair.

Vampire Fang Cookies

Roll-Out Cookie Dough (recipe available at www.wilton.com)
Lips Comfort-Grip Cutter
Royal icing
Black Icing Color
Red Icing Color
White spice drops
Granulated sugar
White candy-coated gum pieces
Red Sparkle Gel

Prepare and roll out cookie dough. Cut cookies using Lips Comfort-Grip Cutter. Bake and cool.

Tint royal icing black and red. Use tip 8 and outline lips with red royal icing; fill in with tip 3 black icing; pat smooth with finger dipped in cornstarch. Roll out spice drops on surface sprinkled with granulated sugar; cut into triangles for fangs. Arrange gum "teeth" and spice drop fangs. Overpipe red lips with red Sparkle Gel.

Fright Nite Cupcakes

Favorite cupcake recipe or mix
Buttercream icing
Knife Royal Icing Decorations
Red Decorating Gel

Bake favorite cupcakes in Halloween baking cups. Cool completely. Ice cupcake top. Insert knife icing decoration; add red decorating gel.

Vampire's Bite Cupcakes

Favorite cupcake recipe or mix
Take A Bite Mark baking cups
Buttercream icing
Red Decorating Gel
Red Colored Sugar

Bake favorite cupcakes in Take A Bite Mark baking cups. Cool completely. Pipe tip 22 white buttercream swirl on cupcake top. Add red decorating gel to cut area on baking cup. Sprinkle with red colored sugar.

Freaky Fingers Strawberry Cooler

1 package (16 ounces) frozen strawberries with no sugar added, thawed but still cool

1 package (.14 ounce) unsweetened strawberry soft drink mix

4 cups water

1-1/2 cups lemon-lime soda

1/3 cup granulated sugar

Freaky Fingers Candy Straws (see below)

In the bowl of food processor, pulse frozen strawberries until completely pureed. Strain strawberries to remove seeds.

In large pitcher, combine strawberry puree, soft drink mix, water, lemon-lime soda and sugar; stir until sugar dissolves. Pour into glasses; add ice, if desired, and Freaky Fingers Candy Straws. To drink, bite end from finger candy and sip.

Freaky Fingers Candy Straws

White Candy Melts
Skeleton Fingers Pretzel Mold
Drinking straws

Melt Candy Melts following package instructions; pour into Skeleton Fingers Mold. Insert drinking straw where pretzel fits in mold; rotate straw to cover with melted candy. Refrigerate until set, about 15 minutes. Remove from mold.

Vampires & Werewolves

THEY WON'T BITE, BUT YOU WILL

Werewolves Are on the Prowl!

To raise a few hairs at your Halloween bash, add a collection of werewolf treats that are sure to satisfy your hungry pack. Party guests will be digging their fangs into Wickedly Wonderful Werewolf Pops and Werewolf Furry Finger Cookies. So bring your appetite because the Wilton Test Kitchen has baked up a cauldron of confections for this spooky season...take a bite.

Wickedly Wonderful Werewolf Pops

Round Cookie Pop Pan
2 tablespoons margarine or butter
2 cups miniature marshmallows
3 cups crisp chocolate-coated rice cereal
8 8-inch Cookie Sticks
Dark Cocoa Candy Melts
Yellow Candy Melts
Brown candy-coated chocolates
Candy corn

Spray Round Cookie Pop Pan and spatula or wooden spoon with vegetable pan spray.

In large microwave-safe bowl, melt margarine and marshmallows together; stir to combine. Add cereal; stir until well coated. Press into prepared pan, leaving top edge uneven. Insert Cookie Sticks. Let cool; remove from pan. Repeat with remaining cereal mixture, reheating mixture in microwave if needed to make it easier to work with. Reserve any leftover cereal.

