

INSIDE:



Pigs in the Park...ing Lot was a huge success in Apollo Beach. See Mitch Traphagen's photos and details on page **page 15**



Community awareness fostered by the Duran family may have reduced the incidence of celebratory gun fire in South County. **Page 13**

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RUSKIN, FLORIDA 33570
PERMIT NO. 8

August 2, 2012
Volume 56
Number 28

THE OBSERVER NEWS

www.ObserverNews.net

Sometimes, all it takes is *love*

■ By PENNY FLETCHER
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APOLLO BEACH — Hospital, Hospice and nursing home patients can get the best care in the world and be visited by friends and family- yet still have a need for a closer connection with the world outside.

Since 1984, the nonprofit Project PUP (Pets Uplifting People) has brought them just that.

One local Sheltie, Kipper, was especially well-known at several area locales but mostly at LifePath Hospice and Florida Baptist Hospital in Plant City.

Kipper, who was 11 when he died July 15 of a neurological disorder that affected his movements, spent many hours loving patients who enjoyed interacting with animals before they had to leave their homes.

Doug and Beth Crayton got Kipper at a dog show in Lakeland when their daughter Sydney was 5. He wasn't there to be shown. He was one of a litter sired by a champion, and the owner had no desire to sell any of the litter and then someday have one of them compete against her winning show dogs.

The Craytons had a Sheltie before that was run over by a car and their daughter Sydney — then 5 — kept going back to the litter to look at the pups.

"Finally, after the show was over, the woman said, all right — you can have that one," Doug told me. "It was just because he was really over-sized for a Sheltie and wouldn't have ever been show material."

So they took Kipper home and he became a member of the family. Since then, Sydney has described Kipper as her very best friend. But the others loved him too.

Doug gets up very early in the mornings before the rest of the family is awake.

"I used to sit out on the porch and put on my shoes so I wouldn't wake anyone up. It was always Kipper who came out and wished me a good day," he said.

Eventually Kipper was taught to dribble a basketball with his nose and when Sydney practiced soccer, he'd get in the goal net and play goalie for her.

Beth works for LifePath Hospice in triage in South Tampa but she used to make home visits all over South County. Someone from Hospice approached Beth about using Kipper for Pet Therapy in Hospice's

program, Circle of Love, Doug said. By then, Sydney was about 9 and Kipper 5 or 6.

"He was perfect for it," Doug said. "As part of the testing someone put a bowl of food down and then took it away. They threw a walker down to judge his reaction. That kind of thing."

The Crayton family wants to encourage people who love animals and who have even-tempered loving dogs — and even some cats — to try this type of volunteer work.

"It's such a wonderful program," Doug said. "One

time, I remember a teenage girl on suicide

See **ALL IT TAKES IS LOVE**, page 2



Sydney Crayton and her dad often accompanied Kipper to his Hospice "Circle of Love" program visits. She describes Kipper as her very best friend.



Defying gravity

An anti-gravity treadmill at Sun Terrace Rehabilitation Center in Sun City Center has the potential to improve the lives of people suffering everything from amputation to arthritis.

Read the full story with more photos by Mitch Traphagen on page 14.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

RIVERVIEW

Mayoral candidates promise clean, good time campaigns

■ By MELODY JAMESON
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RIVERVIEW — Competition to be mayor here is heating up, but don't expect

an advertising bombardment loaded with deliberate deceptions or bundles of self promotion cramming your mail box or multiple pleas for contributions through

Pay Pal clogging your email.

No way! None of these candidates is digging for dirt on their opponents. Any name calling among them is likely to be complimentary, most gentlemanly or lady like. And your contributions will stay local, doing much more than packing a pol's war chest.

These candidates, in fact, are pledging nothing but campaigns of good, clean fun.

Make no mistake, though. They're in it to win. Molly Blanton and Mary Boyd and Elijah Heath each wants to be Riverview's next honorary mayor. And they're out to entertain you, to wine and dine you, even to take you back to another era in order to get there.

The annual contest to pick the community's next non-salaried mayor got underway a couple of weeks ago with the traditional hats-in-the-ring exercise staged each year by the Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce. When the hat toss was over, Blanton's, Boyd's and Heath's were in the ring and they had set in motion two months of non-stop amusement, hilarity and good-natured rivalry.

Their objectives are simple: generate the most votes at \$1 each to emerge the victor.

See **MAYOR'S RACE**, page 8



HUTH AND BOOTH PHOTO, COURTESY OF GREATER RIVERVIEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Unlike other candidates for different offices, this trio will play no dirty tricks and indulge only in good natured rivalry as they vie to become Riverview's Honorary Mayor in 2013. Each of them — (from left to right) Mary Boyd, Elijah Heath and Molly Blanton — will be seeking votes until September 28 in the form of dollars they eventually will donate to the community.

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VFW hosts candidate



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS
John Bastain puts the finishing touches on the hog he and his family furnished for a barbecue held at the Ruskin VFW Saturday, July 28. Ron Budd, Steve Mobley, Bastain and his grandson Logan, and many volunteers from the community worked hard to introduce people to Frances Perrone. Perrone is a third generation Tampa resident, who currently serves as a board certified criminal defense lawyer for the Tison Law Group in Tampa and is running for Hillsborough County Court Judge Group 4.



All it takes is love

■ Continued from page 1

watch. There was a policeman in the room. Kipper jumped up on the bed with her and stayed more than 30 minutes. I know it made a difference."

He knew how to give people a hug. Doug said he would stand up and tap his shoulders and Kipper would jump up and put his front paws on his shoulders to accomplish it.

"It was so rewarding sharing Kipper with others," Doug said. "We know he made a real difference in their lives."

Animals must be screened to be sure they have the right temperament for the work.

Screenings are held at Palm Garden of Pinellas, 200 16th Ave. S.E. in Largo.

Project PUP services Pinellas, Pasco, Hillsborough and some of Manatee counties and has lists of places in most towns in those counties that accept the program.

Upcoming screenings are Sept. 8, Nov. 10 and Jan. 12. Everyone must call in advance to get a screening packet telling them what to bring and to receive a specific time. Naturally vet check-ups and shots must be updated and a veterinarian must sign the health check up sheet.

To be screened in September, call Pat Herrington at 727-596-1469. In November or January, call Ellen Leber at 727-593-9395.

Pat is in charge of getting all the pre-screening materials together and out to volunteers.

"We have a total of 430 humans now," she told me in a telephone interview July 27. "A nonprofit group, we go to hospitals, assisted

living facilities and rehab centers as well as Hospice."

Pat moved to the area in 2005 and had her Golden retriever screened and took part in the program as a visitor before getting into the administrative part of it.

The president, Karen Tappan, also has dogs in the program. "Nick and Nelson get pushed in a shopping cart in a milk carton turned upside down with a pillow on it," she said. They're Scottish terriers.

Any breed or mixed breed will do as long as their temperament is good.

Karen says she spends most of her volunteer time at Morton Plant Hospital in Clearwater and Bay Pines Veterans Hospital.

Lists of places that use the program are also available for Hillsborough County by calling Pat at 727-596-1469. People who want to learn more about it may also visit www.projectpup.net.

Doug Crayton says calling it will be worthwhile.

He misses Kipper, but does not think the family will get another dog for at least awhile.

"If I'm a real good steward one day I hope God will reward me by letting me see him again," he said.

Kipper can rest in peace knowing he made a difference to so many people in the world, Doug said.



Doug Crayton of Mira Bay says taking his dog Kipper to area hospitals and nursing homes was one of the best experiences he's been privileged to share.

PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

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Operation Fight the Blight focused in Ruskin

■ By MELODY JAMESON
mj@observernews.net

RUSKIN – Taking aim on trash, overgrowth, junk vehicles, abandoned properties and other factors that make neighborhoods unsafe and unsightly, a multi-agency force led by Hillsborough County Code Enforcement officers launched Operation Fight the Blight here this week.

The 10-day sweep, begun Monday and scheduled to continue through August 10, is being focused on residential areas within a large section of eastern Ruskin. That field of operations is between Shell Point Road and College Avenue East, bordered on the west by U.S. 41 and on the east by the interstate highway.

The Ruskin clean-up campaign is the fourth in a series initiated last November, according to Carol Michel, a county communications coordinator working onsite with the combined agencies Monday. The first time a 10-day effort was focused in the University of South Florida area, followed by a clean-up in Grant Park for five days. The longest campaign to date, lasting 30 days, was undertaken in April this year in Orient Park neighborhoods, she added, where 1,600 old tires were removed, several hazards such as old septic tanks were uncovered and a concealed nest of an estimated 10,000 yellow jackets was found.

Zeroing in first on properties along and south of Shell Point East, code enforcement officers and Hillsborough jail inmates participating in a community service program began by collecting and hauling trailer loads of dead vegetation, tree and yard overgrowth as well as other trash from an abandoned rental property now in foreclosure by a lender.

The debris was taken to a temporary command center in Beaudette Park on 6th Street S.E., immediately north of the Ruskin Senior Center, and transferred to dumpsters placed within a fenced portion for later disposal.

From this point, officers fanned out in the operations field looking for evidence of criminal activity, for vagrants, for other abandoned property and unsecured structures, for graffiti, for inoperable vehicles as well as for collectible debris. All of it falls under code enforcement authority, Michel said.

Although they can initiate condemnation and demolition actions, the officers did not anticipate condemning any vacant or dilapidated housing in the area during this sweep as they have done in previous clean-up campaigns in other parts of the county, she noted.

The Shell Point East rental property, for instance, while surrounded by tall, heavily overgrown weeds probably harboring snakes, rodents or other vermin and not considered suitable for human habitation at the present

time, appears structurally sound and might be recovered as housing, noted Bill Langford, code enforcement supervisor.

In the case of graffiti, the department's anti-graffiti unit also participating in the clean-up operation would be prepared to clean off or cover up such markings on buildings, fences or utility poles, Michel added.

Benefits of Operation Fight the Blight can be many, Langford pointed out. When a neighborhood is blighted with one or more home sites where the vegetation is overgrown or junk is accumulating or vacant structures are being used by vagrants and illegal activity or offensive graffiti defaces surfaces, everyone and everything suffers, he asserted.

On the other hand, he added, when these issues are addressed the neighborhood become a safer environment for children at play or pedestrians on the streets and takes on a more attractive appearance encouraging renewed community pride as well as enhancing property

See FIGHT THE BLIGHT, page 7



MELODY JAMESON PHOTOS

As some code enforcement officers began piling and removing trash and debris in an effort to make east side neighborhoods in Ruskin safer and more appealing, others helped create a temporary Operation Fight the Blight command center in Beaudette Park on 6th Street S.E. Here Manual Acevedo tightened hog wire fencing used to enclose several large Republic Waste Services dumpsters designated solely for collection of the debris prior to ultimate disposal.



Typical of the kind of sites singled out for attention during the ongoing local Operation Fight the Blight clean-up campaign, this uninhabited duplex on Shell Point Road is surrounded with overgrown weeds and grass likely to harbor snakes and rodents. The dwelling no longer is suitable for human habitation and is in foreclosure, but still structurally sound, could be recovered for functional use and is not considered a candidate for demolition.

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Keep at it

It is always easier to quit than to continue the struggle. But the reward will never be as great for those who quit as for those who



Positive Talk

By William Hodges

continue striving toward a worthwhile purpose. Sometimes you do not know what progress you are making. I was told about a man who bought a very expensive—and supposedly smart—parrot. He decided he would teach the parrot to talk. Each morning, he would say to the bird, “It’s a great day.” But the bird responded by sitting there in stony silence with his head down. He appeared to be ignoring the remarks made to him. After several weeks, his owner decided the bird was a lost cause and gave up on communicating with him. That morning as he walked into the room in which the parrot was caged, he said nothing to the bird—no “It’s a great day” or any other cheery greeting. After a few moments of silence, the bird piped up, “So what’s wrong with today?” The bird was getting the message all along; he just wasn’t showing it.

Well, I cannot tell you that the bird actually said that, but I can tell you about a personal situation that was similar to what happened to the man with the bird. I decided it might be fun to teach a class in communications at a local college. I chose to take the 7:30 a.m. session. On the first morning, a cold rain fell and it was dark, even for the time of year. As the students filed into the room, it was like watching a movie about the living dead. No one smiled. No one spoke. I am not even sure that several of them had their eyes open. Having got there early, I had writ-

ten on the board my signature line, “Welcome to a great day!” As the bell rang, I introduced myself. Then I asked the students, “What kind of day is it? They gave me the following responses. “It’s a wet day.” “It’s a dark day.” “It’s a cold day.”

I kept saying to them, “It is if you believe it to be.” Finally, one of the students noticed what I had written on the board and responded with, “It’s a great day!”

For the next three weeks, I opened the class in the same manner, by asking what kind of a day it was, to which the students answered with the desired words. In truth, I thought they were humoring the teacher until one morning I was held up in traffic and arrived for class several minutes late. As I hurried into the classroom, I was intent on starting my lecture and omitted the standard greeting and question. About two minutes into the lecture, a young man at the back of the room raised his hand. I asked him what his question was, and he said, “Mr. Hodges, what kind of day is it?” When I responded, “It’s a great day,” the class broke into a round of applause. It was then I knew I had gotten through to them—each day is as great as you believe it to be. I am glad I did not give up.

What are you doing in your life that is frustrating you because you cannot see any results? Could there be results that you can’t see yet. A friend of mine was put on a diet by her doctor and, after about a month, she saw very little tangible results. She had not lost very much weight or any inches from her waist. In her despair, she was tempted to

devour a bucket of the Colonel’s chicken, but she didn’t do it. What she did was check in with her doctor and found her blood pressure had dropped several points and her cholesterol count was moving rapidly into the normal range. These two changes were not visible to her, but both were worthwhile. Had she just given up on

her diet because the results were not obvious, she would have been the loser.

If any endeavor is worth starting, think hard before you decide to throw up your hands and quit. If you continue, you may be just moments away from success. But you will never know if you do not persist.

