

INSIDE:



School is open throughout the county. Use caution on all roads and prepare to slow down in school zones. More on **page 16**



It's back to school time, that means a celebration of summer is in order. Pie eating contest anyone? More on **page 11**

Advance notice:

The Observer News office will be closed **Monday, Sept. 3** in observance of **LABOR DAY**

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MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS
Nick and Pat Christy of Sun City Center know all too well what is coming to Tampa next week. In 1980, they fed the entire Republican National Convention in Detroit, from VIPs to volunteers.

Tales from an RNC veteran

By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

SUN CITY CENTER — The Republican National Convention will take place in Tampa and surrounding communities next week. After months of news coverage in anticipation of the event, replete with warnings about traffic, closed freeways and a tight security zone downtown, most people are probably ready for it to be over. Until cardiac surgery intervened, Nick Christy of Sun City Center had thoughts of entering the maelstrom of the convention, not as a delegate, he doesn't wear his political affiliation on his sleeve, but rather as a supplier. Christy is an RNC veteran — he literally fed the 1980 RNC in Detroit. It was a very big deal. An oft-used quote by an unknown author is, "From the outside looking in you can never understand it. From the inside looking out you can never explain it." Despite thousands of words written and spoken from Tampa Bay area news outlets, perhaps only a few really do understand what the convention is like. Christy is one of them.

For all of the hype and build-up for the national conventions, the nominees for both parties

are a foregone conclusion. Everyone already knows who the presidential and vice-presidential candidates will be. At the 1980 RNC in Detroit, that was not the case. Ronald Reagan was the presumed Republican candidate, but the vice-presidential candidate was technically unknown. Former President Gerald Ford was in the running for that position, described by some as a possible "co-presidency", and his inclusion included bringing back Henry

See **RNC VETERAN**, page 18

Whatever happened about...

By MELODY JAMESON
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Riverview livability

The community that grew from a tiny settlement first named Peru on the south shore of the Alafia River has been listed among the 100 best places for American families to live in 2012. Today's Riverview has been ranked 65th among the 100 best as chosen by *MONEY Magazine* and its online counterpart, CNNMoney

Notice of the listing was flashed to the Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce on Monday, Executive Director Tanya Doran said this week.

Placing Riverview's population in the 73,000 bracket, the best small city ranking was based on such factors as housing availability, educational opportunity, crime rate, leisure and cultural activities as well as climate and weather conditions, Doran said. Ranking lower than Riverview were such communities as Chapel Hill, NC, Ames, Iowa, Grand Forks, ND, and Newton, MA, she added. Doran, who said the chamber staff first excitedly "celebrated the moment," also noted that the ranking would mean a great deal to the Riverview area's business community and is a recognition in which the entire community can take pride.

See **WHATEVER HAPPENED**, page 3



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

Child care has come a long way from its beginnings with Grandma as a babysitter. This hi-tech interactive screen where children can do math, write their own stories, and learn to draw are now part of a whole new industry. This photo was taken Aug. 15 at Kids R Kids in the Kings Lake subdivision in Gibsonton, one of many child care facilities that now prepare children as young as age two for school through play.

It's not your Grandma's day care anymore!

By PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

SOUTH COUNTY — When I was asked if I could write a news story on how child care has changed in the past 30 years the first thing I thought was, "I can't believe I have actually been raising children continuously since 1966."

Yes, that's true. I had my second child in 1966 and he went into childcare at a week old because I had to go right back to work. It may be hard to believe now, but back then we not only

didn't get maternity leave, we could be fired if we got pregnant or stayed out of work too long while pregnant, or after a baby was born.

I learned the other day that nobody wants to use the word "day care" any more. Not the licensed home child care facilities, or the preschools. The word now is either "child care" or "preschool."

So much for lingo. Other things have changed even more.

"Back in the day" I took my kids to a babysitter at 5 a.m. so she could get them ready for either day care or school, depending on their age. Then there was the after-school drop off from the school bus at a different person's house. I must say, it was a tremendous hassle, as I often had to work double shifts and arrange for pickups and transfers by telephone.

Remember, if you didn't have dimes (and later quarters) on you, you couldn't use a telephone then either. Unless you were fortunate enough to work in a place that had a desk phone and allowed employees to use it, which in the late '60s, I wasn't.

The best day cares back then consisted of a playground and

See **TODAY'S DAY CARE**, page 24

Chambers, businesses welcome new teachers

By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

The Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce and the SouthShore Chamber of Commerce both held breakfasts last week to welcome new teachers to the area.

The Riverview breakfast was held at Riverview High School and included hundreds of people welcoming new teachers to the 25 schools in the community. Former teacher, Hillsborough County Schools Superintendent

See **TEACHERS WELCOMED**, page 2



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO
Hundreds of teachers attended welcome breakfasts last week.



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New teachers welcomed with gifts, breakfast

Continued from page 1

(one of the nation's largest school districts) and current Supervisor of Elections Dr. Earl Lennard provided the keynote speech for the event, taking time to praise Riverview High School principal Bob Heilmann as one of the nation's best principals. He also thanked each teacher for their hard work and dedication. "You are appreciated," he said. Rachel Burgin, Florida House of Representatives District 56, was also a guest speaker along with Jill Andrew of the chamber's board of directors. Gift baskets were presented to each of the new teachers in attendance.

The Ruskin breakfast, held at Destiny Church, was the seventh annual breakfast organized by the chamber. Hillsborough County Commissioner Sandra Murman was the guest speaker, along with Dr. Alan Witt, president of

the Hillsborough Community College Southshore campus, Chris Farkas, District 8 supervisor for Hillsborough County Schools and Tampa Bay Times columnist Ernest Hooper. Gifts baskets were provided to each of the new teachers and special gifts were also provided to the area schools, intended to fulfill the needs of students throughout the year.

Breakfast, of course, was served at both events, sponsored by South County and Tampa Bay businesses. The first day of school was Tuesday, August 21.



Riverview High School Principal Bob Heilmann



Above, children from the Kids R Kids Learning Academy of Southshore entertained the Ruskin attendees with a song.



PHOTOS BY MITCH TRAPHAGEN

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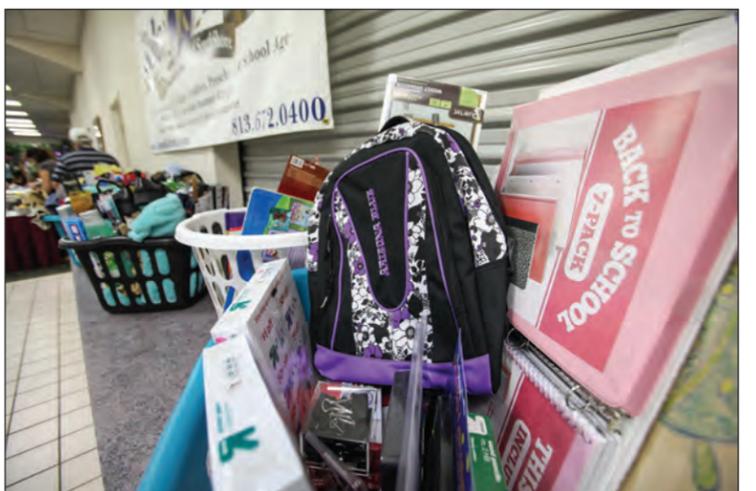
Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections, former teacher and retired Hillsborough County Superintendent Dr. Earl Lennard was guest speaker at the breakfast held at Riverview High School.



Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tanya Doran, right, with Angie Frazier of Canine Cabana in Riverview announce the winners of a raffle during the new teacher breakfast in Riverview.



Beth Shields Middle School Principal Anna Voida with a gift basket from the SouthShore Chamber.



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Whatever happened about...



■ Continued from page 1

► Sun City Center Survey

As response time draws to a close, 4,053 of the 11,002 community surveys mailed to SCC residents had been completed and returned early this week.

Asked about progress of the survey effort, SCC Community Association Director David Floyd said board members were advised that as of Monday the rate of return was 36.8 percent. The impartial survey is being conducted by Dr. Ericka Matulich, a business consultant and University of Tampa professor who designed the survey based on local focus group results to learn which community improvements residents consider most worthwhile.

The completed survey forms "still are coming in," Floyd said, being deposited in a lock box located in the CA Central Campus offices and accessible only to Matulich or mailed directly to the UT professor in Tampa. It is hoped that all completed surveys will be available for tabulation by the research specialist by September 1.

A community survey conducted by Matulich in Kings Point earlier this year produced a 40 percent return rate, Floyd observed, "and we would like to see Sun City Center residents match that rate of return."

A community town hall session to review tabulated survey results is set for October 4.

► Ruskin's "Fight the Blight"

During the 10-day community clean-up campaign brought to Ruskin early this month by Hillsborough's Code Enforcement officers, nearly 12 tons of trash were removed from the area, according to the division communications coordinator.

The sweep on Ruskin's east side and south from Shell Point Road to College Avenue, netted 64 discarded vehicle tires and filled at least 11 dumpsters with assorted debris and junk, said Carol Michel, department spokesperson. More than 115 citations were issued for a variety of violations such as abandoned property and neglected vegetation overgrowth. In all, over 400 sites in the targeted area were inspected, she added.

Ruskin's Operation Fight the Blight was the fourth in a series of such campaigns undertaken by Code Enforcement officers in communities around the county.

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Wimauma Elementary welcomes volunteers

Everyone interested in volunteering at Wimauma Elementary School is invited to a free welcome back breakfast at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 13 in the media center. A brief school orientation will be presented with multiple opportunities explained to suit your specific interest. Giving as little as two hours a week can make a huge difference in the life of a child. Reading to children, helping with math or assisting in the media center are merely a few ways you can help. Drop by and learn more and bring a friend or two.

If you plan on attending, call the school at 671-5159. They are very close to Sun City Center, just a mile past Wal-Mart. Their address is 5709 Hickman Street, Wimauma.



Shown in the picture are Nasya Jasper, Janelly Rodriguez, Haley-Starr Maldoando, Leonorida Sanchez, Sandra Sanchez, Taylor Davis, Kasey Connolly, Genesis Saintil, Marylen Garcia, Jacqueline Holbrook, Daisy Vasquez, Rosalinda Diaz, Maria Reyes, Mia-Ann McKay, Melissa Perez, April Cisneros, Daisy Mosso and Grey Palham.

Power to the girls

Girlstories Leadership Theatre program, which is part of Powerstories Theatre, is a theatre arts program for girls living in Hillsborough who will be in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades next year. The girls practiced at the South Hillsborough Elks Lodge 2672 in Ruskin for 6 weeks this summer from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and put on a show for the Lodge on Wednesday, July 25. Girlstories Leadership Theatre was awarded the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House in 2010.

A new school year, a new school at RCMA

WIMAUMA – The low-income families of up to 66 children got their first tour Monday afternoon of a new school built especially for them.

Many of the children, all in grades 6 and 7, have attended school in portable classrooms since kindergarten. Now, they're entering RCMA Leadership Academy, a charter middle school that held its first classes on Tuesday.

Leadership Academy – and RCMA Wimauma Academy, an 11-year-old elementary school next door – are operated by Redlands Christian Migrant Association. Both were created to provide high-quality education customized to the bicultural lives of south Hillsborough County's low-income families. Nearly all children in the two schools have Spanish-speaking parents, while schooling is conducted in English.

The two schools are extensions of RCMA's larger role of early childhood education for Florida's rural poor; RCMA runs 18 child care centers in the Tampa Bay area and 71 statewide.

Leadership Academy will open next week with eight classrooms and administrative offices. Its cafeteria/auditorium won't be finished until October.

Building the middle school and renovating the elementary school will cost RCMA \$3.2 million. Thanks to a continuing fund-raising campaign, RCMA has thus far collected \$1.6 million of that amount



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

Marcela Estevez, RCMA Director of Student Services, helps a new student on the day before the new school year began. The RCMA Wimauma Academy serves children in grades K-5, the RCMA Leadership Academy serves children in grades 6-7.



RCMA Leadership Academy teacher Ileana De Jesus speaks with a student and her family in a new classroom on the day before school began.



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Positive Talk: 10 ways to be better liked

I don't believe there is a human alive who does not wish to be better liked. Here are some characteristics that I believe, if we work on them, will put us in the position of gaining greater approval from those around us.



By William Hodges

1. Be optimistic. Few people want to be around a negative Nellie. Look for and point out the good in things rather than the bad.

2. Be enthusiastic. I like a phrase I saw pinned on the bulletin board of one company: "All those who are not fired with enthusiasm, will be." You have a choice. You can be the anchor or the engine. Both serve a purpose, but much more money is spent on engines than anchors.

3. Be an individualist. Team players are certainly important, but every team must have someone who is willing to step out from the crowd and lead. Don't be afraid to be the one who steps out. People will recognize you for your leadership qualities.

4. Be flexible. The strongest leaders are those who know when to bend in the wind and when to stand into it. They have the capability to do both. In changing times like these, it is important to be willing to bend if we are to

survive.
5. Be attentive. Hear what others have to say. Be an active listener by asking questions and giving responses. All of us need

someone who will listen. Listening may well be the most important of human relations skills.

6. Be imaginative. There is something about imaginative people that draws us to them. They see things others do not. Without

imaginative people, we would still be in darkness, walking barefooted to our caves. Work at developing your imaginative skills. Whenever you have the chance, take any common object and write down 10 nontraditional uses for that object. You will be amazed at what you discover.

7. Be trusting. Although you will be disappointed at times, you will find most people will work to keep your trust. Even when they break faith with you, guilt will force them to make it up to you. It is also much easier to be trusting than to put a lot of energy into suspicion.

8. Be industrious. Someone once said, "Luck is a four-letter word that is spelled w-o-o-r-k." You'll find people are drawn to

those who are steady, reliable workers.

9. Be even minded. Be willing to listen to all sides before making a decision. More importantly, treat each person's opinion as though it is gold, because it is to them. Balance the facts and then, in the light of reason, make rational decisions that are fair to all sides.

10. Be nice. I suspect being nice is a combination of much of the above, but it also includes being

friendly, open and appreciative of those around you. You never know when a kind word will go a long way for someone who is depressed or hurting.

There they are—ten ways to be happier and more popular. Why not take one of these traits and work on it specifically for a week, then add another in subsequent weeks. In a year's time, you can go through the list five times. Popularity, here you come!

SouthShore Regional Library Adult program/event highlights

SouthShore Regional Library is located at 15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin, FL 33573.