With knife, cut dark cocoa Candy Melts into fourths; with melted candy, attach 2 to the top of each pop, pointed side up, for ears. Cut 1/4 off yellow Candy Melts; attach 2 larger pieces with melted candy for eyes. Attach candy-coated chocolate pupils and nose. Cut pointed end from candy corn; attach for teeth with melted candy. Add additional small pieces of cereal mixture for eyebrows. Arrange pops in seasonal container.

For additional Halloween ideas and directions for making all your vampire and werewolf goodies, go to www.wilton.com.

Frightfully Fun Werewolf Cake

Pound Cake (recipe available at www.wilton.com)

3-D Cuddly Bear Set
White Rolled Fondant

2 dowel rods
Chocolate Buttercream Icing (recipe available at www.wilton.com)

Rotary Cutter
2 each Bright Green and Purple Sugar Sheets! Edible Decorating Paper

Piping Gel (optional)
1 each Bright Yellow, Light Pink, White and Black Sugar Sheets! Edible Decorating Paper

Flaked coconut
Brown and Black Icing Color

Bake and cool pound cake recipe in 3-D Cuddly Bear baking pan following pan instructions. Cool completely. Roll two 3 inch x 1-1/4-inch fondant logs; insert dowel rods, leaving 2 inches of dowel rod exposed. Insert into cake for arms.

Spatula ice cake and arms with chocolate buttercream icing, building up ears to a point at top of head. With Rotary Cutter, cut two purple shirt shapes and two green pants shapes from Sugar Sheets! Attach to front and back of bear, wrapping around to meet, using piping gel, if desired. Cut out pink triangles for ears, yellow eyes, black circle pupils and nose, black mouth and white triangle fangs; attach.

Tint coconut with brown and black icing color; press into icing for fur. Tint small amount of chocolate icing black; add tip 22 pull-out star claws on ends of arms.



Werewolf Furry Finger Cookies

Makes about 3 dozen cookies

Finger Cookie Pan
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
1-1/2 cups granulated sugar
1 egg
1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
2-3/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons cocoa powder
Flaked coconut
Brown Icing Color
Black spice drops

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly spray Finger Cookie Pan cavities with vegetable pan spray.

In large bowl, beat butter and sugar with electric mixer at medium speed until well blended. Beat in egg and extracts; mix well. Combine flour, salt and cocoa powder; add to butter mixture. Beat until well blended. Press dough into prepared pan cavities, filling 2/3 full.

Bake 9 to 10 minutes or until light brown around edges. Cool in pan

10 minutes. Turn pan over; lightly tap pan to remove cookies. Cool completely on cooling grid.

In resealable plastic bag, place coconut with icing color; knead until color is evenly blended. Dry on parchment or waxed paper. Attach in small clumps on cooled cookies with melted candy. Roll out spice drops on surface sprinkled with granulated sugar; cut into fingernail shapes. Attach to cookies with melted candy.

2011 a banner year for two Florida sea turtle species



(FWC PHOTO BY BLAIR WITHERINGTON)

A leatherback sea turtle hatchling emerges from a nest in St. Lucie County.

The Florida sea turtle nesting season has come to an end, and there is good news for two of Florida's federally endangered sea turtle species. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and its partners documented a record high annual nest count for green turtles in Florida. Leatherback turtles also had a high number of nests, with the count falling just shy of the previous high mark in 2009.

Loggerheads, the species that nests most commonly in Florida, did not have an increase in numbers this year. The nest count for this federally threatened sea turtle was close to average for

the previous five years. However, since 1998, the trend in the number of loggerhead nests is a general decline.

"We're pleased with the green turtle and leatherback nesting totals in 2011," said Dr. Blair Witherington, an FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute scientist. "Nesting by both species has been rising dramatically and can be attributed at least in part to major conservation efforts over the past few decades. However, our loggerhead nesting totals have declined or are at best stable, which suggests that this species has a different, and perhaps more difficult, set of conservation challenges," he said.