League of Women Voters calls on state to protect eligible voters

Florida Secretary of State Ken Detzner has announced the state’s intentions to continue its systematic purging of voters from Florida’s voter rolls, despite the proximity of the August 14 primary and November 6 general elections. Today, Deirdre Macnab, President of the League of Women Voters of Florida, issued the following statement in response to the state’s actions:

Are Florida’s purges within 90 days of a federal election endangering eligible voters? The League says emphatically yes. Recent headlines highlighting eligible voters who have received warning letters from the state requiring them to prove their citizenship in order to stay on the rolls show that the state’s actions have put eligible citizens’ democratic rights at risk.

The recent admission by Secretary Detzner that the lists most recently provided to Florida’s Supervisors of Elections were based on ‘obsolete’ and ‘outdated’ information is part of a pattern in Florida that has had the impact of unlawfully disenfran-

chising, in some cases, thousands of eligible voters.

Now, with less than 30 days until the primary election, the League asks Secretary Detzner and Governor Scott to safeguard the voting process by taking the following steps:

1) Make a public commitment to conduct list maintenance transparently, accurately, and far enough in advance of an election to ensure that eligible voters are not wrongly removed without time to correct errors.

2) Ensure that only accurate information is used to conduct list maintenance, rather than relying on questionable data matching.

3) Comply with the federal Voting Rights Act to ensure non-discrimination, as well as the National Voter Registration Act to ensure accuracy and fair treatment of eligible voters.

The League believes that accurate, up-to-date voter lists are critical, and they salute the work that Florida’s 67 Supervisors of Elections do every day, however purges based on inaccurate information are unacceptable.

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www.ObserverNews.net
Published Every Thursday
by M&M Printing Co., Inc. 645-4048

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In the photo from left to right: Natalie Hausler, Amber Wiggins, Roger Smith, Joshua Stanaland, Casey Fitz, Tiffany Conard, Rey Penalzoza, Mercedes Meyer, Randall Casey, Rebecca Knowles, Kyle Bowman, and Madi Brown.

Future farmers expand their credentials

Twelve members from the Lennard FFA Chapter attended the 84th Annual Florida State FFA Convention, held the last week of June in Orlando. The State Champion Vegetable Judging team consisting of Kyle Bowman, Rey Penalzoza, Roger Smith and Amber Wiggins were recognized on stage. Randall Casey represented the 3rd place State Citrus Judging team during the awards presentation. Madison Brown also received a reward for her 3rd place State OH Demo, in the Artistic Arrangement category. Rebecca Knowles and Tiffany Conard participated in 2 leadership workshops presented by Jason Troendle of Minnesota, National FFA Secretary, and the University of Florida's Collegiate FFA. Kyle Bowman (Turfgrass Management), Randall Casey (Diversified Horticulture) and Rey Penalzoza (Specialty Animal Production) were announced as State Proficiency Winners for their outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs. Senior FFA members Kyle Bowman, Madison Brown, Randall Casey, Rey Penalzoza and Josh Stanaland received the State FFA Degree which is the highest honor bestowed upon any member of the Florida FFA Association. Lennard FFA members Kyle Bowman, Madison Brown, Randall Casey, Casey Fitz, Rey Penalzoza and Josh Stanaland served on Courtesy Corps which assisted convention staff backstage.

Rowdies Sanfilippo Named NASL Defensive Player of the week

Tampa Bay Rowdies defender Frankie Sanfilippo (pronounced san-fill-eep-oh) has been named the North American Soccer League Defensive Player of the Week for the second time this season, the league announced on Monday.



Sanfilippo, a San Diego native and the Rowdies team captain, led Tampa Bay to its fourth consecutive victory at home and its sixth win in seven games overall with a 2-0 victory over Puerto Rico last Saturday night at Al Lang Stadium. Sanfilippo scored the game-winning goal in the 72nd minute and also helped Tampa Bay post its second straight shutout and fifth this season. Tampa Bay has not allowed a goal in more than 225 minutes, with its last goal allowed coming in the 45th minute at Minnesota on July 12.

"This is a special honor and I thank my teammates, especially the back line and our goalkeeper Jeff Attinella," said Sanfilippo. "We are playing really well right now and it was a huge win over the weekend. It was a great performance from everyone and I was thrilled to score my first goal of the year as well."

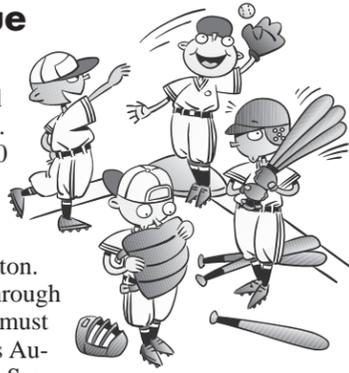
Sanfilippo has started 43 matches for Tampa Bay over the last two seasons, including all 18 games in 2012. He has played in all 1,620 minutes this season, tied for most in the league. The honor marks the eighth time a Tampa Bay player has received a weekly NASL offensive or defensive award, the most for any team in the league in 2012. Sanfilippo also claimed the award on May 29 after the team's shutout of Minnesota on May 25.

Tampa Bay has moved into second place in the NASL standings, just two points behind league leaders San Antonio.

For tickets, call 813-287-1539 or visit www.RowdiesSoccer.com.

East Bay Little League fall season to open

The fall season is opening! Fall online registration is open on active.com. Onsite registration is from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 4 and from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7 in the portable at 13012 Bullfrog Creek Rd, Gibsonton. Fall season runs from September 8 through November 10. Ages 4-16. Children must be age 4 by April 30. Practice begins August 25. Annual membership meeting September 14, at 7 a.m. at the portable. More information about the league can be found at website: eastbayll.org.



HCC sponsors scholarship at New Life Tabernacle Ladies Conference

Out of the Box Conference sponsor, Hillsborough Community College will sponsor a \$1000 scholarship drawing. As a non-profit Expo vendor, college recruiters will offer information to potential students about the academic programs and steps to enrolling in college. All participants will have the opportunity to enter the drawing by visiting the HCC booth. A winner will be announced during the Expo and Enrollment Development Coordinators will assist the winner with the admissions process.

Hillsborough Community College continues to uphold education and this scholarship award is one more example of how Hillsborough Community College supports education both locally and at the national level.

About The Conference

The conference titled "Out Of the Box and in the Spirit" will be held at New Life Tabernacle Church, 6912 Williams Road in Seffner, Florida. The three day Ladies Conference and Expo is August 2-4. This will be New Life Tabernacle's largest Ladies Conference and Expo featuring regionally known speakers, doctors, vendors and community services and a wide range of activities and seminars. Health, wellness and education vendors are still welcome to participate.

Apollo Beach Skate open to public

Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department announces the opening of Apollo Beach Skate Park. A grand opening ceremony will be scheduled in September. This 11,000 square-foot street plaza is located at 664 Golf and Sea Blvd. in Apollo Beach.



The Apollo Beach Skate Park is shaped like a three-pointed star with an elevated center. Each of the three points has a structure that allows skaters to turn around and keep a constant flow. Its unique shape and landscape allows for endless lines throughout. Any skater can skate around the entire park or simply skate one element at a time. Plenty of areas to stage and gather are also available. The Apollo Beach Skate Park contains various textures, providing for a real street experience.

Entrance will be free through the summer. All skaters must wear helmets, complete a waiver and have it notarized.

Apollo Beach Skate Park Features:

- Starting from the West end, skaters will find a series of quarter pipes that begin with a hip, and continue through two corners and finally blend into a banked area with a hip.

- The elevated center of the park has a series of street elements including a step up, double set of five stairs, a single five stair set, a dual option handrail/flat bar, a regular handrail, a gapped granite ledge, a very long and mellow ledge that is sided by two different banks, a steeper bank in one end and another very mellow bank on the other. The mellow bank is modeled after a driveway with a long rail that has a low pitch on the opposite end, and a custom quarter pipe that follows the angle of the bank.

- Another series of real street elements is located on the northeast corner of the Park and include a brick print gap, a bull nose granite rail, a flat round rail over the bank, a bench replica that is set on an angle down the bank, and a ledge that is connected to a structure on

the east side of the Skate Park. Once skaters reach the corner, they will find a U-shaped brick stamped 5 foot quarter pipe with pool coping, and two hips on each end. This structure allows skaters to whip around in any direction.

- On the way to the south end of the Park, skaters will face a banked hip/gap on the east, and an escalating bricked stamped china bank that has hips on each end and the top serves as an angled manual pad. As they approach the south side, skaters will find a few basic elements including a 12' long granite bench, a pole jam, a long flat round bar, and at the end, a 6 foot tall bank with a concave ledge that comes out from the middle of the bank. This element leads skaters to come back up to the center staging area, where a small manual pad, a rock gap with a kicker and a steep ledge comes off the bank.

All of these features are located in a park that boasts color, texture and endless hours of street fun. There are also plenty of skating opportunities for the non-street skater!

Apollo Beach Skate Park Summer Hours

Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The Apollo Beach Skate Park is Hillsborough County government's second skate park.

View Apollo Beach Skate photos on the County's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hillsboroughfl.

This \$499,849 CIP project was funded from Impact Fees. Team Pain and Charlotte Engineering and Surveying worked under Flores and Harper Construction Co. as part of the design, permitting and construction team.

Complete Skate Park Rules and waiver are available online. For more information, call the Parks, Recreation and Conservation department at 813-635-3500.



Ross Spano

Spano Campaign earns support of Fraternal Order of Police

Ross Spano, candidate for Florida House of Representatives, District 59, received the endorsement of the Fraternal Order of Police, Florida State Lodge. The Fraternal Order of Police is the largest and oldest professional law enforcement organization in the nation, representing over 330,000 active and retired public safety officers since 1915.

"After careful review of the candidates, the Florida Fraternal Order of Police proudly endorses Ross Spano in the District 59 race for the Florida House of Representatives. It is clear that Ross is the most qualified and informed candidate on public safety issues facing our communities today. We look forward to working with Ross to help our members protect the people of the State of Florida.", announced James W. Preston, President.

"I am extremely humbled to have the support of the Fraternal Order of Police. It is an honor to be supported and recognized by a group representing the brave public safety officers of our great state. I will be a tireless advocate for the safety of these officers and our communities. It is essential to our growth as a state.", stated Spano.

Ross Spano is a long-time resident of the Brandon community running as a Republican for the Florida House of Representatives, District 59. Ross was born and raised in the Brandon area and has been deeply involved in the community his entire life. Ross is a Brandon High School graduate, a graduate of the University of South Florida, and Florida State University Law School. He maintains a spirited involvement at Bell Shoals Baptist Church, and has raised 4 children with his wife Amie of 21 years.

Additionally, as managing partner of the law firm Christmas Spano & Owen, P.A., Ross has battled excessive government regulation and taxation, while still successfully growing his business from one attorney to 14 employees in six years.

For more information about the Ross Spano for Florida State House, District 59 campaign, you can visit www.rossspano.com, Like him on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/RossSpano, and follow him on Twitter @RossSpano.

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www.ObserverNews.net

The sullied and un-hip Web?

Sometimes I think the Web is the bane of society's existence. The (assumed) anonymity of it seems to bring forth crass and downright rude behavior from otherwise apparently decent people. Not only that, but I can't begin to count the industries upon which it has wreaked havoc with little in the way of return. When was the last time you visited a travel agent? When was the last time you bought a CD? Newspapers, local television, mom and pop retail stores (and some big box stores), even florists have taken a hard hit in being replaced by a handful of billion dollar companies (on paper) with a handful of cool billionaires (on paper) and several dozen minimum wage jobs. OK, maybe that is a slight exaggeration. Maybe.

Now before I sound like a raving Luddite eviscerating technological advancement in the defense of the buggy whip industry, I am well aware that the Web is probably the greatest achievement of our era. It has connected the world and has played a key role in toppling dictatorships. But that doesn't mean I can't be irritated by it now

and again. Actually, in fairness, it's not the Web so much as the anonymously obnoxious people that sully it up for the rest of us.

I got my first computer in the late 1970s, and I connected to the Internet before there was a Web, when connecting meant calling a long-distance phone number in Washington, D.C. to get a text screen that welcomed me to go anywhere that I specifically knew to look. The Google guys weren't billionaires yet — at that time they were probably young enough to think a nickel was better than a dime because it was bigger.

Since then technology has progressed, of course, but socially we seem to have regressed. Today when I see the vile underbelly of the World Wide Web (It's almost impossible to not see it. I once did a search on a phrase involving lawn tractors — and yes, believe it or not, there is lawn tractor porn. Seriously — who wants that? And then, of course, there is the endless flow of chain emails, partisan whacked-out blogs and comments of the downright caustic and ignorant

to such a degree they suck the life out of...well, life.), I wonder what the future holds for us. I'm almost certain that at some point all of these computers are going to realize that, as a collective society, we aren't all that bright and they are just going to take over and suck out our souls. Just Because They Can. Of even greater concern is some people might not notice that.

Suffice to say that despite spending the bulk of my life working on or with computers, I've become somewhat jaded. Perhaps if computers had managed to build the long-promised flying cars or jet packs for the masses I would be more forgiving, but they haven't. In fact, I think that despite having the world's knowledge at our fingertips, we are actually on the verge of becoming dumber.

Even the uber-socially connected *New York Times* columnist David Carr told *The Verge* (theverge.com) that the web (presumably meaning out in the wild via a browser) doesn't really exist for him anymore. And this is a guy who is so hip that he probably doesn't even recognize himself in the morning because even in his sleep his hipness increased to the point that yesterday's Carr wasn't nearly as



Observations
By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

For something that has connected the world, the Web and associated technology seems to have made us more isolated in some respects. In this photo taken in Grand Central Station, at least half a dozen people are staring at their smartphones. But I have to wonder, is it possible that the guy near the center is calling the woman to his right? I'd like to think so.

hip as today's. Regardless, by and large, he's jaded about the Web's tendency towards self-promotion, other people's kid promotions, and an overabundance of foolishness, insolence and nonsense. In other words, it's not just me being a cranky old guy; there are at least two of us.