■ Email Messages and Attachments

Thursday, August 23 - 12:15 to 2:30 p.m.
Read, forward, and delete messages. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended. Learn about sending attachments and creating address books. Registration is available at branch at noon.

■ Internet: Viruses, Spyware, Phishing Scams and More!

Tuesday, August 28 - 12:15 to 2:30 p.m.
Learn how to surf the Internet while avoiding common scams and pitfalls that can compromise your security. Learn about different types of malicious software, how they get on the personal computer, how to remove them, and precautions to take when using the internet. Register in advance at the Information Desk or call 273-3652.

■ On-Line Genealogy

Tuesday, August 28 - 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Begin your family history research using Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage Quest.

■ eBooks for Tablets and SmartPhones

Wednesday, August 29 - 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.
Learn how to check out and download free library eBooks to read on a Android, Blackberry, iPad, iPhone or Windows 7 devices using a free app. Learn how to register for a free Adobe ID to wirelessly check out and download library eBooks to an electronic tablet. Limit: 20

■ SouthShore Needle People

Wednesday, August 29 - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Join other needle people to share techniques, tips and experiences about knitting and other fiber and fabric crafts. Beginners are welcome! Bring a project and ask questions!

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Kids' Program/Event Highlights August 23 - 29

Teen Night: Game Zone

Thursday, August 23 - 5 to 7 p.m.

For middle and high school students ~ Get in the zone with friends for some gaming fun on the Xbox 360 and Nintendo Wii with games such as Band Hero, Guitar Hero 5, Smash Brothers Brawl and more! Funding provided by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library

Family Story Time

Thursday, August 23 - 7 to 7:30 p.m.

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

Baby Time

Monday, August 27 - 1:35 to 1:55 p.m.

Tuesday, August 28 - 11:35 to 11:55 a.m.

Wednesday, August 29 - 10:05 to 10:25 a.m.

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

Toddler Time

Tuesday, August 28 - 10:05 to 10:25 a.m. and 10:35 to 10:55 a.m.

Wednesday, August 29 - 10:35 to 10:55 a.m.

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

Story Time

Tuesday, August 28 - 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, August 29 - 11 to 11:30 a.m.

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

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Legion Riders	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.
Legion General	2nd Monday	7 p.m.
Sons (SAL)	2nd Thursday	7 p.m.
Auxiliary	3rd Thursday	7 p.m.

MEALS (Public Welcome)

Fish Fry	Every Friday	5 to 7 p.m.
Breakfast	2nd and 4th Sunday	9 to 11 a.m.

DINNER

American Legion Riders	Sunday, August 26	5 to 7 p.m.
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EVENTS

Texas Hold'em	Saturday, August 18	6 to 10 p.m.
Marine Corps League Car Wash	Saturday, August 25	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Prom Night	Saturday, August 25	7 p.m. \$12 or 2/\$20



Victoria Duval

Bradenton teen receives qualifying wildcard for 2012 US Open

Bradenton's 16-year-old Victoria Duval is one of five female players receiving wildcards into the main draw or qualifying for the 2012 US Open later this month, the USTA announced this week.

Contrasting the players granted wildcards by the USTA, the teenage Duval earned her wildcard by winning the USTA Girls' 18 National Championships, knocking off five Top 10 seeds, and receiving the US Open main draw wildcard that annually goes to the winner of the event.

Duval, who currently works with USTA coach and former Top 10 U.S. player Kathy Rinaldi, last year reached the quarterfinals of the US Open Girls' Singles, en route upsetting defending champion Daria Gavrilova.

Melanie Marken appointed to Southern Manatee Fire and Rescue District

Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Melanie A. Marken to the Board of Commissioners of the Southern Manatee Fire and Rescue District.

Marken, 35, of Bradenton, has been a paralegal with Fournier and Connolly P.A. since 2011 and with Lewis, Longman and Walker P.A. from 2006 to 2011. Previously, she was a legal assistant in the Sarasota County Attorney's Office from 2003 to 2006; with FCCI Insurance Group from 2000 to 2003; and with Lulz, Bobo, Telfair P.A. from 1995 to 2000. She is the current vice president of the Sarasota Manatee Association of Legal Support Specialists. Marken received a bachelor's degree from the University of South Florida. She will fill the vacancy created by the suspension of Mark D. Ruben and is appointed for a term begun August 15, and extending for the period of suspension, not to extend beyond the term.

Hillsborough County Offices, Facilities Closings For Labor Day

The majority of Hillsborough County offices and facilities will be closed on Monday, Sept. 3, in observance of Labor Day.

Closed facilities include the administrative offices of County government, neighborhood service centers, all libraries, all County-operated Head Start/Early Head Start Centers, recreation centers, senior centers and nutrition sites.

Animal Services

Animal Services will be open for regular Saturday/Sunday hours through Labor Day weekend, but the shelter is always closed on Mondays. A limited number of personnel will be on call for animal emergencies over the holiday by calling the main number at 813-744-5660.

Fire Rescue

Fire Rescue administration and the Fire Marshall Office's will be closed on Labor Day. All emergency services will continue without interruption.

InfoLine

Hillsborough County's InfoLine, 813-272-5900, will be closed.

Head Start

All County-operated Head Start/Early Head Start facilities and Delegate Agencies (Hillsborough County Public Schools, Tampa Metropolitan YMCA and Lutheran Services of Florida) will be closed for Labor Day.

Libraries

All libraries in Hillsborough County will be closed, including Temple Terrace Public Library and Bruton Memorial Library in Plant City.

Parks, Recreation and Conservation

All regional parks are open. All County recreation centers will be closed. The Brandon and Apollo Beach skate parks are closed on Mondays.

Solid Waste

There will be no solid waste collection (including garbage, recyclables and yard waste) in the unincorporated Hillsborough County Service Area, which also includes Tampa Palms, Hunter's Green and New Tampa. Solid waste customers whose scheduled collection day falls on Monday, Sept. 3, may set out twice the amount of garbage, recyclables and yard waste on the next scheduled day for pick up of these items.

The Southeast County Landfill, Northwest and South County Transfer Facilities, Resource Recovery Facility, Hillsborough Heights Community Collection Center, and the Alderman Ford Community Collection Center will be closed.

Sunshine Line

The Sunshine Line transportation service will not be in operation on Labor Day.

Water and Wastewater Emergencies

Emergency calls regarding County water and wastewater service may be made to 813-744-5600. Also, the Public Utilities Department's Water Quality Hotline is answered 24 hours a day. That number is 813-264-3835.

Constitutional Officers

Offices of the Property Appraiser, Tax Collector and Supervisor of Elections will be closed on Labor Day, as well as offices of the Clerk of the Circuit Court and court facilities.

Environmental Protection Commission

The offices of the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County will be closed.

Poets and artists invited to workshop

Fran Orenstein, award-winning poet and author will present a workshop to the Poets and Artists Guild of Brandon, on writing a golden-trillium poem, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 7 at Barnes and Noble, off Hwy 60, just east of I-75 at the entrance to the Westfield Mall. Everyone is welcome to join them for the workshop and to share your poetry in a safe environment or just listen. They meet in the children's section by the stage.

Riverview Woman's Club announces upcoming events

Friday, Sept 7 at 6 p.m.