Nest counts are performed each year through Florida's Index Nesting Beach Survey, which was created to measure seasonal sea turtle nesting, and to allow for accurate comparisons of beaches and years. The standardized index counts take place on 255 miles of

selected beaches along both the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

In one of the largest wildlife counts in the nation, hundreds of FWC partners diligently survey Florida's nesting beaches throughout the sea turtle nesting season.

"We are grateful for the large number of partners and volunteers that make this survey possible," Witherington said. "Without them, we couldn't collect nesting data on such a large scale."

The FWC's role in coordinating Florida's sea turtle nest counts is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and sales of the state's sea turtle license plate.

For more information about sea turtle nest counts, visit MyFWC.com/Research, click on "Wildlife," then click on "Nesting" under the "Sea Turtle" heading.

Sick or injured sea turtles can be reported by contacting the FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

Check out our new menu!

Below is just a sampling of our extensive new menu! Come enjoy our view of the Bay or a beautiful sunset while experiencing our delicious new menu items

Appetizers

Runaway Bay Crab Cake

Jumbo lump crab cake, roasted red pepper sauce, crisp onion straws and key lime garlic aioli

Calamari Sofrito

Tender breaded calamari strips topped with sweet and spicy peppers and served with our robust island sofrito sauce

Coconut Shrimp

Large hand-breaded shrimp dipped in panko and fresh coconut served with mango citrus mustard sauce

Bleu Cheese Potato Chips

Homemade chips topped with our herb cream sauce, bleu cheese crumbles, applewood bacon, scallions and crisp onion straws.

Tuna Tsunami

Seared ahi tuna paired with our sesame marinated calamari salad, wakami, and a trio of sauces

Tiki Shrimp Skewer

Sugar cane skewered island spiced shrimp with piña colada salsa

Lobster & Shrimp Quesadilla

Spinach, red onions, peppers and cheese. Served with tomato salsa, guacamole, and chipotle sour cream

Conch Fritters

Bahamian classic served with chili horseradish and citrus mustard sauce

Tostones

(Caribbean Nachos) Plantains smashed and fried crisp, topped with chicken, mushrooms, cheese and tomato salsa

Entrees

SEAFOOD

Coconut Cashew Curried Shrimp

Jumbo shrimp sauteed with fresh pineapple and simmered in our island coconut curry sauce. Served over rice and topped with coconut, cashews and crisp onion straws. With mango salsa and sugar snap peas.

Seafood Paella

Assorted seafood, chicken, sausage, tomatoes and peas tossed with saffron yellow rice.

Pan Seared Diver

Scallops

Jumbo seared sea scallops topped with island chimi churri and served with black beans and yellow rice, asparagus, red pepper cream sauce and black bean papaya salsa.

Lobster & Shrimp Linguini

Sauteed lobster and shrimp with mushrooms. Served in our brandy herb cream sauce.

FRESH FISH DAILY

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CHICKEN

Montego Bay Chicken

Grilled chicken with creamy roasted red pepper and chimi churri sauce. Served with fried yucca, sofrito and tomato salsa.

Jerk Chicken Pasta Antigua

Sauteed jerk spiced chicken, mushrooms and asparagus tossed in our roasted red pepper cream sauce, tossed with penne pasta and topped with herbed feta cheese.

BEEF & PORK

Top Sirloin San Miguel

10 oz. fresh center cut sirloin with pepper jack cheese and caramelized onions over our citrus rum bordelaise sauce. Served with Yucatan potatoes, Caribbean vegetables and black bean papaya salsa.

Smothered Pork

Montserrat

Sauteed pork tenderloin medallions layered with creamed spinach and topped with our citrus rum sauce. Served with Yucatan potatoes, broccoli and tropical salsa.

Desserts

Bananas Supreme

Warm banana bread with fresh sliced bananas topped with butterscotch brandy sauce, whipped cream, toasted almonds and mint. Served with vanilla bean ice cream.