And then, just when I was almost at the point of completely losing my mind (no, really, I haven't yet) to the relentless onslaught of cute and remarkably superficial quote images shared by people who apparently make a living by endlessly cranking out superficial quote images on Facebook (they sit there and make you smile, but slide right off your brain the moment you scroll past

them), I stumbled across HONY.

HONY is the Humans of New York. It is a website, a blog, and a Facebook page with nearly 200,000 fans. A young man named Brandon Stanton took to the streets of New York, hoping to photograph 10,000 people and catalog their stories and locations across the city, created it in 2010. It quickly became more than simply an archival project, however. HONY began to share life in all of its normalcy and glory with an ever-growing audience. Mr. Stanton is not only a skilled photographer with an excellent eye for perspective, beauty (in all forms) and irony,

See **OBSERVATIONS**, page 7

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Observations

Continued from page 6



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

These 'Humans of New York' don't look like they would sully up the web.

but also he may well be the best caption writer the world has ever known. He has the unique ability to share a compelling story in 20 or so words and often with as few as five.

What struck me most about HONY, however, was that thousands of people would click "Like" on the photos and captions, and hundreds would share comments — and virtually all of them were positive and uplifting comments! For me, it was like being connected to a Web in a much happier parallel universe. Later I found out that Mr. Stanton spends a great deal of time keeping those comments positive by deleting the negative ones. He allows someone to disparage him but has zero

tolerance for someone slamming the person or persons who are the subject of his photographs. To date, he has photographed nearly 4,000 people. He almost always interacts with them and asks for their permission to take their photo, along with an insanely pertinent question that brings the pixels of the photograph to life for his readers.

Simply put, it is beautiful and wonderful and it accurately, I believe, portrays humanity for the completely normal, compassionate, confused, creative, committed, emotional, happy, sad and amazing creatures we are.

Of course, in New York there is an endless parade of such humanity. To my pleasant

surprise, I also found Humans of Florida. Created by photographer, artist, RN and all-around cool person Marilyn Behar Lerman, HOF is not simply a clone of HONY, Marilyn puts her own spin on things with more interaction between artist and subject and more in-depth stories to accompany the photographs. She also beautifully reveals the oft-mentioned but rarely-uttered-as-a-positive diversity in the Sunshine State. People here are literally from here, there and everywhere, and there is magic in what they bring to Florida, as Marilyn's photos and stories so beautifully illustrate.

"Everyone's story contributes to this thing we call humanity," said Marilyn, a former Human of New York that has called Florida home for the past 25 years. Certainly, she is our gain.

I have been a cynical son of a... gun, lately. People aren't flaming idiots sully up the Web, at least not all of them. People really are beautiful and fascinating, and the world would be a pretty boring place without every single one of us. So basically, those two sites have restored some faith in humanity and have saved the Web for me.

Well, that and funny cat videos, that is. I doubt even David Carr could resist a funny cat video.

Humans of Florida is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HumansOfflorida. Humans of New York is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/humansofnewyork or at www.humansofnewyork.com.



MELODY JAMESON PHOTOS

At the first site on the first day of Ruskin's Operation Fight the Blight clean-up campaign, fully-loaded trailers of debris were collected from around an abandoned rental property on the eastern side of the community. The sweep to improve residential neighborhoods was led by Hillsborough Code Enforcement officers and assisted by jail inmates taking part in a community service program.

Fight the Blight

Continued from page 3

values. "People just feel better about where they live," he noted.

Operation Fight the Blight is the result of cooperative efforts by the county's Affordable Housing Services, Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, Public Utilities Department, the 911 Administration and the Hillsborough Sheriff's Office, Michel said.

It is funded by grants, many of them obtained through the Community Development Block Grants programs.

Asked if he could make a dollar comparison of the costs involved in

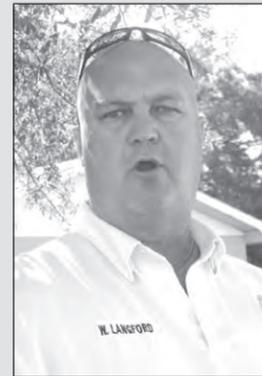
undertaking Operation Fight the Blight with monetary evaluation of the positive results achieved, Langford responded that such a calculation would be difficult. "How do you put a dollar value on enhanced safety for a child able to play outdoors?" he asked rhetorically, "or on a neighborhood where pride has been restored?"

Ruskin residents, too, can

participate in Operation Fight the Blight by using the dumpsters in Beaudette Park for debris and trash until Wednesday, August 8. However, neither tires nor chemicals can be collected in the dumpsters.

Questions should be directed to the code enforcement office at 813-274-6636.

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Boating safety class members work on perfecting their knots, bends and hitches at a recent Boating Safety class held by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at Tampa Sailing Squadron in Apollo Beach.

Boating Safety Class to start

In 2011 Florida became the number one state in the nation for boating accidents and fatalities. According to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission there were 742 boating accidents that resulted in 67 fatalities.

The U.S.Coast Guard recently reported that 72% of all boaters involved in boating accidents had never taken a safe boating course. Undoubtedly some, or many, of those boaters involved claimed extensive time and experience on the water that apparently did not necessitate, in their minds, the investment of time to become an even better and more informed boater.

Boaters who take safe boating classes, statistically, are not the ones involved in headline getting boating accidents.

Join the majority! Join that large group of better boaters by taking a safe boating class. Boating classes are informative. They're even fun! You're a smarter and better boater because of your dedication and commitment to family and friends.

Learn safe boating practices. Learn some basic knots. Learn de-

tails of docking. Learn more about navigating in local waters.

"About Boating Safely" is a beginner boating course that can save boaters money, increase skill confidence and make for relaxing and safe boating excursions.

The 3 consecutive sessions offered by US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 75 will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings Aug. 9, 16 and 23 overlooking the water at Tampa Sailing Squadron, 1250 Apollo Beach Blvd., Apollo Beach.

The first two sessions are instructional and the third session for reviewing and testing.

"About Boating Safely" will give you the knowledge needed to obtain a Florida Boating Safety Education Card. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts to boaters who successfully complete this course. More importantly, the course will make you a more knowledgeable and more confident boat operator. Cost is \$40 and includes the ABS book, a lifetime reference manual.

For reservations and information, call Ray Stewart at (813) 645-2130.

Mayor's race

■ Continued from page 1

In this contest, however, even the losers are winners because funds raised by each are passed on to their chosen charities, said Tanya Doran, chamber executive director.

Blanton, Timucua District Executive for Boy Scouts of America Gulf Ridge Council, is planning a murder mystery dinner theater event on Saturday, September 1, as one of the highlights of her campaign, she said this week. "Murder At The Four Deuces" will unfold in a 1920s speakeasy with audience members possibly employing bribery or extortion or even elimination of a character as they endeavor to unmask the killer, while also enjoying a meal, she added. Ticket charges will be \$27 for a single, \$47 for a couple and the speakeasy doors will open in the Winthrop Barn playhouse on Bloomingdale Avenue, Blanton noted.

The scouting executive and her campaign staff also are making plans for a number of other events during the 60-day race, including a day canoe trip and a "Be A Scout Day" complete with archery, hiking and campfire s'mores, plus a Riverview Restaurant Crawl.

Blanton, who will be donating her charitable funds to support boy scout programs in South Hillsborough, can be reached at mblanton@boyscouting.com.

Boyd, who can be found in her branch manager's office at CI bank in Riverview when she's not engaged in community efforts, kicks off her mayoral campaign on August 14 with a "Girls Nite Out." The 5:30 to 7:30 PM event will feature a range of vendors offering items of particular

feminine appeal, prizes for attendees plus wine and cheese for nibbling during the evening, she said this week.

Other activities are in the works, she added, but are not yet ready to be announced. Boyd's charitable donations will go to A Kid's Place in Brandon and to the YMCA's Camp Cristina.

Heath said this week he and his team are putting together a schedule filled with variety during August and September, beginning with a FishHawk-Riverview Rotary Club party at 6:30 p.m. on August 20. Subsequent August events in the making include "Hogs for a Cause" and a wine tasting, he added.

His September calendar, he noted, is filling up with a pub crawl around the first, a "Yappy Hour" near the 20th, followed by Casino Night at the Winthrop Barn now set for the 21st and a "Wet Willie Day" yet to be pinned down.

A financial advisor associated with the FishHawk office of Edward Jones, Heath is an active Rotarian and will channel his contributions to further the programs and scholarship fund of the Rotary Club of FishHawk Riverview Foundation.

As details about Heath's events are firmed up, he said they will be posted on www.FishHawkRiverviewRotary.org.

Another approach to garnering the dollar votes in exchange for an enjoyable time with family and friends is a mutual movie night in which all three candidates participate, they noted. Plans for this cooperative occasion are being worked out, they indicated.

Whatever creative and tempting delights the candidates schedule in their efforts to raise monies for their charities, the 2013 mayor's race ends at 4 PM on September 28, Doran said. Between that time and the chamber's next membership meeting on October 23, the funds raised by each candidate will be tallied, half of each candidate's dollar "votes" going to the chamber and half prepared for his or her chosen beneficiary, the director added.

Announcement of the top vote getter is slated for the October membership session and that candidate formally will succeed current Riverview Honorary Mayor Lisa Kennedy at the chamber's annual dinner in January.

During the new mayor's 2013 term, from January through December, he or she will receive an advertising package giving his or her business exposure in the chamber newsletter and on its website at no charge, will take a seat on the chamber's board of directors and will lead the membership's Pledge of Allegiance at each monthly meeting, Doran added.

But the best rewards, she noted, just may be the cash gifts to the deserving local organizations that benefit so many more plus the thrill of friendly competitive challenges.

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Wednesday	5-7 p.m.	Meatloaf Dinner
Every Thursday	5-7 p.m.	Wings
Every Friday	5-7 p.m.	Fish Fry (baked, beer batter or fried)
	7-11 p.m.	Live Music
Every Saturday	2 p.m.	Horseshoes

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, August 3	7-11 p.m.	Soul R Coaster
Saturday, August 4	7-11 p.m.	Karaoke with Kim Mullins
Friday, August 10	7-11 p.m.	Double Barrel
Saturday, August 11	5-7 p.m.	Italian Dinner

All events are open to qualified Moose members and guests

Joy Green to speak at SCC Chamber

Joy Green is running for County Commissioner, District 4. She knows how to listen to the concerns of the people and how to speak on their behalf. Joy will be speaking at Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce, 1651 Sun City Center Plaza, from 2 to 4 p.m., Thursday, August 9.

Joy has lived in Hillsborough County for 25 years and dedicated herself to serving in her community. She is married to Dann, has three adult children, Sara, Brett and Troy, and two grandchildren, Kylie and Braden. She is a graduate of the Women's Campaign School at Yale Law School, Connecticut and has a degree in Management and Organizational Leadership from St. Petersburg College, Florida. In past years Joy has worked her way up the ranks for Aglow International, from the local level to becoming a regional director overseeing Florida Georgia and South Carolina.

Joy is also a business owner. Her company, Rise to the Top Tutoring,



JOY GREEN

serves the children of Hillsborough County providing them with the help needed to succeed and avoid falling through the cracks. Her compassion, dedication and experience have prepared her to serve the people of Hillsborough County as County Commissioner, District 4.

For more information, visit www.joygreencampaign.com.

Rose Boutique to host pantry party, open house

Join the staff of Rose Boutique from 2 to 5 p.m., Friday, August 3, at 100 E. Shell Point Road, Ruskin, for food, friends, fun and shopping. Special sale prices have been marked on everything in the shop. Proceeds help fund Mary & Martha House, Inc. in Ruskin, a shelter for homeless and/or abused women and their children. It provides emergency and transitional housing for women in crisis in South Hillsborough County.

Help us fill the pantry for this worthy cause by bringing supplies like paper products, cleaning supplies, laundry and dish detergent, mops and brooms. There is also a need for twin size bedding, towels and blankets (new or gently used). Gift cards for gas are always appreciated.

For more information call 813-645-7874.

Volunteer opportunity

Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of dedicated advocates who protect the rights of elders who live in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes. The program's local councils are seeking additional volunteers to identify, investigate and resolve residents' concerns. Special training and certification is provided.

All interested individuals who care about protecting the health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care facility residents -- who often have no one else to advocate for them -- are encouraged to call toll-free 1-888-831-0404 or visit the program's website at <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>.

**Letter to the Editor
Dealing with our tragedies**

Dear Editor,

Could the media please give us a break with endless grisly accounts of the Aurora killings? I understand it was a tragedy, and our sympathies lie with the 70 innocent victims. But, we also need to appreciate that 86 Americans are killed by firearms every day, and nearly 4,000 are killed prematurely by chronic diseases linked with consumption of animal products and lack of exercise.

So, let's replace the vacuous hand-wringing over the Aurora tragedy with constructive personal steps to lessen the greater tragedies facing us every day.

Rick Fiskner
Ruskin, FL

Florida Big Dog Rescue needs foster homes



Foster homes are the backbone of rescue. Because their organization does not have a shelter, the number of dogs that can be saved is limited to the number of foster homes available. Florida Big Dog Rescue and Their Little Friends need fosters for small, medium and large dogs. To learn more about fostering, email floridabigdogrescue@gmail.com. If you'd like to save dogs' lives and become a foster home, contact them and they will send you a Foster Application.

For any other questions, call Donna 813-716-4772 or visit their website <http://www.floridabigdogrescue.com>.

SAC Art Show

The SouthShore Arts Council annual members show will run from Aug. 2- Aug. 23 at the SouthShore Regional Library on Beth Shields Way. There is a diverse group of artists displaying their work this year. The SAC will host a reception to meet the artists. Light refreshments will be served from 1:30 - 3 p.m. on Saturday, August 4 in the John Crawford Room at the library. The public is welcome.

SCC Obama for America office to open

A grand opening celebration of the Obama for America campaign office in Sun City Center will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7 at 129 South Pebble Beach Blvd., behind CVS Pharmacy.