Bunco Night at Summerfield Crossings Golf Club on Summerfield Blvd off Big Bend Rd. Total cost is \$17.50, \$10 to play and the restaurant is providing sandwiches, soda, and more for \$7.50. RSVP and pay at the door.

Wednesday, Sept 19 at 11:30 a.m.

A membership meeting at Summerfield Crossings Golf Club on Summerfield Blvd off Big Bend Rd. Cost of lunch is \$12 for a choice off the mini menu, RSVP and pay at the door. The guest speaker is Earl Lennard, Superintendent of Elections. He will talk about Riverview.

Thursday, Sept 27, at 11 a.m.

A visit to a tomato repacking plant, details for this cultural event are forming, more to follow.

R.E. agent earns short sale designation

Michele Herndon of Keller Williams Realty South Shore in Apollo Beach has earned the prestigious Certified Distressed Property Expert (CDPE) designation, having completed extensive training in foreclosure avoidance, with a particular emphasis on short sales. At a time when millions of homeowners are struggling with the possibility of foreclosure, the skills and education amassed by Herndon will help benefit the South Shore area residents and communities.

Short sales allow the distressed homeowner to repay the mortgage at the price that the home sells for, even if it is lower than what is owed on the property. With plummeting property values, this can save many people from foreclosure and even bankruptcy.

More and more lenders are willing to consider short sales because they are much less costly than foreclosures.

Today, more than 13 percent of homeowners are delinquent on their mortgage or in the foreclosure process. This is occurring across all price ranges, and the fastest-growing category of homes in foreclosure is the luxury home market.

"The CDPE designation has been invaluable as I work with homeowners and lenders on complicated short sales," said Herndon. "It is so rewarding to be able to help families save their homes from foreclosure." For more information about CDPE Designation, visit www.cdpe.com.

IN UNIFORM

Soldier

Army Pfc. Ilona Anishchenko has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

Anishchenko is the daughter of Natalie Ivanoff of Avalon Crest Court, Riverview, and former ward of Bob and Shelly LaPenna of Bua Drive, Temple Terrace.

She is a 2010 graduate of East Bay High School, Gibsonton.



The Tampa Bay Rowdies remaining schedule is as follows:

Aug. 25	PUERTO RICO
7:30 p.m.	
Sept. 1	at Ft. Lauderdale
7:30 p.m.	
Sept. 8	ATLANTA
7:30 p.m.	
Sept. 16	at FC Edmonton
4:05 p.m.	
Sept. 19	CAROLINA
7:30 p.m.	
Sept. 22	at Carolina
7 p.m.	

Home games are played at Al Lang Stadium in downtown St. Petersburg. Follow the team action at www.RowdiesSoccer.com

AARP Driver Safety Class offered

AARP offers Driver Safety refresher courses for drivers older than 50. Once the 6 hour course is completed each participant receives a certificate to turn into their insurance company for a possible rate reduction on their automobile insurance. The cost is \$12 for AARP members, and \$14 for non-members.

Registration information is available at www.aarp.org/driversafety and 1-888-227-7669

Brandon
September 11 - 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Davis Park Senior Center
612 Parsons Drive

Registration: 813-653-7249

September 24 - noon - 6 p.m. H 2 U Brandon Regional Hospital

228 Oakfield Plaza - Room 228 - North of Oakfield Drive

Registration: H 2 U Office
813-684-3316

Sun City

September 7 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Kings Point 1904 Clubhouse Drive

Registration: Encore Bank:
813-634-8001

September 17 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sun City Center 1653 N Pebble Beach Blvd

Registration: Encore Bank:
813-634-8001

Warning: Plan for alternate routes, extra time during RNC

■ By PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

SOUTH COUNTY- No matter how well they plan or how many contingency strategies the city, county and state put into place, when it comes to how to find your way to where you're going in Tampa during the Republican National Convention, it's anybody's guess.

Ali Glisson, spokeswoman for Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn's Public Affairs Office, said there are enough contingency plans in place so whatever scenario actually occurs, emergency vehicles will not be impacted.

"We have so many layers of contingency plans and measures we hope we're ready for anything," Glisson told me in a telephone interview Aug. 19.

Several websites are given throughout this story so people can check in advance to see whether their regular route to work (in Tampa) will be affected and also where things like county offices and courts will be held while the convention is taking place.

Although the convention dates are Aug. 27-30, county offices will be closed from Aug. 20-31 to allow for final preparations and cleanup after the convention.

Meanwhile, quotes and suggestions from many county officials have been gathered and listed here in an attempt to help local residents make advance plans.

Willie Puz, client services director for Hillsborough County's Public Affairs office

suggests that anyone first check out www.hillsboroughcounty.org/rnc for anything to do with county business. "There has been a monumental effort between government offices at every level to coordinate," Puz said. He explained that County Center (downtown on Kennedy Boulevard) will be closed and alternate sites will instead be open in four areas of the county: Brandon, Westgate Plaza (Northwest Tampa); Plant City; and the South Shore Service Center located at 410 30th St. Ruskin. Ruskin should be ready for extra traffic in that area of State Road 674 as people who usually use Tampa for their county business come down State Road 674 from Interstate 75 to turn north on 30th Street, next Sun Point Plaza. Maps and directions to all the offices may be found at www.hepafl.org, Puz said.

While Glisson states that emergency management services will all be on duty according to schedule, Tampa General Hospital has special routes posted on its website <http://www.tgh.org/republican-national-convention-information.asp> that will enable people heading there by car to check out expected closed streets and alternate routes now.

County officials say there will be no road work going on during the time county offices are closed but that work already in progress (like closures of areas in progress such as the widening of Boyette Road) must be left closed and will likely be moving slower than usual.

Deborah Warcheski of Tampa Fire Rescue says a Call Center Live Helpline is already operating 24/7 at 866-762-8687. This line has 12 people manning it at all times who are connected to an army of county and state staff. If there are any emergency road closures, events, or warnings not anticipated - such as an automobile accident- this line will have them on file immediately for callers who want to check out their drive before approaching a destination or even when they're first getting into their cars.

Most of the delegates are being bused into the city from hotels but once they get there, nobody can foresee what they will do, Puz said. "Will they walk? How far will they walk? Where will they eat? We have no way of knowing that."

Lynn Schulz, director of the Ybor City Saturday Market at Centennial Park on 8th Avenue and 19th Street expects that the market be well attended the weekend before and after the event and will hold business as usual, but most of its expected increase will be with foot traffic. She and the vendors there are hoping many people will stay in Tampa and increase business by just sightseeing and walking around the city.

Marcia Mejia of HARTline is ready for what could be an onslaught of bus traffic.

Most Tampa bus service will be detoured to operate North of Kennedy Boulevard to avoid going into the area around the Tampa Bay Times Forum where

the convention will be held.

"Although we will do whatever we can to operate normal routes, we ask our customers to be prepared for schedule changes and allow themselves extra time," Mejia said.

There will be nine express routes operating to take commuters from Brandon, Lutz and other places, but as South County residents already know, except for the Express Route and Rt. No. 31, South County has no regular bus service. But once in Tampa, additional bus and trolley service will be available. Checking at

http://www.gohart.org/departments/marketing/detours/rnc/downtown_map.pdf will alert people of this now.

Another thing that will be moved but will continue on schedule is court.