Mango, Passion Fruit

Cheesecake Swirl

Layers of sweet mango infused cheesecake swirled with tart passion fruit and fresh cut tropical fruit

Chocolate Tres Leches

Chocolate sponge cake drenched with 3 milks and topped with a chocolate ganache.

Piña Colada Bread Pudding

Warm tropical bread pudding with a coconut cream anglaise.

Key Lime Pie

Our famous homemade pie with a graham cracker crust and fresh meringue topping, not too sweet, not too tart.



Events like the Forgotten Coast Black Bear Festival help Floridians of all ages learn more about the state's largest land mammal.

(FWC PHOTO)

Learn about bears, have family fun at Black Bear Festival

As fall settles into the Big Bend, the Florida black bear begins foraging for winter. It's a perfect time to celebrate the state's largest land mammal.

Come out for the third annual Forgotten Coast Black Bear Festival, an event dedicated to helping people understand and live in harmony with the Florida black bear.

The family-oriented festival is Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sands Park in Carrabelle. The festival is free and a great way for families to spend the day together doing something fun and educational.

The small, Gulf-side community of Carrabelle is in Franklin County, which sits in the heart of Apalachicola National Forest, one of Florida's biggest undeveloped habitats for black bears.

"Our goal is for festival-goers to learn everything they always wanted to know about the Florida black bear - and more," said David Telesco, bear management program coordinator for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). "Helping people understand bear behavior is one of the primary goals for the festival. If people who live in bear country understand what makes bears tick, they will know what they can do to discourage bears from hanging around in their neigh-

borhoods."

Telesco will offer informative presentations about black bears and their biology. Betsy Knight will tell interesting stories about wildlife rehabilitation, and Laurie McDonald of Defenders of Wildlife will share tips on how to coexist with black bears.

Other activities at the festival include exciting tours into bear habitat with Adam Warwick, an FWC biologist who gained instant fame by rescuing a black bear from drowning in the bay off Alligator Point. Join us in the storytelling tent, where you can sit on hay bales and enjoy stories from local authors or listen to great music by locally renowned southern rock and blues band King Cotton and folk musician Dale Crider.

Bring your kids to the "Come Be a Bear" activity, and watch them transform into a black bear and learn about the life of a bear through the seasons.

The festival is presented by the FWC, Defenders of Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service, Florida Forest Service, city of Carrabelle and the Franklin County Tourist Development Council. For more information about the third annual Forgotten Coast Black Bear Festival visit www.mycarrabelle.com or call the festival coordinator, Allen Loyd at 727-823-3888.

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United Methodist Church welcomes new members

The United Methodist Church of SCC is proud to welcome new members Lori L. Elder, Marian J. Irwin, Deborah Louise Earley, Patricia and Anthony Filliater, Sr., Herb and Shirley Silbert, Bob and Brenda White. "Over the past year our congregation has grown almost 30 percent," said Warren Langer, Senior Pastor at the church. "We are truly blessed to welcome so many new members monthly, especially in the summer months!" For information about events and activities at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, contact Jeff Jordan, Director of Music and the Arts, at 813-634-2539. To learn more about the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, please visit our website at www.sccumc.com.



Community craft fair is Saturday event

Come to the United Community Church, 1501 La Jolla Avenue, Sun City Center on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 8:30 a.m. and enjoy your day with friends and neighbors. It's a special event dedicated to the sale of new, mostly hand-made items for your shopping pleasure, while partaking in the fellowship and fun. Begin your morning with coffee or tea and bake sale treats. Continue this wonderful experience, sitting down to everyone's favorite lunch of soup, sandwiches and perhaps another treat from the bakery. Lunch will be served until 1 p.m.

Nancy Lonsinger's craft table is fantastic. She spent the summer putting together her famous potato pockets. This year the fabrics will feature the favorites dogs, cats, horses, birds and many new designs of red hats, purple butterflies, coffee and American flags.