This event will afford the opportunity to introduce Regional Field Director Michiah Prull and field Organizer Louis Joyce to volunteers from Sun City Center, Ruskin, Apollo Beach, Wimauma and Summerfield. Guest speakers will also be in attendance to present information regarding the campaign.

All Democrats and like-minded Independents are invited and welcome to mingle and enjoy refreshments.

The office will be open daily from August 8 through Election Day on November 6 and will be staffed by volunteers. For more information or to volunteer, contact Louis Joyce at Ljoyce@ofafl.com or 813-527- 1107.



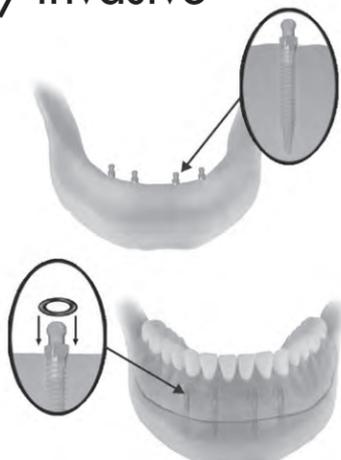
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for more information



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Michael Gray's Adult Family Care Home celebrates first year

On Wednesday, July 25, Michael Gray's Adult Family Care Home hosted a Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting to celebrate their one year anniversary. Several local business owners and residents were in attendance to welcome Michael Gray to the Riverview Community.

Michael chose to open an Adult Family Care Home because of his own personal experiences, his desire to help others, and to provide a safe, happy home for residents to enjoy. Michael strives to make sure each resident's needs are met and that they receive quality care. Michael Gray's Adult Family Care Home is a small private and intimate country home located at 8827 Cobb Road in Riverview. For more information call (813) 672-3376.



Thai X-Press celebrates one year anniversary

On Thursday, July 19, Thai X-Press, Inc. hosted a Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting to celebrate the one year anniversary of their grand opening. Several local businesses and Chamber members came out to enjoy menu samples and welcome them to the greater Riverview community. Thai X-Press is a family owned and operated establishment located at 921 Lithia Pinecrest Road in Brandon. They take great pride in providing fast, fresh, high quality ingredients for a delicious experience at an affordable rate and are dedicated to providing true Thai taste to their customers. Thai X-Press is open Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call 813-643-8424 or visit their website at www.thaixpresscafe.com.



Bob and Dottie Muff's 1953 Hudson Hornet is the Roamin' Oldies Cruiser of the Month for July.

Dad's '53 Hornet is a winner!

The Roamin' Oldies July cruiser of the month carries on its front license plate bracket a sign reading "Dad's Hudson." The long, low and bright metallic green 1953 Hornet of Bob and Dottie Muff was the pride of the late Thomas Muff, Bob's father and a long-time Bradenton business owner.

Among Thomas Muff's enterprises was a Hudson dealership, which fell victim to the mid-1950s collapse of Hudson Motors. The sleek step-down Hudson was among the first all-new designs after World War II. It was also very fast—the Hornet won six national racing championships from 1951 to 1954.

The Muff's Hornet today is essentially as it was in 1953, with its big flathead six, Hydramatic transmission and luxurious interior. Bob did add power steering to help his dad handle the big sedan.

Bob is a car guy through and through, with a fleet of interesting vehicles in various states of restoration. He considers himself a Mopar man, but the Hudson is an exception—as much a memorial to his dad as it is a noteworthy collector car.

The monthly Roamin' Oldies cruise-in is held from 6 to 9 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month in the Apollo Beach Winn-Dixie Plaza on U.S. 41. The event is free to both entrants and spectators, and the public is welcome.

About 90 of the area's finest antique and collectible cars and trucks are typically on display, accompanied by classic 1950s music played by DJ Joey Ferrante. The event is sponsored by Thompson's Auto Parts and Mama Iguana's Restaurant. For more information, call Chet at (813) 842-1511.



South Shore Rising Stars

South Shore Rising Stars was established in 2009 by Caitlin Benedict. The studio was created out of passion for performing arts and the desire to share that passion with others. It has been proven that participation in the performing arts can be very valuable to your child in preparation for their future.

They teach several forms of dance, such as Jazz, Acrobatics, Ballet, Hip Hop, Lyrical, Tumbling and Musical Theater. They make every effort to create challenging and unique classes in an energetic and inspiring program.

Their mission is to help children achieve all the success possible by attaining some very worthwhile goals including self confidence, coordination and muscular agility, as well as grace, poise and charm.

Boys dance free their first year.

They are going into their second year in Ruskin but this will be the first year starting at age 3.

They also have an after school program and pick up from schools in the South Hillsborough county.

Tuscan Alley thankful for community reception

Ruskin, FL: Opening a new store during a recession can be a lot like betting on a coin flip. There's a 50-50 chance that you guessed wrong. Fortunately for Tuscan Alley, they appear to have guessed correctly. The Ruskin home accessories center opened a month ago, and owner Terry J. Trekas is pleased with the results so far. "We didn't really know what to expect, with not only the economy to think about, but also

the time of year it is and the number of residents who are not here yet" said Trekas. "The reception from the community has been fantastic, not only from Ruskin, but from Sun City Center and Apollo Beach as well. This is a family business, operated by myself, my mother Joanne, and my sisters Laurie and Ivy, and we are all grateful for the warm welcome we have received."

Tuscan Alley features home decor items, wall art, and select furniture pieces. Certain consignments are accepted, and a buying service is also offered to clients that are looking for a specific piece. The store is open Monday - Friday from 10am to 8pm, and Saturdays from 10am - 4pm. They are located at 301 US 41 S., which is on US 41 between College Ave. and Shell Point Rd. Longtime residents will remember the building as the former location of Southern Grace, and more recently Lady Chameleon. For more information and photos of new inventory are available at www.tuscanalley.com, or call 813-645-5500.



A variety of items available for purchase at the new store 'Tuscan Alley.'

South Shore Young Professionals Group turns one

The SSYPA will celebrate its one-year anniversary from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7 at Uncle Mike's Smokehouse Grill at 9847 E Adamo Drive, Tampa. Individuals between the ages of 21 to 43 are encouraged to attend this networking event. Live music, line dancing and drink specials are among the things planned for the evening.

Raise awareness about prescription drug abuse and newborns

Attorney General Pam Bondi is asking Floridians to join her in raising awareness about prescription drug abuse by expectant mothers and the effects it has on newborns. She invites Floridians to suggest slogans that may be used to raise awareness by submitting concepts via MyFloridaLegal.com between now and August 10 at 5 p.m. "Raising awareness about the dangers of abusing prescription drugs while pregnant is a crucial component of preventing neonatal abstinence syndrome," stated Attorney General Pam Bondi. "I encourage Floridians to submit ideas for slogans that will ultimately help promote healthy outcomes for mothers and their children."

In hospitals across our state, babies are born suffering from neonatal abstinence syndrome, which is a collection of problems that occur in newborns that have been exposed to addictive drugs while in the womb. Symptoms include: fever, seizures, blotchy skin, incessant shrill cries, respiratory problems, and extreme sensitivity to sounds and light.

Attorney General Bondi chairs the Statewide Task Force on Prescription Drug Abuse and Newborns. The task force is charged with examining the scope of the problem of prescription drug abuse by expectant mothers, the costs associated with caring for babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome, the long-term effects of the syndrome, and prevention strategies.

For more information, visit: <http://myfloridalegal.com/pages.nsf/Main/CFC9846F8D7790F-C85257A10004AE67E>.

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South Shore Senior Singles announce August events

The South Shore Senior Singles, a ministry of the Sun City Center United Methodist Church, has announced their August events.

Saturdays, August 4 and 18, they will be going to the Alpha Pizza House in Apollo Beach, to dine and dance to Thor Stevens, from 5 to 8 p.m. Call for reservations.

Saturday, August 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. is Game Night. Location will be announced later. Seating is limited so call for reservations.

Sunday, August 26, it's off to The Alley in Riverview for bowling from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Call Bernadette for reservations at 813-677-2061.

A murder mystery show, "Till Death Do Us Part," at the Empress Restaurant, 12924 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa, has been planned for **Saturday, August 25.** Cost is \$45, plus beverage and tip. It starts at 7 p.m. and lasts for two-and-a-half to three hours. There are several dinner choices. The group will carpool from United Methodist

Church of SCC at 5:30 p.m. Drivers are needed. Reservation and payment should be made by the cut-off date **Saturday, August 11.** To make reservations, payment information and more, call Mary at 634-9824; Irene 633-2254; or Mary Jo or 383-7535.

Friday, August 10, is Movie Night at the United Methodist Church of SCC. Snacks and fellowship start at 6 p.m., movie at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 14, is a potluck at the United Methodist Church at 6 p.m., tickets must be purchased at the church office to attend. Cost is usually \$8.

The South Shore Senior Singles group was organized for those age 50+ for all the South Shore area to provide a non-threatening atmosphere for singles to meet and have fun.

Call Patti at 634-7171 or Mary Jo 383-7535 a week before each event. Reservations and cancellations are required for all events.

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.

Monday, August 6 - Blue Plate Special, 5 p.m., ½ Baked Chicken with all the trimmings for \$7, only 50 tickets will be sold.

Saturday, August 11 - Official Visitation of DD Lu Smith and DVP Pat Gallagher to the Lodge. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from 5-6 p.m. and dinner-1/2 Baked Chicken at 6p.m. for \$5 per person.

Monday, August 20 - Blue Plate Special, 5 p.m., Meatloaf with all the trimmings for \$7, only 50 tickets will be sold

The South Hillsborough Elk's Lodge is a clean, smoke free environment located at 1630 US Hwy 41 S., Ruskin, Telephone (813) 645-2089.

Ruskin VFW #6287

Weekly activities

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, Aug. 2 — VA Hospital at 5:30 p.m. Bar Bingo at 6 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 3 — Fish Fry from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Music by Eddie Shannon & Co. from 7 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 4 — Music by Suncoast Band from 7 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 5 — No Fire in the Hole. Music by Bert & Sassy from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 6 — Planning Meeting at 6 p.m. House Meeting at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 7 — Games in Lounge from 1 to 5 p.m. Kitchen open from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Bingo at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — VFW & LAVFW Meeting at 7 p.m.

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at fishing, I suggest that you first schedule a trip with a local charter captain to get acquainted with the area waterways before you sail into the blue on your own.

Many ask me, why? Because they know the area and what kind of poles and gear that you will need. They are experts on what to catch and where the fish are. Many have spent their entire lives on these waterways. The captains watch the weather, they know to fish deep or shallow in the grassy flats. They have a great knowledge of baits, lures, sinkers, reels, poles, and water depths, and sandbars. It is well worth your investment. I know their rates start at \$300 for four hours with one or two people, but check around. I found one in St. Petersburg that charges \$700 for 6 people for 8 hours.

Try Captain Gus's Crabby Adventures in Ruskin, at 813-645-6578, I do know that they are knowledgeable about every inch of Tampa Bay.

Another guide service is Captain John and Leslie Hand down on Frisbie Road in Ruskin and in Apollo Beach, there is the greatly advertised Ana Banana Charters and Tours. Most all bait shops can give you a name of several of the local charters in the area.

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any given day you may boat a cobia, shark, dolphin, red snapper, amberjack, flounder, sheepshead, pompano, permit, redfish, tarpon, mackerel, whiting, spec trout, if out in the deepest waters you might boat a jewfish, or a huge

sheepshead, drum, flounder, silver trout, or a saltwater catfish. Snook are out there, but must be caught and released on this coast.

Florida has many freshwater, lakes, streams, creeks, and the upper waters of both the Alafia and Little Manatee Rivers where thousands of species of freshwater fish are caught. This area is known for our bass tournaments around the world.

Our Southern hospitality of fried catfish and hush puppies is a trademark.

Shell fish are seasonal catches, with clams, oysters, lobster, and crawfish and shrimp, around our state.

Fly fishing is not only for mountain streams, but is practiced for our saltwater catches.

Throw nets or cast nets are used for mullet and bait catches.

Florida has many clubs for divers, spear fishing, and some anglers have been known to catch a fish with their hands.

I hope you find a friendly charter captain, who can give you a fair price, and who helps you make a great catch.

Learn our weather, and always fish together.



Fish Tales
By Jonie Maschek

Arts Council calls for Board of Directors applications

The Arts Council of Hillsborough County is accepting applications for vacancies on its Board of Directors for the term commencing October 1. The 15-member Board meets monthly in support of the arts and culture in Hillsborough County.

Board members serve four-year terms and must be Hillsborough County residents. Financial disclosure during the application process is required. Applicants with non-profit leadership experience and/or active members of the arts community are encouraged to apply. Applications are available by emailing SIEBELT@tampaarts.org or by calling the Arts Council at (813) 276-8250 about Arts Council of Hillsborough County.

The Arts Council is a Hillsborough County agency charged with delivering cultural services, promotion and support to the County's art organizations, artists, educators, residents and visitors. Services include cultural programming support, education, grants administration and oversight, and resource referrals for the arts in the County. The Arts Council is located in the Tampa Theatre building at 707 N. Franklin St., 6th Floor, Tampa, FL 33602. Telephone: (813) 276-8250.



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Tuesday • Hot Dogs with fixin' • 5 to 7 p.m.
Chili, Cheese, Onions, Relish, etc.

Wednesday • Chef's Choice • 5 to 7 p.m.
4th Wednesday of the month • Linda's Famous Liver 'n Onions
Bar Games begin at 7 p.m.

Thursday • Tacos/Burgers Night • 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Blind Draw Darts at 7:30 p.m.

Friday • Fabulous Fish/Steak/Shrimp Dinner • 5 to 7:30 p.m.
Includes burgers and sides
Karaoke Kat kicks off at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 11 -- Back to School Bingo, lunch at noon, \$3 bingo to follow. There is a donation box located in the lobby.