During the entire week of August 27, no court proceedings will be held in the Sam M. Gibbons U.S. (Federal) Courthouse. A filing deposit box will be placed inside the first floor of the courthouse, which will be open for the delivery of paperwork. The court encourages people to file papers through the mail. Judges Roy Dalton and David Baker of the Orlando Division have been designated district and magistrate judges responsible for any Tampa matters arising between Aug. 25 and Sept. 1, including anything arising from the RNC that requires courtroom proceedings.

As for county courts, <http://www.fljud13.org/Portals/0/Announcements/AOCCoOpsSSE>.
See PLAN FOR ALT. ROUTES, page 16

The Observer News office will be closed Monday, Sept. 3 in observance of LABOR DAY

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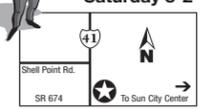
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Community Association leaders propose new membership

■ By MELODY JAMESON
mj@observernews.net

SUN CITY CENTER – For only the second time in nearly 30 years of Community Association history here, a substantial expansion of the membership is getting serious attention.

The CA board of directors, after considering pros and cons, now is proposing that the organization's membership be opened to all independent living residents in Freedom Plaza and Sun Towers, Ed Barnes, board president, said this week. A similar suggestion involving only Freedom Plaza was raised some years ago, but not widely embraced.

And, while far from a done deal, the notion recently has been the subject of talks involving CA Directors and managers at both Freedom Plaza and Sun Towers, Barnes indicated.

It also has been suggested informally to FP residents, several living there said this week, getting hesitant reviews leaning toward favorable.

In addition, the idea was tossed around during a recent "Coffee and Conversation" session in SCC, generating mostly enthusiastic acceptance, Barnes said.

CA members in SCC currently pay \$263 annual dues and have access to the community's extensive recreational facilities, can join more than a hundred clubs, can participate as volunteers in a variety of

service oriented organizations as well as make use of specific structures and other physical features.

From dog park and ag plots to meeting rooms and emergency medical service delivery, from groups representing particular states to artistic and artisan, craft and computer clubs, from swimming pools to lawn bowling fields to fitness center, SCC CA members can stay busy and involved around the clock and throughout the calendar for less than \$22 per month. It is a cost/benefit situation rarely matched in other communities, whether retirement or family oriented.

It also is the menu of activities Freedom Plaza and Sun Towers independent livers would get if they were to become CA members entitled to all rights and privileges. And, Barnes added, it is a promotional factor that managements of the two facilities located golf-cart close to SCC could use in marketing their independent living housing.

On the other side of the coin, the first benefit accruing to the CA would be the annual bump-up in income, estimated to top



Ed Barnes, CA President

\$100,000 at the beginning of each and every year, payable in two lump sums. The dues payment process being discussed would have each of the two managements making a lump sum payment to the CA in January of each year, covering individual memberships for each independent living resident in the facility, Barnes noted.

How the managements then collected the dues reimbursements from their residents would be their choices. "That would be entirely up to them," he said. Although, Barnes asserted, "we would want assurance of dues paid on time and, in case of non-payment, we would want to retain right to lien." In SCC, the CA places liens on properties whose owners have failed over a span of time to pay annual membership fees when due in order to eventually collect the fees when the properties are sold.

Asked about potential downside of the expanded membership proposal, Barnes said it might be thought to be possible overcrowding of SCC amenities.

However, he asserted that, in fact, just about half of the new members actually would use them. He estimated that increase to be about two percent of the existing CA membership or perhaps 210 new users.

Among current Freedom Plaza residents, the reaction was cautious interest. Paul and Theresa Campagna, for example, pointed to the range of amenities available to them on site – pools, pickle ball, shuffleboard, tennis. The couple, in their sixties and moving from Kings Point about 2.5 years ago, love their lifestyle, Paul Campagna said, but might access some SCC features if available to them as CA members.

Bobbie Haynes, whose husband, John, has been slowed down by health problems, expressed much the same outlook. Also former KP condo owners, she now is active in several FP groups and particularly interested in the Arts League where she works in water colors and pastels. On the other hand, she noted, if she had opportunity as a CA member to take instruction from visiting teachers in her media in SCC, she probably would do so.

Similarly, Martha Bingham, in the process of selling her longtime Valrico home and looking forward to relocation to her new apartment

in FP, said she might investigate opportunities to work in stained glass and ceramics with the SCC clubs if CA membership were an option for her.

The options could, in time, be available to Bingham, but a multi-stage process must be followed first. Community Association Articles of Incorporation as well as the organization's by-laws would have to be changed to accommodate the neighboring independent livers' memberships, Barnes said. In addition, he noted that some adjustment would be required to the 1984 Agreement, a governing document outlining binding understandings on a number of issues by the CA and successive developers.

And, ultimately a referendum vote by the CA membership could be necessary, Barnes added.

Meanwhile, the proposal is to continue to be aired. It will be the subject du jour during another Coffee and Conversation session slated for 9 AM on September 13 in the Atrium's Caper Room, Barnes said, and will be discussed in the October issue of the widely distributed CA newsletter, The News of Sun City Center. A "straw vote" form for CA members' convenience is to be included.

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THE SAVVY SENIOR

How to Verify Your Social Security Benefits

Dear Savvy Senior,
 When my neighbor applied for his retirement benefits last year, he found that Social Security had made some mistakes on his earnings record in past years, which caused him to get a monthly benefit check that was lower than it should have been. He never got it straightened out. How can I make sure this doesn't happen to me?

Paranoid Paul



By Jim Miller

Dear Paul,
 The best way to keep an eye on your Social Security benefits and avoid any possible mistakes is to carefully review your Social Security statement, which you can now do online.

Just go to ssa.gov/mystatement and answer a few questions to verify your identity, and then print your statement out on paper. If you're age 60 or older and not yet receiving benefits, your statement will actually be mailed to you about three months before your birthday.

Your Social Security statement lists your earnings record for each year of employment, and estimates the benefits you and your family may receive as a result of those earnings.

Once you get your statement in front of you, take some time to verify its accuracy by comparing the earnings listed on your statement with your own tax records or W-2 statements. And if you spot a discrepancy, follow these steps:

- Call your nearest Social Security office (see ssa.gov/locator or call 800-772-1213 to get the number) to report the error. Some corrections can be made over the phone, or you may need to schedule an appointment and go in with copies of your W-2 forms or tax returns to prove the mistake, or you can mail it in.

- If you suspect a discrepancy but don't have backup records, the Social Security Administration (SSA) may be able to use your employment information to search its records and correct mistakes. If the SSA can't locate your records, you'll need to contact the employer to obtain a copy of your W-2 for the year in question.

- Once your earnings record is corrected, SSA will send you a confirming letter. If you don't receive the confirmation

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>.

within three months, contact them again, and double-check the correction by making sure it appears on your Social Security statement.

- If corrections aren't made on your statement start an appeals process (see ssa.gov/pubs/10041.html).

Other Mistakes

Social Security earnings miscalculations can also happen if there's a mistake in your current mailing address that the IRS has on file for you. Check your federal tax returns for this possible error, especially if you've moved recently.

To correct your address, contact the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you the "Change of Address" form 8822, or print it off at irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8822.pdf, fill it out and mail it back to the address on the form.