A potato pocket filled with a couple of potatoes makes for a delicious product after it is popped into the microwave. These potatoes can also be sliced and browned in olive oil as a treat for your taste buds. Each potato pocket comes with directions for potatoes and corn on the cob. They make perfect gifts, to send to love ones, as they are light in weight and won't break. Nancy's Christmas decorations also include wreaths, angels and reindeer for the door and yard. For more information, call Terry Hood at 493-4957.



PHOTO BY HAZEL MARTIN

Nancy Lonsinger

Therapy group offered for caregivers

The Community Mental Wellness Center, in co-operation with Sun City Center United Methodist Church, is offering a therapy group for caregivers. The group is designed to develop coping skills for caregivers of older family members. Unlike a caregiver support group, the therapy group will focus on developing members' cognitive, affective, and behavioral skills as well as learning to manage the stress of caregiving through structured skill-building exercises and group discussion led by licensed clinical social workers. Since this is a therapy group, participants will be screened and selected by the group facilitator and the number of participants will be limited to 8. Group members are expected to attend all group sessions.

The group will meet weekly on Wednesdays, beginning Oct. 19 and ending Nov. 16, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for 5 sessions and will address the following topics: Caregivers Have Feelings, Too; Caregiver Stress; Family Dynamics; Time & Stress Management and Self-Change Skills for the Future.

The group meeting will be held at The Community Mental Wellness Center which is located at The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West, Sun City Center. The cost of this dynamic therapy group is \$250 for five sessions, Medicare and Tricare insurance is accepted. The group leaders of the therapy group for caregivers are Mary Kaplan LCSW and Edmond Dubreuil MSW, ACSW, RCSWI

If you interested in attending the therapy group for caregivers or need more information call Edmond Dubreuil at 813-777-9777. To learn more about the United Methodist Church of Sun City center, visit www.sccumc.com.

Chicken dinner at Ruskin United Methodist

Ruskin United Methodist's Mens Club will sponsor a Chicken Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 4 to 6 p.m. at 105 4th Ave. NW, Ruskin (1 block behind the SunTrust Bank) Cost is \$6 For any questions call 645-1241 Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Fish Fry

St. John the Divine Episcopal Church is hosting a fish fry on Oct. 28 from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Sun City Center Campus at 1015 Del Webb Blvd. Tickets are on sale after each service or you may call the church office at 633-3970. Prices are: \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12, free for children below 5 years old. There will be an additional \$2 charge if you wait to buy at the door.

All are welcome to attend!

New course offered 'Dreams and You'

There is a new addition to this course being taught during the fall semester, 2011, held at United Community Church 1501 LaJolla Ave., in Sun City Center. For those who have taken this course or attended Carol Oschmann's dream group sessions, you might not want to miss this new aspect. Of course, new people are always welcome.

The course runs for six weeks starting today, Oct. 13 and ending Nov 17. from 10 a.m. to noon at the college, in the Rose Room. The college is located at 1501 LaJolla Ave in Sun City Center. For more information or to register call 813-634-8607. The charge for the entire course is \$25. You may drop in for one or two sessions for \$5 each.

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Area Places of Worship

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**

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

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

Friendship Baptist Church

Rance Goad, Pastor (Southern Baptist)

1511 El Rancho Dr.
Sun City Center, FL 33573
Phone/Fax: 813-633-5950

WEEKLY SERVICES:
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

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

701 Valley Forge Blvd. • Sun City Center, FL 33573-5354
Rev. Dr. Peter Stiller, Pastor
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

Welcome to the: **EVERETT TATE, MINISTER**

South Hillsborough Church of Christ

1611 First St. SW • Ruskin, FL • 645-7607
—NON-INSTRUMENTAL—

SERVICES: Sunday.....9:30 & 10:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of SCC

Meets in the Henry Gibson Social Hall of the Beth Israel Synagogue • 1115. E. Del Webb Blvd.
Thursday, 7:00 PM • Call 633-0396