Saturday Aug. 11 -- It's Grown-up Time! Taylor & Taylor will be performing. \$6 BBQ Chicken Quarter Dinner from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., followed by a fabulous night of Music and Fun.

Saturday, Aug. 25 -- Local Fire and Police Department Appreciation. \$6 Beef Tips Dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. Presentation at 7 p.m. with entertainment to follow.

Sunday • Sport Sunday
Bar Games begin at 3 p.m.
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Kicking it up with Bullet Free Sky

Bullet Free Sky, a local nonprofit organization created to raise awareness about the dangers of celebratory gunfire, kicked things up a notch at the invitation of the Tampa Taekwon-Do Center to attend a demonstration and tournament in Tampa on Saturday. Bullet Free Sky was formed after 12-year-old Diego Duran of Ruskin was severely injured on New Year's Eve from a falling bullet while standing in his own front yard watching fireworks. The bullet may have been fired into the air from up to three miles away. Information about the organization was available during the martial arts tournament and Diego was presented with a certificate naming him an honorary red belt along with a belt embroidered with the words Bullet Free Sky. The organization, which has gained worldwide attention, is already having an impact. Diego's mother Sandy reported that she heard no gunfire over the recent July 4th holiday. At least two people in other parts of the Tampa Bay area, however, were injured from celebratory gunfire. For more information about Bullet Free Sky and how you can help to prevent similar future tragedies, visit www.bulletfreesky.com. For information about the Tampa Taekwon-Do Center, visit www.tampataekwondocenter.com. Pictured at right are the Duran family, Grace, Genesis, Diego Sr., Diego Jr. and Sandy with Edward J. Dávila of the Tampa Taekwon-Do Center.



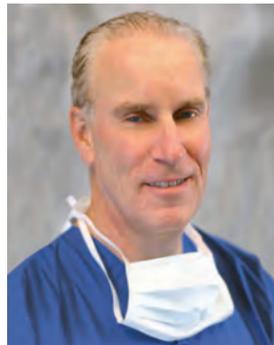
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MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

An anti-gravity treadmill at Sun Terrace Rehabilitation Center in Sun City Center has the potential to improve the lives of people suffering from amputation to arthritis.

Defying Gravity in SCC

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

There is a place in Sun City Center where it is possible to experience what it would be like to walk on the Moon. While that would almost certainly entice anyone old enough to have memories of their eyes fixed on a black and white television set beaming Neil Armstrong's giant leap for mankind into living rooms around the world, the purpose of the device is, arguably, even more noble. At the Sun Terrace Rehabilitation Center in Sun City Center, an AlterG anti-gravity treadmill makes exercise and, hopefully, a better life possible for stroke victims, amputees, people recovering from hip or knee surgery, arthritis sufferers and even the overweight hoping to overcome.

Bre Medlock, supervising therapist, demonstrated the AlterG anti-gravity treadmill to the staff at Sun Terrace. With her to act as the test patient was Joe Kennedy, a physician relations executive with Advanced Prosthetics and Orthotics of America. Kennedy, a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, is an amputee who lost his right leg below the knee in an automobile accident.

Kennedy stepped into the machine and Medlock raised the airlock up to just over his waste-level. He was then zipped into the machine that took his weight off his legs.

"We're going down to 20 percent," Medlock said as the airlock rapidly filled. "That means 20 percent of his weight will actually be on his feet, with 80 percent of his weight offloaded."

Within a few moments, Kennedy was lighter on his feet than if he had been standing on the Moon. Had he been a recent amputee, the machine would have provided a safe and much less painful way to learn how to use a new prosthesis or to regain balance — incalculably important to someone who has lost a limb, had recent surgery or suffers from extreme arthritis.

Medlock pointed out a laundry list of things for the staff to keep an eye on, but by design, the device creates a buffer of safety for the patient. Even if they trip up, they can't fall down because their weight is supported. Kennedy graphically illustrated that feature by letting go of the handrails and lifting both legs

off the treadmill. He was, for all intents, floating in space with the AlterG supporting him entirely.

The Neil Armstrong reference was not a facetious illustration. The technology and many of the materials used in the AlterG were developed by NASA and provided to the private sector for the benefit of all. It has the capability of offloading so much weight

"We are hoping to get the word out to other populations as well, such as the geriatric population, the amputee population that we have this machine and it can help you."

— Bre Medlock

that people just getting used to a new prosthesis can go through the motions of walking and regain their balance without having to put weight down on their legs,

something that could otherwise be a painful and even debilitating hurdle towards recovery.

"He is still using every muscle he has even though the weight is offloaded," Medlock continued. "The goal is to get people to walk out of this facility without the use of a walker or a wheelchair. This machine can make that happen."

Medlock went on to discuss one patient prior to the AlterG in which it took three months of work to get her to be able to stand up.

"That was three months we could have spent working on other things," she said.

Those three months of work would not have been necessary with the anti-gravity treadmill.

"It may take five or six of us to get some patients in here, but the benefits to the patient are worth it," she continued.

The machine and the technology it contains are not inexpensive, but this is a human-centered operation. During the demonstration, there was no discussion of the cost; there was only discussion of the rewards for the people who might use it. Real people will see real benefits thanks to AlterG, and that includes everyone from the arthritic to the elderly who may have lost a limb to diabetes to America's best and bravest who may have lost a limb to war.

"We have targeted our orthopedic area with this so far," Medlock said. "We are hoping to get the word out to other populations as well, such as the geriatric population, the amputee

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A 3-Part Journaling Workshop for Caregivers.

Writing a personal journal can be a powerful tool for sorting one's thoughts and feelings, coping with daily changes and gaining a greater understanding of your caregiving journey. You and your fellow caregivers are invited to explore this creative outlet by attending a special workshop at Homewood Residence Freedom Plaza. Linda Burhans, Caregiver Advocate and Author of *Good Night and God Bless*, will be on hand to guide you through the process. Make plans now to attend!

Thursday, August 16
Thursday, September 20
Thursday, October 18
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bhurley@brookdaleliving.com by August 10

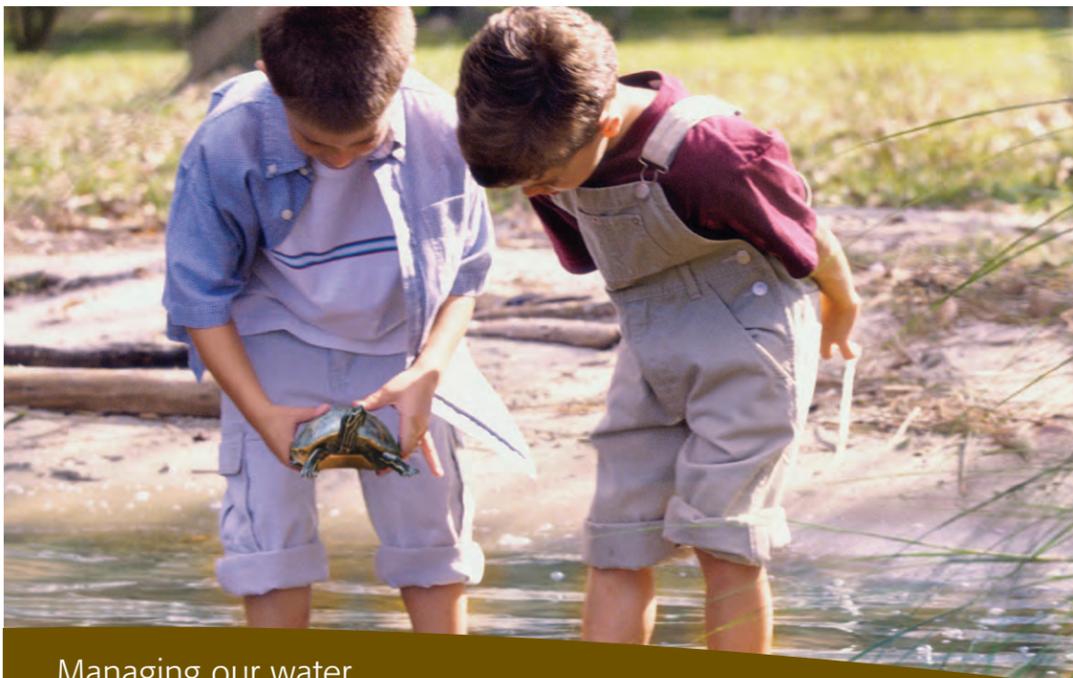
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The fantastic sound of the Ladyhawke Band kicked the event into high gear. Visit www.ladyhawkeband.com.



One young visitor seemed to color-coordinate his Kona Ice treat.



My Sweet Bees Apiaries of Seffner served up several varieties of delicious pure, raw local honey.

Chamber's Pigs in the Parking Lot a huge success



Mr. Kabobs, Fidel Gines, served up his delicious trademark. Visit www.facebook.com/mrkabobs.



To make lemonade, you need lots of lemons.



The Southshore Chamber of Commerce racked up an unqualified success with their Pigs in the Parking Lot event on Friday. Held near the Mira Bay SweetBay parking lot in Apollo Beach, the event, which ran from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., was attended by an estimated 3,500 visitors enjoying great local food and wares from area businesses, including The Mullet Shack, Mr. Kabobs, Bearcakes Rum Cakes and more than 50 others. "The evening was wonderful," said Melanie Morrison, executive director of the Southshore Chamber. "We could not have asked for a better turnout! It

goes to show that the community loves having the opportunity to attend these types of events — and if we can do our part by not only organizing them but also involving our local business members so they get maximum exposure, then everyone wins." The tone for the event was set by the great blues sound of the Ladyhawke Band. The event was free of charge. For more information about the chamber and upcoming events, visit them on the web at www.southshorechamberofcommerce.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/southshore.chamber

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS



Jason and Sean Fredricks of Legal Shred were on hand to demonstrate the document security needed by businesses and individuals alike. Visit www.legalshred.com.



Members of the Sun City Center United Methodist Church handed out bags and information to visitors.

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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.



Bunny

Bunny is a female orange and white domestic short hair mix. She is a real beauty. When entering the room, she will lock eyes with you to ensure that you come her way. She does tend to be on the shy side. Although a beauty, Bunny will take some effort to be a people's cat. Check her out so she can hop to her forever home ASAP. Bunny is spayed, microchipped, and current on her shots.

DOB: September 1, 2009



Stretch

Stretch is an interesting mix of Retriever and Dachshund. He is a really cute puppy. He also has the sweetest personality to go with his good looks. He loves to have his belly rubbed and to be cuddled in your arms. This is one special boy! He was found running in traffic in Apollo Beach and scooped up not a moment too soon. Meet Stretch today! As part of his adoption, Stretch will be neutered, microchipped, and brought current on his shots.

DOB: August 02, 2011

250 Jobs Coming to Manatee County

Air Products, based in Allentown, Pa., plans to expand its liquefied natural gas (LNG) heat exchanger manufacturing capacity by constructing a second manufacturing facility – 300,000 square feet – at a new site in Manatee County.

To date, all the units that Air Products has manufactured for this business line have been exported from the company's facility in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. This expansion will help Air Products stay ahead of the increasing demand for its world leading LNG technology and equipment. Coming with the new Florida site will be 250 new jobs.

"Air Products' investment in Florida demonstrates our success in recruiting job-producing companies that strengthen our economy as well as our business climate," said Governor Rick Scott. "This expansion is welcome news for Manatee County and our state as a whole."

The new location is readily accessible to port services, which will facilitate global shipping of Air Products' sizeable equipment and allow for the manufacture of even larger LNG heat exchangers demanded by the market.

"The number of potential LNG projects in the pipeline is at an all-time high due to the strong demand for cleaner fuels in growing economies worldwide. Additionally, several of the projects on the horizon will require the largest heat exchangers we have ever built and the new location does not face the same shipping constraints of our current location," said Jim Solomon, director of LNG at Air Products. "We believe the site we have selected in Florida offers exactly what we need. The new facility will be built at a deepwater port location with the flexibility to produce our LNG offerings without any physical shipping restrictions."

The new LNG manufacturing facility, which will employ approximately 250 employees in a four year ramp-up period, is to be complete and begin operations in late 2013.

Sandy McLaughlin, general manager of Air Products' LNG engineering and manufacturing, expressed appreciation for the efforts of officials from Manatee County, Enterprise Florida and state government.

Letter to the Editor Just like in Mozart's time

Our area has been very receptive to the South Shore Symphony Orchestra from its inception. I am not associated with the Orchestra but do really appreciate the crowd pleasing concerts that they bring us. Their current venue is St John the Divine Episcopal Church. For their patriotic program last month and as an experiment, they also gave a performance at the Regent Center in Riverview, which Hillsborough County built. The Community College now rents part of it. It has a large parking lot and a very beautiful ballroom where the concert was given. Since I helped pay for the building, I decided to attend last month's SSSO orchestra there.

What a pleasant experience that turned out to be! As I sat there in that beautiful room, I rather imagined that's the way it was back in the good old days when Mozart and his boys played the ballroom at the palace. As a first time outreach experiment, the orchestra outnumbered the audience which gave one a wide choice of where to sit.

The Orchestra's "Collection of Overtures" concert is this Saturday,

the 4t at the Church at 3 and 7 p.m. But, they are also going to repeat the concert this Sunday, the 5th, at the Regent Center at 2 p.m.. So, if you're in the mood for a Sunday afternoon's scenic drive to see the beautiful building that you paid for and to hear a concert of familiar overtures, you might want to give the Regent a try. It takes a full half-hour to get there. From the Publix/Walmart corner, go 10.7 miles north on 301.

As soon as you cross over the Alafia River, turn right at the first traffic light onto Riverview Dr. Go .4 miles to the 4-way stop sign which is Providence Rd. and turn left (north). Go .9 miles, slow down and about 200 feet BEFORE the road widens out to dual lane, turn right onto Watson Rd and go .4 miles. The Regent is the nice looking building on the left. It is at 6437 Watson Rd. The ticket price is \$10. Their website is thesso.org. I hope you enjoy the music and the venue as much as I did.