Other factors that can cause mistakes are if your name or date of birth in the SSA records isn't the same as it appears in the IRS files. Name mistakes most often occur for women who have changed their name following a marriage or divorce. So double check your Social Security statement for these possible mishaps, and if you notice an error call the 800-772-1213 and ask for Form SS-5, "Application for a Social Security Card," and submit it with the correct information. The form can also be downloaded at ssa.gov/online/ss-5.pdf.

Calculation Errors

Even when all the earnings data is correct, SSA occasionally errors in calculating benefits. If you think your benefits have been miscalculated (see ssa.gov/pubs/10070.html), point it out to your local Social Security office and ask them to recalculate. If they do find an error, make sure you receive a confirming letter and that the correction appears on your statement. If you're already receiving benefits, the SSA will reimburse you for the amount of the error.

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.

Cleaner transportation solutions being sought

The Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County (EPC) and Hillsborough County Commissioner Mark Sharpe are proud to join the University of South Florida (USF) and TECO Energy to launch a U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Coalition for the Tampa Bay area. Joined by members of the business community, other government organizations and education leaders, the beginning of a Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition will advance the use of alternative fuel technology for both the private and public sectors in our region. The use of alternative fuels for vehicles offers economic and energy security, as well as cleaner vehicle emissions for the environment and public health.

At a ceremony on Tuesday, August 14, Hillsborough County Commissioner Mark Sharpe, EPC Executive Director Richard Garrity, USF President Judy Genshaft, TECO Energy President and CEO John Ramil, and Tampa businessman and philanthropist Frank Morsani all emphasized the importance of working toward transportation solutions that reduce our dependence on petroleum products.

More than 100 people representing private industry, government and education turned out. A ring of vehicles running on compressed natural gas and electric power were parked outside as an example of how large institutions, such as TECO and Tampa International Airport, are already turning to cleaner fuels. Tampa International Airport was instrumental in bringing the first fast-fill compressed natural gas station to Hillsborough County.

Commissioner Mark Sharpe leads the Hillsborough County Workgroup on Energy Management and Sustainability and has focused the Workgroup on improving transportation fuels for our region. Commissioner Sharpe lauded the effort and the community commitment to improved transportation fuels, defining the Tampa Bay region as being on the cutting-edge of uniting new technologies.

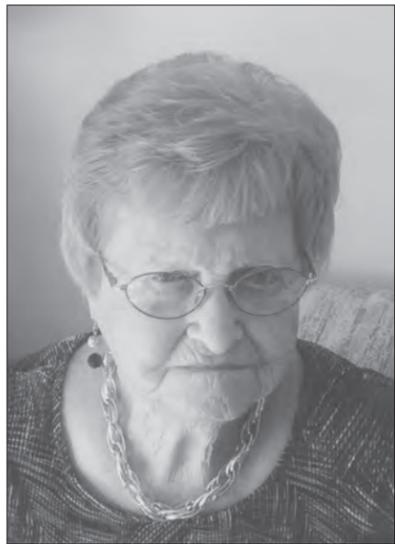
For more information on the Tampa Bay Clean Cities Initiative, contact Margaret Rush at the Environmental Protection Commission at 813-627-2600.

Hattie Barr turns 100

August 24 will be a big day for Hattie Barr. On that day she will celebrate her 100th birthday surrounded by her family and friends at her daughter, Lois' home in Titusville, FL.

Hattie's life began in Wheeling, West Virginia in 1912. She married Lee Hawkins and moved with him to Akron to work for the war effort at the Goodyear plant. The couple had 4 children, Lois, Doris, Arley and James. After Lee's death in 1954, she married Vincent Foot, was widowed again and later married Arthur Barr. Throughout her life golf, dancing and bowling were always activities Hattie enjoyed.

Two of Hattie's remaining children, Doris of Uniontown, Ohio and Arley Hawkins of Sun City Center will join their mother and sister, Lois for the festivities. Unfortunately, their brother James has passed away. But Hattie will enjoy the company of some of her 8 grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren and 4 great, great grandchildren. Happy 100th Birthday, Hattie Barr!



Hattie Barr



PHOTO BY JOY SPARKMAN

From left to right: Roz Cruthis, newly appointed Grants Committee chairperson, Jay Sparkman, President of IFC, and Naomi Foreman, past chairperson of the Grants Committee, plan a course of action for the 2012-2013 year.

Interfaith Council of Sun City Center prepares for grant proposals

The Interfaith Council offers grants to South Shore 501(c)3 non-profit organizations using funds derived from sales at the Interfaith Council's Nearly New Shop in the Sun City Center Plaza. Support is given to food banks, schools, and other service groups that make formal requests between September 1 and September 30.

For more information go to www.SunCityCenterInterfaithCouncil.com or call 813-642-9099.



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FWC increases lionfish harvest opportunities, asks public to help

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) announced changes to the lionfish harvest at a media event last week in Coral Gables. Harvesting invasive lionfish no longer will require a fishing license when using certain gear, and there is no recreational or commercial bag limit.

The FWC is taking these actions to encourage more Floridians and visitors to harvest lionfish.

“The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission hopes that by increasing the opportunity for people to harvest invasive lionfish, we can limit the impact this nonnative invasive species has on Florida’s marine fish and wildlife,” said Jessica McCawley, director of the FWC’s Division of Marine Fisheries Management. “We also want to express our gratitude to everyone, especially divers, who already go out on a regular basis to harvest lionfish.”

The changes, enacted by an executive order, apply only through August 2013. They are:

A recreational fishing license is not required to target lionfish while using a pole spear, a Hawaiian sling (picture included in photo set), a handheld net or any spearing device that is specifically designed and marketed exclusively for lionfish.

There is no recreational or commercial harvest bag limit for lionfish.

The changes do not allow

spearing in areas where spearfishing is prohibited and apply to state waters only, which is from shore to 9 miles in Gulf of Mexico waters and from shore to 3 miles in Atlantic waters.

Lionfish are a nonnative invasive species that threatens Florida’s saltwater fish and wildlife. They prey on native fish and wildlife and can reduce native populations. Lionfish also compete for food with native predatory fish such as grouper and snapper. The FWC encourages people to remove lionfish in Florida waters to limit negative impacts to native fish and wildlife.

Lionfish have venomous spines, so the FWC urges careful handling. Unless a person is allergic to the venom, lionfish stings are rarely fatal. Anyone getting stung should immerse the wound in hot (not scalding) water or apply heat to the affected area for 30 to 90 minutes to help break down the toxin. Also, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Spearfishers should also take care not to damage the important reef habitat where lionfish often are found.

More information regarding lionfish is available at MyFWC.com/Fishing and clicking on “Saltwater Fishing.” “Recreational Regulations,” then “Lionfish.” To view the executive order, visit MyFWC.com/About and click on “Executive Director” then “Executive Orders.”



Youth Pastor Josh Balogh prepares to baptize Brianna. Senior Pastor David Speicher, standing to the right of the baptism, administered to the adults.



FamFest well attended

As summer winds down and the kids head back to school it’s the perfect time for one last fling. South Bay Church in Riverview held its first FamFest celebration last Sunday with hundreds of church members and guests who gathered for outdoor services and worship followed by baptisms, slip ‘n’ slide, a pie eating contest, bounce house, ice cream making competition, line



dance lessons, and a volleyball tournament. The church’s Men’s Ministry provided meals of fried mullet and barbecued chicken with all the trimmings for a donation of \$5. For more information visit SouthBay.cc. The church is located at 13498 U.S. 301 South, Riverview, 813-677-0721.