Most people have to talk so they won't hear.
— May Sarton

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"A Warm, Loving & Friendly Church"

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Need the comfort of a warm and loving family?
Join us on Sunday to come home to the warmth of our church family.
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"Getting to Know You" (Donuts & Coffee)9:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Service7:00 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
Sunday Morning 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)

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Bookstore 633-8595

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PASTOR: DR. DANIEL WHITE

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RUSKIN, FL

820 COLLEGE AVE. W.
RUSKIN, FL 33570
645-6439
www.fbcfruskin.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.
Awana7:00 p.m.

Dr. Barry Rumsey
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
K-2
THROUGH 12TH GRADE

Area Places of Worship

Unity COMMUNITY OF JOY

Spirituality Rather Than "Religion"

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

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

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1501 La Jolla AVE, Sun City Center, FL 33573-5329
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All Are Welcome!

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

First Baptist Church of Gibsonton

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

Traditional Worship Service	*Sunday School	9:30 A.M.
Old-Time Gospel Hymns	*Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Nursery Available	Sunday Evening	6:00 P.M.
* Interpreter for the Deaf	Mid-Week (Wed.)	7:00 P.M.

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Gibsonton, FL 33534

Malcolm S. Clements, Pastor
813-677-1301

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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

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 & 6:00 p.m.
Daily..... 8:00 a.m.

Confessions:
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. and Sat. 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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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: Rev. 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.

Area Obituaries

Make a Memory

Plans for a ministry weekend, "Lets Make A Memory," Oct. 12-15 are finalized. There will be meetings at 7 p.m. Wednesday night, 10, 2, and 7 on thursday and friday and 10, 2, and 6 on saturday. Debbie Domer will sing and Randy Domer will be preach. There will be a ladies' meeting and a mens' meeting at 10 a.m. on Friday. The Crusaders Quartet from Columbus Ohio will sing on Friday and Saturday. The meetings will be held at the Church of God Cafeteria on Center St. in Wimauma. There is a \$10 ticket per day per person.

Bring a friend and make a memory. For more information call 321-258-5921.

Mary Jones Knear

Mary Jones Knear, 92, a former Dayton native died on Oct. 9, 2011, while living near family in Winder/Jefferson, GA.

At her request, no service will be held. Mary retired in 1981 after working for more than 35+ years for NCR. She then moved to Sun City Center Florida in 2001. In 2008 she moved to Winder and Jefferson, Georgia to be with her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Knear in 1948, and her daughter, Carol Eby Keister in 2006.

Condolences may be sent to 82 Drew Circle, Winder, GA 30680, or 371 Tanglewood Rd, Jefferson, GA 30549.



Jeff Romain

Jeff Romain, 40, son of a well-known local housepainter, Ken Romain and his wife, Nan McNamara, R.N., died Oct. 9, 2011 of Huntington's Disease. Jeff joined Ken and Nan 2 years ago in Sun City Center where he enjoyed the kindness of ladies water aerobics, the pool, the neighbors and family.

Jeff left the Detroit area reluctantly because his guardian angel high school teammates were there. He had been well-liked by the guys in the six different sports in which he had participated. He was loved by the ladies for his sweet and gentle ways as well as his good looks.

Huntington's Disease robbed him of his dexterity but never of his sweetness. He still enjoyed the roller coasters, water parks, action movies and his xbox for as long as he could.

Jeff faced and accepted the limitations of this genetic, terminal, neurological disease with courage. He will be missed by family and friends. His body has been donated to science. A Memorial Service and reception will be held at the home of Ken and Nan, 1615 Bentwood Dr., SCC on Sunday, Oct. 16 from 4-7 p.m. Friends, neighbors, and clients are welcome to celebrate Jeff's new life in heaven

If the LORD had not been on our side when men attacked us, when their anger flared against us, they would have swallowed us alive; the flood would have engulfed us, the torrent would have swept over us, the raging waters would have swept us away.