David Brown
Sun City Center

Hillsborough County Fire Rescue earns EMS Provider of the Year Award

The Florida Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services recognized Hillsborough County Fire Rescue on July 18 as the EMS Provider of the Year in its Excellence in EMS Awards ceremony. This awards program honors outstanding Florida EMS organizations and individuals who make a positive impact on local EMS and communities throughout the state.

The EMS Provider of the Year Award is presented to an EMS service which assumes a leadership role in EMS by achievement in the areas of quality assurance/improvement, patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training in Florida.

Hillsborough County Fire Rescue has become a leader among its peers, through a combination of its community and industry outreach, quality assurance efforts, extensive staff training, and advanced treatment procedures. Fire Rescue strives to use cutting edge technologies in its treatment, while remaining aware of the importance

of sound fundamental skills and decision-making abilities of its EMTs and Paramedics.

The department is at the forefront in the nation in severe heart attack (STEMI) and stroke triage and treatment, and is a charter member of the West Central Florida Stroke Coalition, which has grown to more than 200 participants representing multiple facilities, services and counties. The goal of this organization is to increase heart attack and stroke patient survival rates and improved long-term outcomes for patients.

In 2007, Fire Rescue was selected to be one of only three research sites in the United States to participate in an international CIRC clinical trial. This clinical trial tested the effectiveness of the AutoPulse automated chest compression device versus manual compressions. The department also is one of only two fire rescue departments in Florida that were accepted to participate in the CARES Registry, a project of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Heart Association and Emory University to monitor cardiac arrest survival and other data.

Additionally, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue instituted an effort to increase the number of residents who have learned CPR, which eventually led to the Hillsborough County School System seeking out a grant that allows them to teach students CPR. It is estimated that 10,000 eighth-graders in Hillsborough County have now learned CPR as a direct result of the effort.

Hillsborough County Fire Rescue was additionally recognized with the 2011 Heart Safe Community Award from the International Association of Fire Chiefs, which recognizes agencies that have shown creative approaches to improving care for patients with acute coronary syndromes and sudden cardiac arrest.

The Kiwanis Club of South Shore changes venue

The club now meets at the Golf Club of Cypress Creek at 1011 Cypress Village Blvd. in Ruskin. They meet every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and business. All are welcome. The club does a lot for the local community, particularly the schools. For more information call 633-9065.

Riverview High School Shark Attack Band to hold fundraiser

The Riverview High School Shark Attack Band is holding fundraisers to raise money to participate in U.S. Bands National Marching Competition in Annapolis, Maryland. There will be a rummage sale from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, August 4 at Riverview High School, 11311 Boyette Road Riverview and a car wash from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, August 11 at Burger King 9960 U.S. 301 S. Riverview.

Tampa Bay Senior Games Scheduled for Oct 1-12

Seniors can go for the gold at the 32nd Annual Tampa Bay Senior Games on Oct. 1-12. Registration is open until Sept. 21 for anyone age 50 or older as of Dec. 31, 2012.

The games feature two weeks of competition in various activities, such as basketball, billiards, bowling, cribbage, dominoes, golf, hobby show, pickleball, pinocle, swimming, table tennis, talent showcase, tennis, and track and field. New events this year include softball and corn hole. Entry fee is only \$20 and includes unlimited participation in the games, a ticket to the awards luncheon, opening ceremony continental breakfast, and t-shirt. The golf event costs an additional \$20 and power lifting is an additional \$5. Award Banquet for non-participant is \$10.

Last year's oldest contestant was 96 years young and the youngest was 50.

The Tampa Bay Senior Games are hosted by the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, Hillsborough County Family and Aging Services, City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department, and Temple Terrace Leisure Services.

For the registration form, event schedule and event locations, visit the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department website or call Joe Soletti at 813-744-5871.

Attention all Veterans

Sun City Center Chapter #110 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) has opened an outreach center in Conessa Hall at the Prince of Peace Church located at 702 Valley Forge Blvd., Sun City Center.

Bob Gerdes and Darrell Katz are DAV certified service officers who will discuss benefits and assist with claims for all veterans in South Hillsborough County. Male and female Vets are welcome to participate in this non-denominational, and free service. Appointments are available for Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m.- noon.

Drivers also are needed to assist Veterans with transportation to James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa.

For more information call Bob at 813-634-1761 or Darrell at 813-260-3692.

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People who receive federal disaster assistance as a result of Tropical Storm Debby will not pay additional income taxes or see any reduction in their Social Security checks or any other federal benefits.

Disaster assistance for temporary housing, essential home repairs, replacement of personal property or for other needs does not count as income. Disaster relief payments from the government or donations from charitable organizations will not affect Social Security payments or Medicare benefits.

People can register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for disaster assistance by using any of the following methods:

1. By phone, call 800-621-FEMA

(3362) from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Assistance is available in most languages. People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (TTY) 800-462-7585.

2. Online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov

3. By tablet or smartphone, use the FEMA app or go to m.fema.gov.

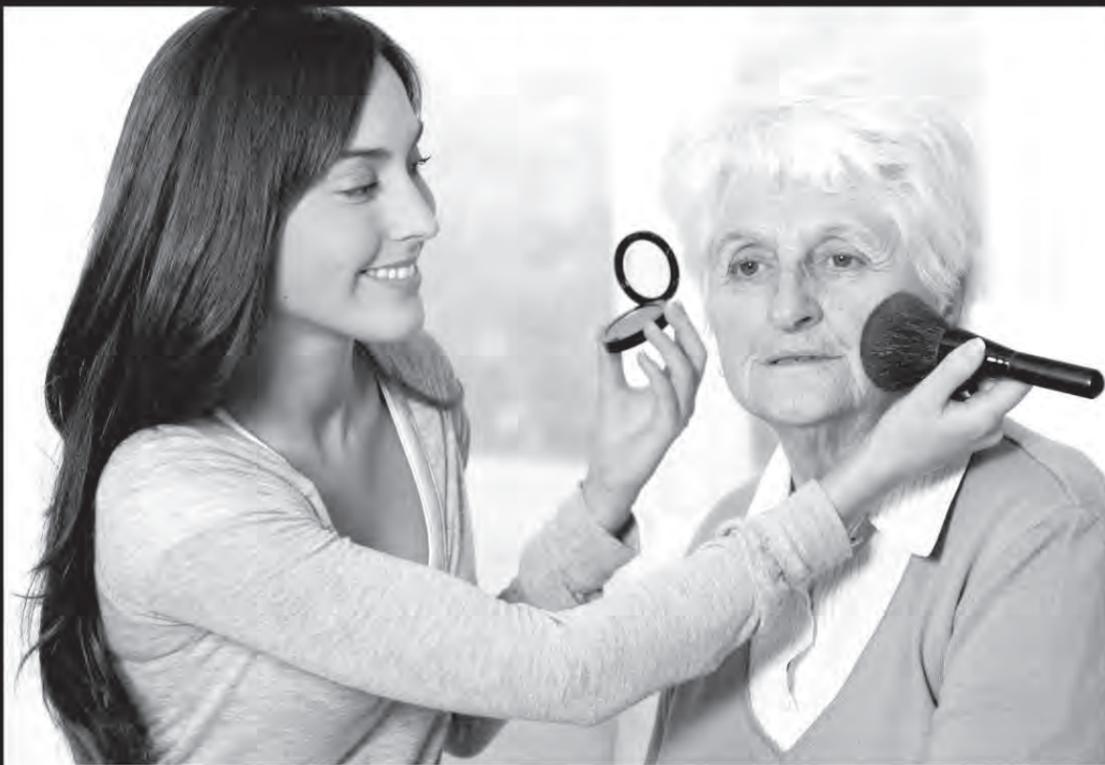
Those who have experienced damage from the storms may be eligible for FEMA's Individuals and Households Program. This may cover expenses for temporary housing, home repairs, replacement of damaged personal property and other disaster-related needs, such as medical, dental or transportation costs not covered by insurance or other programs.

Eligibility for FEMA assistance is not dependent on income. The determination on the amount of disaster assistance an eligible applicant receives is based on the amount of loss and damages incurred as a direct result of the recent storms and flooding and the amount of their insurance settlement, if any.

For more information on Florida's disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.twitter.com/femaregion4

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THE SAVVY SENIOR

How to Search for Forgotten Money your Loved Ones Left Behind

Dear Savvy Senior,

I've heard that there are resources available that can help people look for lost or forgotten money left behind by their diseased relatives. When my mother and father passed away their financial affairs were in such a mess, I'm wondering if there was anything I overlooked. What can you tell me?

Searching Son



The Savvy Senior

By Jim Miller

Dear Searching,

Lost or forgotten money is actually quite common in the U.S. In fact, according to National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators, nearly \$33 billion in unclaimed assets is sitting in state treasuries and other agencies just waiting to be found.

These unclaimed assets are from some 117 million accounts that are inactive or whose owners or their heirs cannot be located. Unclaimed assets can include things like lost or forgotten investments or bank accounts, Social Security payments, utility deposits, tax refunds, life insurance proceeds, stocks, un-cashed dividends and more.

This typically happens because of a change of address (the owner moved), a name change (the owner got married or divorced), or the owner dies and the estate was unaware of the money or the heirs could not be located. By law, companies and financial institutions that can't find the owner or their next of kin within two to five years must turn the property over to the state where it's held indefinitely.

Where to Search

It's very possible that your deceased parents, or you, have some unclaimed assets out there and you don't even know it. To start your quest, go to missingmoney.com or unclaimed.org, both of which contain records from most state unclaimed property programs.

Check every state in which you or your parents have lived, worked or conducted business. Also search using maiden names and any previous names, as well as middle names and middle initials. Every state can tell you immediately if

your parents or you have some unclaimed property, as well as how to go about collecting it. If you don't have a computer, you can call the state treasurer's office for assistance.

Look Here Too

Beyond state treasuries, here are some other agencies you should check for lost loot, along with a few resources that can help you search.

IRS: Each year thousands of refund checks totaling millions of dollars are returned to the IRS by the post office. To look for lost tax refund checks go to IRS.gov and click on "Individuals," then on "Where's My Refund," or call 800-829-1954.

U.S. Treasury: To find out if there are any savings bonds your parents didn't claim dating back to 1974, go to treasurydirect.gov and click on "Check Treasury Hunt to see if you own matured savings bonds." For older bonds or those still drawing interest, use form 1048 which you can download at www.treasurydirect.gov/forms/sav1048.pdf.

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.: If you or your parents worked for a company that went out of business or ended its defined benefit pension plan, you may be entitled to some of their benefits. Check at pbgc.gov and click on "Missing Participants Search."

The National Registry of Unclaimed Retirement Benefits: To search for lost 401(k) plans, try unclaimedretirementbenefits.com where plan sponsors, administrators and custodians register missing participants who have unclaimed retirement funds.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.: Search for unclaimed bank accounts at firms that were shut down between 1989 and 1993 go to www2.fdic.gov/funds. State treasuries hold assets from shutdowns after 1993.

Social Security: To find lost Social Security benefits, including the \$255 death benefit, call 800-772-1213.

American Council of Life Insurers: If you think your parents had a life-insurance policy try missingmoney.com, or for more tips go to acli.com and click on "Missing Policy Tips."

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.

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Defying Gravity in SCC

■ Continued from page 14

population that we have this machine and it can help you.”

The system at Sun Terrace, known as the M300 Anti-gravity Treadmill, allows weight to be taken off at precise one percent intervals and is built to allow easy access for patients with difficulties in mobility, which was illustrated again by Kennedy after he removed his prosthesis for demonstration purposes. Once inside the machine, his weight was supported and exercise was again possible for him. For many people, from amputees to those hoping to fight diseases associated with aging or even athletes recovering from an injury, the device has the potential to make a difference in taking the first literal steps towards recovery.

“For people with arthritis, it will provide all of the benefits of exercise while offloading the weight on their joints,” Medlock continued. “Without this, it could be too painful to exercise. For someone who is overweight, they may be able to walk for only five minutes. With their weight offloaded on this, they may be able to walk for 30 minutes.”

That extra time spent exercising will add up quickly, as will the health benefits.

Two cameras aimed at the patient’s feet and legs, with a flat screen display at the front of the treadmill, allow the therapist to keep an eye on the posture and gait and allow the patients to gain a sense of comfort in being able to see their legs in motion.

Staff members brought forth questions and concerns based on their experience with specific patients and Medlock

reminded them that was what the demonstration was for — to learn how to accommodate special situations and work with them. The number one concern throughout was to help the patients regain their independence of motion as quickly, effectively, and painlessly as possible.

For Kennedy, use of the AlterG is not only part of his professional life in working with amputees, but it is also personal.

“I make myself available to patients and their families 24 hours a day, seven days a week,” he said. “I believe this [the AlterG] is extremely beneficial to new amputees.”

More than 40 years ago, Neil Armstrong took one giant step for mankind, a step that could not possibly be taken for granted. Thanks to technology derived from NASA and the dedication of a residential health care facility in Sun City Center, replicating the environment of that enormous step is now possible. They may well be the first steps towards better lives for family, friends and heroes alike.

For more information about Sun Terrace, visit www.cchcfacilities.com/SunTerrace-Home-Temp.html. For more information about AlterG, visit www.alterg.com. For more about Joe Kennedy and Advanced Prosthetics and Orthotics of America, visit www.advancedpando.com.

Visit the Observer News online at www.observernews.net for a video of the AlterG demonstration at Sun Terrace.



Bre Medlock, supervising therapist at Sun Terrace, demonstrates the AlterG with the assistance of Joe Kennedy of Advanced Prosthetics and Orthotics of America. The device was set to leave only 20 percent of his weight on Kennedy’s feet -- less gravity than he would experience on the Moon. Two cameras provide a view of the patients feet, posture and gait on a flat screen monitor.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS



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Area Obituaries



Sharon Elaine Graves

Sharon Elaine Graves, 70, of Cody, Wyoming passed away July 23, 2012 at West Park Long Term Care Center in Cody, WY due to complications of a stroke she suffered in 2008.