CHERE SIMMONS PHOTOS



A lionfish caught in a bag by FWC.

PHOTO BY KEITH MILLE/FWC



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<p><i>Wednesday Special</i> Buy 1 Entree, Get 2nd Entree of equal or lesser value... 1/2 OFF WITH COUPON!</p>	<p><i>Early Bird Special</i> Mon.-Sat. • 2-4 p.m. ALL PASTA ENTREES \$7.95 Must have Coupon for special price. Limit one Coupon per visit</p>

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<p>SUN SCREENS EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES FOR SUN SCREENS 24" W x 36" H..... \$49 Installed 36" W x 48" H..... \$62 Installed 52" W x 48" H..... \$93 Installed 72" W x 60" H..... \$131 Installed</p>	<p>HILLSBOROUGH (813) 634-8310 MANATEE (941) 524-2259</p>	

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Tips for consumers looking for an apartment to rent

Whether you are a student looking for a place to live or your job has transplanted you somewhere new, searching for an apartment can be a daunting task. Better Business Bureau receives hundreds of complaints against apartment complexes every year, consistently placing the apartment industry on BBB's top 25 list of most complained about industries.

Of the hundreds of complaints received last year, most allege consumers were billed incorrectly, had difficulty getting their security deposits back or getting repairs handled in a timely manner.

Before signing any lease, make sure you read through the terms carefully and understand your responsibilities as an apartment tenant. Make sure the following information is included in your lease:

- specifics on how all maintenance and repair concerns are handled and within what timeframe. For example, some communities include light bulb replacement as the landlord's responsibility.
- information about what your security deposit covers and the conditions for deductions.
- the conditions under which your rent or other fees can be increased during your lease term.
- information about whether you are allowed to sublet your unit.
- when monthly payments are due and where rent can be paid.
- what insurance coverage, if any, is included.

Upon move-in, do not forget to document the condition of your apartment. Make sure to include each and every flaw or defect in

your apartment so that you are not held responsible for those damages later. It's advisable to also take photos of your unit prior to move-in so that you have documentation available in case a dispute arises after move-out.

BBB also suggests renters:

- Check out the apartment with BBB first. Go to bbb.org to see the BBB Business Review of the apartment you are considering. This will show its BBB rating, any history of complaints, as well as contact information.
- Visit each complex in person before putting down a deposit. Tour all amenities to be sure they meet your needs (swimming pool, work out center, parking, etc.). Websites often use pictures taken only from the best locations on the property or of promotional units.

- Keep a signed copy of the lease. Keep your lease in a safe place in case you need to refer back to it.

- Know your rights as a renter. Check with your local regulatory agency to see what the renter laws are that apply to your area. Housing codes, which govern apartment rentals, are set by local authority — city, county or state.

- Consider renters insurance. When a tenant's belongings are damaged or stolen, the apartment complex is very rarely held liable. Renters insurance would cover your losses in the event of fire, burglary or other damage. Pay attention to deductibles and coverage limits when choosing a policy.

To check the reliability of a company and find trustworthy businesses, visit bbb.org.



Can your teenage band qualify?

The 15th Annual Teenage Battle of the Bands will be held on Oct. 19 and 20 during the Hillsborough County Fair, and it's not too early to get your band pre-qualified. Hillsborough County's Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department is looking for bands to participate in a competition that provides free studio time to the top two winners.

Band members must be between 13 and 20 years of age, and only one band member can be age 20. The bands are judged on guitars, drums, vocals, showmanship and originality. The entry fee is \$50 dollars per band.

Culprit was last year's Teenage Battle of the Bands winner. Previous winners include Styx of Fire in 2010; Rising Down in 2009; and Envy in 2008.

Only a limited number of bands are accepted. Those wishing to compete in the Teenage Battle of the Bands must pre-qualify by providing a link to an online video of the band, and call Joe Soletti, Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, 813-744-5871.



Apollo Beach Skate Park shines like a star

Hillsborough County Commissioners will hold a grand opening ceremony for the Apollo Beach Skate Park on Saturday, Sept. 8 at 10 a.m. 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.

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, 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-foot 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 Hours
Monday: CLOSED

Tuesday-Friday: 2p.m. – 10 p.m.

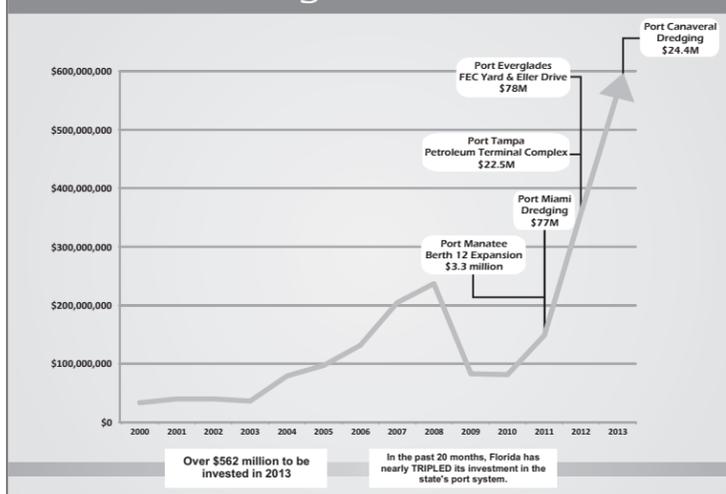
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

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

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, contact the Parks, Recreation and Conservation department at 813-635-3500.

Florida Investing in International Trade



Port Manatee Prepares for Panama Canal Expansion

Governor Rick Scott helped break ground on the first 10 acres of a 52-acre container terminal at Port Manatee's Berth 12. Expected to be completed mid-year 2013, it is the final piece of the port's 11-year, \$200-million expansion. The project is expected to create 595 construction jobs and 180 permanent jobs.

The work at Berth 12 is aimed at attracting new cargoes expected with the completion of the Panama Canal expansion in 2014. The port received its first ship in October 2011 after being deepened to 41 feet and extended from 1,000 feet to 1,584 feet.

"Florida is making the investment needed to get our ports ready for the expansion of the Panama Canal, and these investments will result in more logistics and manufacturing jobs in our state," Governor Scott said. "Shipping will be more efficient and economical, and Florida will be positioned as the shipping capital of the Gulf and Eastern seaboard."

Governor Scott's Vision for Florida's Seaports

Florida is uniquely positioned to lead the nation in the volume and value of trade entering our ports. In preparation of the completed expansion of the Panama Canal in 2014, Florida's investment in expanding and modernizing its seaport system has grown approximately 278 percent, up from \$148.8 million in 2011, to \$562.7 million in 2013 under Governor Scott's leadership.

In 2011, Governor Scott put forward an important funding plan to widen and deepen the Port of Miami to allow the state to capitalize on the larger Post Panamax ships that will bring cargo to and from the United States. This important project is projected to add 30,000 Florida jobs in the coming years while allowing our state to outcompete other states for the Post Panamax shipping.