Psalm 124:2-5



Pictured with trophy: Pastor Lewis Brady, Lexy Hancock

New Beginnings holds annual Fall Hog Killin'

On Sunday Sept. 25 the congregation at New Beginnings enjoyed dinner on the grounds, Old Fashioned Day and the annual Fall Hog Killin'. The congregation wore old fashioned clothing and brought their "piggy banks" to church. After service and a good meal they counted the change in their piggy banks. This year they raised \$563 that will be used for the Thanksgiving food baskets for the needy. Lexy Hancock won the Top Hog trophy for bringing in the "fattest" hog with \$101.43 in change.

In memory of JESSIE WAYNE DRIGGERS 'VITO'

11/5/91-10/17/09



The memories still bring smiles. You weren't here long, but you left your mark and tatoos all around. We miss you.

Love you,
Mom, Dad, Courtney, Ninny,
Donny & Boys

Beth Israel holds OPEN HOUSE for Prospective Members

Beth Israel, the Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center, extends an invitation to the public to enjoy a bagel brunch, learn about our activities and meet the representatives of our various committees.

We look forward to meeting you.

Membership Committee

Sunday, October 23

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

RSVP to:

Arlene - 633-3340

Shelly - 634-8092





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813.645.3111 ext. 201
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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

Summerfield Crossings

Community garage sale. Saturday, Oct 15, 8am-2pm. One of South County biggest & best sales. 100's of homes participating. Selling everything imaginable.

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310 GARAGE/ YARD SALE

2 families. One day only. Friday Oct. 14, 8am-? Lots of Christmas. Good prices. Queen air bed, power washer, clothes, misc. 505 Chipper Dr., & 501 Lively Court, SCC.

Garage sale. Saturday, Oct. 15, 9am-? Fairmont Park, off 7th St. SW & Domino Dr. Everything must go.

Large estate. Oct. 13, 14, 15. 1718 Del Webb Blvd., W. SCC. 8am-2pm. Tools, books, china, pictures, holiday, small appliances, shoes, linens

2 family fabulous garage sale. Friday & Saturday, Oct. 14 & 15, 8am-12:30pm. 207 & 208 Islip Way, SCC. Home goods, furniture, linens, clothing & more. Don't miss it.

Calvary's
Angel Attic
Thrift Store
Wednesday, Friday
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9 a.m. - Noon

The BATH Sale
50% off all towels,
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Ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church

Garage sale. 1123 Signature Dr., (Off Platinum Dr.,) SCC. Friday & Saturday, 8am-2pm. Lots of items.

Garage sale, multi family. 602 E. Shell Point Rd., Ruskin. Saturday, 10/14, 7am-? Good stuff, great prices.

For those of you who still, do not know who we are,

We are Above The Rest

Furniture, jewelry, purses, vases, pictures & much more. 139 S Pebble Beach Blvd, SCC between CVS & Winn Dixie. Upscale, Re-sale. 813-633-5013

Green Briar, entire neighborhood garage sale. Friday & Saturday, Oct. 14 & 15. 8am-2pm. Take SR 674 to South Pebble Beach Blvd., approx. 1 miles take right. SCC

Classified is the Buyers Marketplace

310 GARAGE/ YARD SALE

Annual SCC Caloose Woods Lane garage sale. Friday Oct. 14 & Saturday Oct. 15. 8am-1pm.

Huge Garage Sale

Everything for everyone. Clothes, furniture, toys, small appliance & more. Saturday, Oct. 15. 8am-2pm. 8208 Carriage Point Dr., Gibsonton. (off Symmes Rd)

Multi family sale. Friday & Saturday, 8am-1pm.

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SCC. Antiques, furniture, side by side desk, Hitchcock 5pc dining set, small hutch, end tables, clothes, lots of household & decorator items. Golf cart.

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