Sharon, an only child, was born to James Jackson Fennell and Aquilla Vivian Fennell (Davis) on April 22, 1942 in Avon Park, Florida. She married Frank Donald Graves SR on November 10, 1960. They shared 52 wonderful years together. During this time they raised 4 children and operated a tropical fish farm in Ruskin, FL for over 35 years. In 1995, they retired and made their permanent residence at their vacation home in Cody.

Sharon, along with her husband and children, enjoyed hunting, camping, fishing, traveling and spending summers in Cody. She loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, friends and family as well as showing them the sights of beautiful Wyoming. She was an East Bay High School graduate, a past member of the Order of Eastern Stars, Riverview Baptist Church and later in life became a member of Balm Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband Frank Donald Graves; her daughter, Sharon Michelle McCullers and children, Kari Lynn Bradley, Patricia McCullers and Donnie McCullers; her son, Frank Donald Graves JR and his wife Elizabeth Alese (Hallman) and children, Andrew Donald Graves and Emily Alese Graves; her daughter, Stephanie DeAnn Hitt and her husband William "Bill" Hitt and their children Samantha Charity Sewell and Matthew Eugene Hitt; her son James Charles Graves and his wife Stacy (Anderson) and their children Levi Anderson Graves and Easton James Graves.

She was preceded in death by her parents James and Quilla, her father-in-law, Frank Ruskin Graves, her mother-in-law, Twila Oleta Graves (Adams), her stepfather, Donald M Chase, an infant daughter, and her son-in-law Russell Duane Sewell.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Ruskin, FL. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Sharon's name to your favorite charitable organization.

Richard J. McGoldrick

Richard J. McGoldrick, 89, of Sun City Center died on July 10, 2012. He was born in New York, New York, was the beloved husband of Charlotte; son of the late Catherine and James; brother of the late Thomas, Helen and James; uncle of Jeanne Bryce, Katherine Neville, Claire Leavy, William E. Kirby, Ellen Blizzard, James McGoldrick II, Marianne McGoldrick and Christopher McGoldrick, great uncle of William T. Kirby; cousin of Helen Formoso, Anne McGuire, Ronnie Redder and the late James McGuire and John McGuire; cousin of Naomi Lang, Dorothy Lovell and Sr. Dorothy Russell.

He was a retired banker of JP Morgan Chase. He honorably served his country in World War II; an active member of the Caloosa Golf and Country Club. He will be greatly missed by his family and a host of friends.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 4 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. In lieu of flowers a contribution may be made to a charity of your choice.

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Romans 12:21



Joanna Ann Mojica

Joanna Ann Mojica, 26, of Ruskin, FL died on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 in an unexpected tragic incident in Bradenton, FL. She was born on August, 26 1985. She is survived by her parents Leonel and Nora Mojica, her 2 children Jesse Jr. and Jadah; and two brothers David and Alex; and her good friend and sister-in-law, Elma.

Joanna was a very loving daughter and mother who always had a smile on her face.

Please pray for her family and her to receive justice in this tragic incident.

Robert Stanis

Robert Stanis 65, of Sun City Center died suddenly July 26, 2012. Born in Yonkers, NY, he lived and worked in Indianapolis and San Diego. He is survived by his beloved wife, Susan Stanis, sons David Smith, Ithaca, NY and George Smith, Tulsa, OK, grandson, Steven Smith, Indianapolis, IN, brother Greg Stanis, Yonkers, NY, sister-in-law and brother-in-law Kathy and Bob Bizzano, Sun City Center, and brother-in-law Robert Hanneman, North Port, FL. Susan has lived part time in the home of her deceased mother, Elsie Sholund, on South Lake in Sun City Center since 2002. Susan and Rob became full time residents of Sun City Center in 2010. Robert recently retired as Director of Quality and Technical Services at Chromalloy, San Diego. He was Vice President of South Lake Association and Assistant Lake Chief. Rob absolutely loved his life on the lake with a special fondness for the critters. In lieu of flowers a donation to the South Lake Association fish fund would delight him, only if you are so inclined. A private family service will be held at a future date.



Pictured are (standing, left to right) Carol Anderson (Bible leader of Mary-Martha Circle); Marge Yarger (secretary/treasurer of Presbyterian Women); Ruth Morefield (Abigail Circle leader); and Barbara Riley (moderator of Presbyterian Women). Also pictured (sitting, left to right) are Ethel Webb (Bible leader of Deborah Circle) and Rose Beckwith (Bible leader of Sarah Circle). Other Bible leaders (not pictured) are Diana Young (Elizabeth Circle) and Elsie Becker (Abigail Circle).

Presbyterian women start bible studies

On Tuesday, September 11, the women of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church will hold their first Gathering of the 2012-13 year with a combined meeting of the five Bible study circles. Dr. Frank Nauman will be teaching the first lesson in this year's Horizons Bible Study Book, "Dispatches to God's Household: The General Epistles," exploring six books in the New Testament. Those books show us what it means to live in community and what it means to belong to the Household of God.

Circles meet monthly from October through May at the church at 1239 Del Webb West in Sun City Center. Local area women are welcome to join; one does not have to be a member of a church. For more information, contact Barbara Riley at 634-1706.

SC Christian Center to host VBS

Sun City Christian Center is having Vacation Bible School from 6 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. August 6-10 at 17566 Hwy 301 South, Wimauma. The program is for children ages Pre K through 6th grade.

For more information call 813-633-1188.

'Three's Company' showing at United Methodist Church

Three's Company, a vocal concert by three of the area's top singers, will be performed one night only at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 3. Teri Council, Ellen Kleinschmidt and Kathy Straub are well known local professional vocalists/actors. The show features loads of audience favorites including solos, duets and trios by the ensemble. Tickets for \$10 are on sale now and available in the church office on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sundays after worship services.

For more information call 813-634-2539 or visit www.sccumc.com.

United Methodist Church - Serving The Community

Folks in Sun City Center and our surrounding communities love their pets, and pets do make a difference in the quality of life! The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center is focused on hearing and meeting community needs. As the cost of caring for pets can become challenging, the Outreach Team of the church is sponsoring affordable pet vaccinations for healthy adult dogs, cats and puppies at a significant savings. About Pets Mobile Clinic will be available at the church campus parking lot, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West on Saturdays, beginning August 4 from 9-11 a.m.. For more information call the church office at 813-634-253.

Area Places of Worship

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

Ruskin Foursquare Church

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11 a.m. Worship Service
7 p.m. Wed. Bible Study
2 p.m. Sunday En Español
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Rev. Robert G. Wiley, Interim Pastor
Telephone: 813-634-1292 • Website: sccredeemer.org
Worship Services on Sunday 10 a.m.
Holy Communion First & Third Sunday • Bible Class Thursday 10 a.m.

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www.unitycommunityofjoy.com
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Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M.
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www.popcc.org
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Sunday..... 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon
Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.
Daily..... 8:00 a.m.
Confessions:
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Sunday School (all ages)..... 9:30 a.m.
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Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday (all ages) 6:30 p.m.

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Wednesday..... 7:00 p.m.
EVERETT TATE, MINISTER

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Sunday Worship: Blended 8:00 a.m.
Contemporary 9:40 a.m.
Traditional 11:15 a.m.
Nursery Provided
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(across from MiraBay) www.calvarylutheranchurch.net 645-1305

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
WORSHIP SERVICES:
SUNDAY
8:15 a.m. Sanctuary (Communion Service)
9:15 a.m. Creason Hall (Oasis Contemporary)
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary (Traditional with Choir & Bells)
11:00 a.m. Bilingual
4:00 p.m. Casual
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Wednesday Night Service	7:00 p.m.
Awana	7:00 p.m.



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Contemporary Service 11:00 a.m.
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 813-645-1714
 SaintAnneRuskin.org

Very Rev. John F. McEvoy, V.F.

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 Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Days Contact Parish Office for Schedule
 Español..... Domingo - 12:30 p.m.; Jueves 7:00 p.m.
 Confession..... Thursday 6:15 p.m.; Saturday 3:45 p.m.



Youth Group, Under the Cross

Youth Group, Under the Cross returns

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center Youth Group, Under the Cross, returned from a week-long mission trip with Team Effort in Jacksonville, FL. Comprised of twelve missionaries, the group helped renovate a home and construct a new shed for a homeless shelter in Palatka FL, a very poor town just south of Jacksonville. The youth learned to hang and finish drywall as well as to measure, cut and nail together a 12'x12' frame shed. On Friday, the group was treated to an afternoon at Adventure Island in Tampa. The Under the Cross Youth Group is led by Tiffani and Bobby Martinez and chaperones for this trip included Amanda and Jeff Jordan. Youth missionaries were Taylor Hodel, Austin Hufferman, Julia and Isabelle Jordan, Shelby McConnell, Brianna Miller, Dalton Paulson and Michelle Tscheu. Under the Cross Youth Group meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and meetings include a meal as well as Bible study, games and other activities. Under the Cross is open to all youth grade levels 6 through high school.

For more information about the Youth Group, call contact Tiffani Martinez at (813) 516-0373. For more information about the church call 813-634-2539 or visit www.sccumc.com.

Christian Women's Connection to meet

The program and luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. at Club Renaissance, 2121 South Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center.

The program will be Accessories Gone Wild.

The inspirational speaker is Jan Tombo, kidnapped at age 5 she was "Stolen, But Not Lost."

Asian Chicken Salad is the August entree. The optional meal is always tossed salad with grilled chicken. If you want the optional meal, please tell your server at the luncheon.

You must order the optional meal when you make your reservation.

Please make your reservation or cancellation before noon on Monday, August 6. The cost is \$17 inclusive. Christian Women's Connection will be charged for all reservations not honored.

All ladies welcome, no membership required. Sponsored by Christian Women's Connection, affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries.

To make reservations for the August luncheon, call Pat Butler 813-938-4320 or Tara Flood 813-383-7540 or email aunt.butler@gmail.com. Your email reservation will be confirmed.

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He made His presence known,
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 to take you to His home.
 When the trumpets blew and
 the white horse flew,
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I watched you grow from puppy to old,
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 you were the pillar of the K-9 world,
 my loss is much too great.

Your life on earth had purpose and
 your purpose you fulfilled.
 You touched the hearts of all of us,
 now it's new adventures to pursue.

The beauty of this world has lost,
 its beacon in the night.
 But be assured without a doubt
GOD BLESSED MY HOUSE THAT NIGHT
Goodbye my friend, I will miss you.

Simmons Loop Baptist Church to host play

Simmons Loop Baptist Church Presents Nic at Night a children's musical play within a play in three acts about Nicodemus at 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 19 at Simmons Loop Baptist Church, 6610 Simmons Loop Road, Riverview FL. Admission is free and community is encouraged to come. For more information call 813-677-9310.

Shopping passes available now

Calvary Lutheran Church in Apollo Beach is pleased to once again participate in Macy's "Shop For A Cause" Event on Saturday, August 25. All proceeds will benefit two of Calvary's community-focused initiatives: The Angel Tree program to provide Christmas gifts for underprivileged children and the Angel Attic thrift store building project.

For just \$5, you can purchase a "Shop For A Cause" savings pass and receive a valuable 25% discount on regular, sale or clearance merchandise (some exclusions may apply) or 10% off furniture and more at Macy's stores on August 25. The discounts are honored at any Macy's store nationwide, and can be used throughout the day as well as online at Macys.com. Anyone who purchases a shopping pass will also be eligible to win a \$500 Macy's Gift Card, without any additional purchase necessary! The shopping passes are available for purchase now at the Calvary Church office in Apollo Beach between 8 am-4 pm Monday through Friday and at Calvary's Angel Attic thrift store, 1424 E. College Avenue in Ruskin, on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 9 a.m. - noon.

Since 2006, Macy's "Shop For A Cause" Event has partnered with non-profit organizations nationwide to raise more than \$42 million for their ongoing charitable efforts.

Purchase your pass(es) today and help them help others around the community! For more information, call the Calvary Church office at 813-645-1305.

See the current issues of
The Observer News,
 as well as past issues, classified advertising, advertising information, and much more!
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Summer Travel

WITH LITTLE ONES

SHELLY RIVOLI
VACATIONING IN YOSEMITE

Tips for Planning Summer Getaways with Family

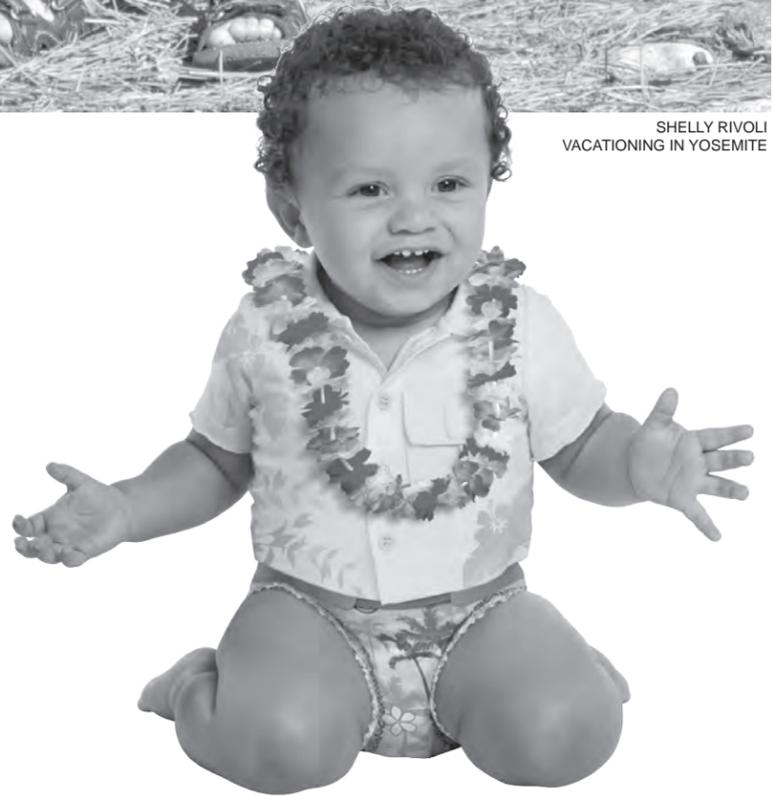
FAMILY FEATURES

Warm weather has finally arrived, and parents everywhere are starting to plan family vacations. But traveling with a little one can be challenging and requires preparation.

Huggies has teamed up with family travel expert Shelly Rivoli, author of “Travels with Baby,” to help moms and dads beat the heat and plan a no-stress summer vacation for their entire family — including the youngest of the bunch.

Rivoli knows all about vacations with little ones as a mother of three, and has even changed diapers on four continents. “When planning a vacation for the entire family, it’s important to plan simply and only bring necessities for trips,” said Rivoli. “With the right products on hand, like Huggies Hawaiian Diapers and Wipes, you might only need a sun hat for your little one.”

Here are more of Rivoli’s tried and true tips and tricks for making the most of this summer’s trip.



Timing Is Everything

Stick to your baby’s regular sleep schedule as best you can to ensure a satisfied little one. If your baby sleeps well in the car, you can look forward to putting on miles during naptime drives. However, if your child has trouble sleeping in the car, consider leaving first thing in the morning or right after naptime to make sure your little traveler gets the rest he or she needs to enjoy the adventure.

Bring Liquids Onboard

When you travel with a baby or toddler, airport security will allow you to bring a “reasonable amount” of extra liquids for your child, based on your itinerary. Place any prepared bottles, baby food or boxes of shelf-stable milk in a large, clear zip-top bag to present at airport security as you pass through with your child.

Beat the Heat

During summer travel, long rides in the car can be even warmer for tots riding snugly within a car seat. To keep your child cool and comfortable, dress him or her down to a vacation-ready diaper. Huggies Hawaiian Diapers are shaped to fit to provide proven leakage protection — with an added tropical twist — perfect for summer.

Pace Your Road Trip

Plan a meaningful pit stop for your family at least every two hours on the road for fresh air and exercise. Even rest areas may have space to roll a ball or chase bubbles and enjoy a picnic lunch.

Simplify Diapering on the Go

Carrying just one or two diapers at a time in your purse with a travel pack of stylish baby wipes will make it much simpler to change baby on the go. Huggies Hawaiian Diapers come with two different styles in a pack — providing two outfits for your little one. Remember to restock your purse or day-pack as needed.

Stick to the Routine

Traveling babies need the stability of their daily routines to stay happy, especially for naptime or bedtime. If you and your baby go through a nightly bedtime ritual at home, stick to it. Even with the change in scenery, you and your little one will enjoy your special routine and ensure a restful slumber.

Packing Checklist ✓

Diaper Bag Essentials

- Huggies Hawaiian diapers and wipes (5/ day + 2 extra)
- Diaper rash cream
- Portable changing pad
- Disposable diaper bags

Go-To Gear

- Car seat
- Lightweight stroller
- Baby carrier
- Portable crib
- Portable clip-on highchair

Home Away From Home

- Pacifiers
- Pajamas
- Stuffed animal/ doll/blankie
- Books
- Music
- Crib sheets
- Waterproof crib mattress pad

Fashionable Protection No Matter Beach or Backyard

This summer, dress your little ones to be “Cute for a Cause” and contribute to the fight against diaper need. These vacation-ready Hawaiian Diapers allow mom to stylishly accessorize baby for the hot summer —

for a trip to the pool or a family getaway — while also helping a baby in need. For every pack purchased, Huggies Every Little Bottom will help diaper a baby in need for a day.

To get excited for vacation planning, upload a photo of your summer-ready little one to the Huggies Facebook page, and create a fun animated dancing Hula Baby video to share with all your friends. Learn more at www.facebook.com/huggies.



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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 through Saturday, 9am-3pm. Clothing, furniture, lots misc. Ministry First Baptist Gibsonton. 813-671-0036 to donate

Yard sale. 4 families. Lots of clothes, & misc.. Aug. 3, 4, 5 & 11, 12. Everything must go. 8am-5pm. 6126 Cliff Ave., Gibsonton

Large folding transfer chair, nearly new lift chair, Cherry octagon end table, drop lead cherry table, glider rocker. 813-938-3554

Extra large yard sale. 201 Stephens Rd., (off Universal Dr) Ruskin. Aug 3 & 4, Friday & Saturday. CDs, lamps, books, jewelry, glasses. All kinds of misc. items.

Calvary's Angel Attic
Thrift Store

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
9 a.m. - Noon

Aug. 1, 3, 4
Beat the Heat Sale
2 for 1 on all swimwear
Plus - the Secret Sale

1424 E. College Ave. • Ruskin
813-641-7790
Ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church

310 GARAGE/YARD SALES

Mother/ daughter sale. Children's clothing, books, toys, games, storage baskets, brass pots, bedding, household. Rosenthal plates. Aug. 3 & 4, 8am-2pm. 1901 E. View Drive, SCC

Summer Springs community yard sale. 127 homes. Balm Riverview & Big Bend Rd., Behind Summerfield Elementary. Saturday, Aug. 4, 7am-noon.

Moving sale. 8am-2:30pm. Aug. 3 & 4. 2000 Chevy S-10 truck, tools & more. 901 Hacienda Dr., SCC.

Huge Yard Sale
at Above The Rest, 139 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., SCC. Friday & Saturday, 10am-2pm. Ladies & mens clothing, purses, shoes, boots, tools, fishing, full size bed, night stands, lamps, corner stair step drawer, TVs, ironing boards, pots & pans, dishes, books, jewelry, Brambach 1920 baby grand piano (in beautiful condition) w/ bench.

Estate sale. Moving. Lots of stuff. Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 8am-noon. 1502 N. Pebble Beach Blvd., SCC.

Garage sale. Mira Lago. Saturday, Aug. 4, 9am-3pm. 1742 Bonita Bluff Court. Ruskin. Lots of misc. items.

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Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
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See You There!

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Large bird cage, 6 months old. Perfect condition includes bird toys, etc. \$350. Call Joy 813- 633-1100

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Hot Tub/ Spa
4-5 person hot tub. w/ cover. Excellent condition. New pump & motor. Redwood enclosure w/ coral tub. 813-716-6261

Honda 3000 watt generator on wheels. Used less than 5 hrs. Cost \$2,200, asking \$900. 813-634-0793

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HAMPTON expanded in KP on golf course, extra screened lanai, carport.....\$57,500
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SIERRA in Greenbriar, SCC.....\$130,000

RENTALS

2BR/2BA, furnished, close to the clubhouse.....from \$650 per month

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565 M.H. IN PARKS

One bedroom mobile home in waterfront park with dock. Corner lot with view of river. No pets \$5,000. Call for info. 813-645-2446

Beautiful 12x65 singlewide \$12,500 cash, negotiable. 2br/2ba, laundry & computer rooms. Carport, painted screened porch & back patio. 10x6 shed. New paint inside, new 3/4" Ply-board, floors & floor covering throughout. Partly furnished. Pet friendly. On Little Manatee river, with private boat ramp, dock. Senior 55+ Villa Maria, lot 103, Ruskin. Call to see.

813-419-4066

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RENTALS 600

610 WATERFRONT RENTALS

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611 HOUSES FOR RENT

3br/2ba house. Apollo Beach, completely remodeled, fenced yard, no pets. 813-849-1469

4br/2ba Apollo Beach home, large privacy fence. \$1,150 monthly plus deposit. 813-482-6374

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Very clean 2br/1ba apt. with washer/dryer hookup. Includes water & mowing. \$625 monthly plus deposit. No pets. 813-645-1801

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613 CONDO FOR RENT

King Point, SCC. 1br/1.5ba, fully furnished including linens & dishes, washer & dryer. Glass enclosed lanai. No pets. Beth Christo 813-714-3811

614 DUPLEX FOR RENT

Duplex for rent. 2br/1ba in Gulf City. Yards from Tampa Bay. Free use of boat ramp across the street. Backyard patio. Just \$635 monthly 330-466-8136

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621 PLACES TO SHARE

House to share. Apollo Beach, on water, fully furnished, all utilities included. Internet, no pets, no drugs. \$600 monthly, \$200 deposit. Call Bob 813-645-4117

630 M.H. RENTALS

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One bedroom mobile home on riverfront. Lease for \$550 monthly includes water & electric up to \$75. No pets. Call for info. 813-645-2446

Ruskin 1br/1ba mobile home on quiet street. Waterfront, fish off dock. Utilities included. No smoking, no pets. Best suited for single person or couple. References needed. Rent \$175 weekly plus \$400 deposit. 813-363-6001

1 bedroom, 1 bath mobile home. \$550 monthly plus \$350 deposit. Close to boat ramp. Call 813-645-8885, Ruskin

646 WAREHOUSE SPACE

Garage & mini storage, RV lots & mobile home lots for rent. Call Pirates Treasure Cove, Gibsonton. 813-677-1137

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UNLIMITED POTENTIAL!! Great commercial acreage located near Highway 41 in Ruskin and close to planned shopping center. 3BR/1BA house with detached garage on 1.4 acres (mol) \$199,000 CALL KAY PYE 361-3672 OR ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201

COMMERCIAL LISTING! Great commercial property with 158 ft of frontage on Highway 41 (1.04 acres MOL). Property is zoned CI (commercial intensive) and is currently rented to an auto/service/repair garage. Special features include: huge building (3,192 sq.ft.) with new roof, three bays, two offices, and lots of room for storage. \$279,000. Call KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201.

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

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

GREAT COMMERCIAL LOCATION! 2052 sq.ft. building with a great location on busy Shell Point Road in Ruskin. Nice size lot (72x170) with a circular driveway and parking for 6-12 vehicles. Large reception area, 6 private offices, kitchen area, 1 full bath and 1 half bath. \$150,000. Call KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201.

COMMERCIAL ACREAGE IN RUSKIN! 3.7 acres (MOL) with CG Zoning. The initial work has been done for office buildings. This property has a great location, on corner of 10th St SW and Woodland Estates. \$374,900. Call KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201.

WATERFRONT TOWNHOME!! Need space for your 65' boat? This townhouse at Bahia Beach offers just that as well as beautiful sunrises and the fun of watching the manatees and birds play. 2BR/2BA completely re-done including painting and new carpet. Only 9 units in this cozy community and only townhomes with private docks. Balcony and sundeck. Corner unit on a cul-de-sac. \$204,900. Call KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201.

SOMETHING SPECIAL WITH MOTHER-IN-LAW QUARTERS on over 1/2 acre lot. 3,040 sq. ft. 2BR/3.5BA, plus a den that could easily convert to third bedroom. Built in 2007 and is in excellent condition. Special features include: vaulted ceilings, crown molding, tray ceilings, gorgeous kitchen with center-island and a sink, custom cabinets, master bath with garden tub and separate shower and a nice size sitting room and much more! This is a short sale but worth the wait. \$215,000. Call KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201.

NICE PRICE REDUCTION FOR COUNTRY CHARM — KEY WEST FLAVOR. 3BR/2.5BA, Mexican tile throughout, wet bar with icemaker and sink, glass doors on kitchen cabinets, French doors to patio. Plantation shutters in front bedroom, vaulted ceilings. Koi pond with waterfall, wrap-around porch and private screened cat porch. Loads of storage and closet space. 1.59 acres with fruit trees and oak trees and lots of parking space, garage with workshop. Truly one of a kind. Priced at \$349,900. Call KAY PYE 361-3672 or ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201.

BUILDING LOT cleared with RCD-12 zoning for residential or duplex. \$15,000 CALL ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201

NEW LISTING! 4BR/1BA INVESTOR SPECIAL. CALL ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201 \$55,000.

MEETS MANY NEEDS. Besides providing a very comfortable 3BR home, this property allows for extended family member(s) with an in-law suite, allows for storage of big toys in 25x30 metal outbuilding, allows for workshop. Nice deck, large trees, oversized lot, 2 car garage. All for just \$135,000. Call JUDY ERICKSON 468-0288.

BANK NOT IN BUSINESS OF ACREAGE ACQUISITION wants offer on 14 plus acres near I-75. Currently zoned RSC-2 so has development potential, but could be rezoned to agricultural if farming is your passion. Reduced to less than appraised or assessed value. \$144,500 JUDY ERICKSON 468-0288.

RUSKIN WATERFRONT — new on the market!!! Enjoy stunning views from this beautiful 3 bedroom pool home on the Ruskin Inlet. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac the property is complete with a concrete seawall and boat lift. Deep water and no bridges to Tampa Bay! \$429,000 CALL CATHY GRIGGS 391-8653

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY — PRICE REDUCED!! Don't let this one get away! PRIME LOCATION ON HIGHWAY 41. Great location for many business uses — close to 1 acre 200x200 with easy access to 41 and lots of room for parking. Fenced, 2 roll up doors and loading dock - this building would make a great office/showroom with room for either storage or workshop \$300,000. CALL CATHY GRIGGS 391-8653.

2 WATERFRONT LOTS AVAILABLE IN SABLE COVE — BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME!! Both are beautiful building lots ready for the home of your dreams located on a wide canal with no bridges to the bay. Both have county water and sewer available, no homeowner association so no extra fees. Priced at \$88,000 and \$90,000. Call CATHY GRIGGS 391-8653.

PRICED TO PLEASE! Tastefully decorated 3BR/2BA/2CG pool home in desirable community with deed restrictions to protect property values but no CDD fees! Needs a little TLC but mostly cosmetic. Just under 2,000 sq. ft. of living area but feels larger. Take advantage of this great buy! Only \$159,000. JO ELLEN MOBLEY 813-645-1540.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! This 1.42 acres is close but not too close to shopping, churches, schools, restaurants, and more! With residential single family zoning, a corner lot on a dead-end street and public utilities available, the possibilities are endless. Four single lots make up this acreage so you could possibly build four homes instead of just one! Asking \$60,000. Call today! JO ELLEN MOBLEY 813-645-1540.

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