RUSKIN Moose Lodge #813 UPCOMING EVENTS

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Every Friday 5-7 p.m. Fish Fry (baked, beer batter or fried)
7-11 p.m. Live Music

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, August 24 7-11 p.m. Calvin O
Saturday, August 25 7-11 p.m. Karaoke with Kim Mullins
Friday, August 31 7-11 p.m. Nickel and Dime
Saturday, September 1 7-11 p.m. Karaoke with Kim Mullins

All events are open to qualified Moose members and guests

Hillsborough Commissioners Reconcile Recommended Budget, Set Truth In Millage (TRIM)

The Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners reconciled a budget that reduces the millage rate by 4.24 percent from the aggregate roll-back millage rate.

This is the 18th year the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners have continued to reduce the County's total millage rate. Residents with a home valued at \$165,000 with homestead exemption can expect less than a \$1 reduction in their property taxes.

During the Budget Reconciliation Workshop, the Board also approved funding for:

Additional Parks and Recreation Centers; A new Hillsborough County Sports Complex; Improving the 10 most dangerous intersections; Heritage tourism; Road re-

the sidewalk pro- and Stormwater County Commis- Budget hearings on and Thursday, Sept. of County Center, 601 downtown Tampa. Af- Hearing, Commission- cal Year 2013 Budget.



surfacing; Expanding gram; Senior meals; projects. sioners will hold Final Wednesday, Sept. 12 20 on the 2nd floor E. Kennedy Blvd., in ter the Sept. 20 Public ers will adopt the Fis-

Dance the night away

Moonglow Dance Club will feature the live music of "Expressions" (Paul & Kathy) from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 23 at the Community Hall, S. Pebble Beach Blvd. Sun City Center. Members are free and visitors pay \$5 per person at the door. Singles Table(s) available. The attire is dressy casual. BYOB; ice water, cups and napkins provided, along with ice cream at intermission.

They are not "Dancing with the Stars" so no one will be judging your style.

Everyone does what their bodies will allow, in rhythm to the variety of live bands they have at their year round monthly dances.

For more information, call 813-633-1297 or 813-642-8845.



EBHS Class of '82 plans 30 year reunion

East Bay High School's Class of '82 announces 30 year reunion plans from October 26 to the 28.

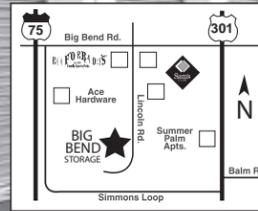
Multiple events some to include family have been planned for the three day affair with a block of rooms reserved at a group rate at the Comfort Inn 718 Cypress Village Blvd. in Sun City Center.

RSVP is required by October 5 for more information email clo-go2702@aol.com, missy.diehl@verizon.net or aa_albritton@yahoo.com

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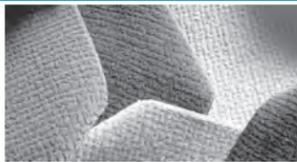
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Fish Tales

Don't disturb sea turtle nests

Matt and I kicked off our shoes and wiggled our toes in the sand this past week as we celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary.

Tourists were shore fishing catching flounder and redfish, grilling them on the many outdoor grills around our condo.

We did notice that at dusk, some sharks could be seen looking for food near shore.

While at Marina Jack's, we saw many charters returning with happy anglers. It seems that everyone caught a grouper or flounder. The locals were at the docks to buy the fish that the tourists left behind because they couldn't take their catch back to their hotels. A great way to get fresh fish without going fishing. It is also cleaned for you and ready to take home and cook.

Thousands of sea turtle nests strung along the beaches from Longboat Key to Venice. I talked with Mote Marine Lab assistants who told me that this was the largest population of nesting sea turtles since 1991. Of course, this means at dusk all lights were out along the beaches. It is a law and a crime to go near the protected turtle nesting areas. There were so many nests that they were searching for volunteers to help supply stakes and other supplies to protect the nests. It is a big event when the eggs hatch and it is time for the releasing of the baby turtles to the water.

Talking with anglers in this area, many were fishing in the mornings and dry docking their boats in the afternoon before the rains.

Fresh water catfish catches have been made in the upper waterways of the Alafia and the Manatee Rivers. While catching your catfish, you more than likely will also catch a largemouth bass or two.

Panfish are also abundant in our many lakes and the fresh waters of our rivers.

The weather has not been a factor in local catches as many fished between showers or fished in the early morning.

Cobia are still enjoying our warm waters.

Those who are fishing close to shore can catch a variety of species at the Kitchen, a body of water near Bullfrog Creek. It was so named because of the many different fish that take shelter there.

Sheepshead catches have been plentiful this week for those who fished from piers.

The rain has brought the black drum into the rivers. Those fishing from bridges and piers were catching huge size drums. I wouldn't eat the large ones as they usually are full of worms.

We ask you to watch the weather, fish together, be kind to the tourists, and helpful to those who do not know our waterways.

Aleta Jonie Maschek is a member of Florida Outdoor Press.



By Jonie Maschek



Stamp out newborn addictions

Did you know that Florida leads the nation in the number of newborns addicted to prescription drugs because of their mother's drug use? This alarming statistic has prompted The Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County, Inc. (ECC) to host a community summit from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, September 7 at the Embassy Suites: USF/Busch Gardens located at 3705 Spectrum Blvd, Tampa. They will discuss how the prescription drug and pain medication epidemic is impacting babies, families and the community.

According to recent studies, the number of prescriptions for the strongest opioids like OxyContin has increased nearly fourfold over the last decade with only limited evidence of their long term effectiveness. The ECC says these so called "Pill Mills" have proliferated throughout the state prompting the Florida legislature to call for the creation of a state-wide task force to address the issue. Registration is \$18 for ECC members and \$25 for non-members. The price of registration will include lunch along with the program. For more information or to register before the August 31 deadline, call the Early Childhood Council at (813) 837-7753 or visit www.ecctampabay.org.

Attorney General Pam Bondi Announces Public Outreach Webpage

Attorney General Pam Bondi believes that meeting with the Floridians she serves is a key responsibility of being Florida's Attorney General. By communicating with residents throughout the state, she is able to remain informed and effectively advocate on behalf of Floridians. Attorney General Bondi today announced a

new "Public Outreach" webpage intended to provide residents with a convenient way to contact her and invite her to meet with their organizations.

"I have always been a strong believer in communicating directly with the Floridians I serve, and I am pleased to provide one more tool that makes connecting with

residents even easier," stated Attorney General Pam Bondi.

The webpage also includes comprehensive information about past speaking engagements and meetings. To access the new webpage, visit MyFloridaLegal.com/About the Attorney General/Public Outreach.

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Plan for alternate routes, extra time during RNC

Continued from page 6

pdf explains each and every location in a PDF file for anyone scheduled for any county proceeding ranging from traffic proceedings to juvenile court. Alternate locations for other county offices, like the Planning Commission and the Property Appraiser (and all other departments) may be found at <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/index.aspx?NID=2741>.

The Convention Center expects to host and serve the needs of approximately 15,000 journalists during the convention, and the Host Committee, which has been planning the events since the site was chosen, expects around 50,000 people including delegates and others associated with the convention (excluding the media figure).

Puz reminded that there will also be protestors, the number of which cannot be judged in advance.

So how does someone who knows the county roadways as well as Puz advise South County residents who need to get into to Tampa to go during the week of the convention?

"Who knows what will be the preference," Puz said. But remember, the Selmon Expressway will be closed from the Port of Tampa to the Hillsborough River so people who use it to go to work will have to find other means," he said.

The Tampa Chamber of Commerce, Tampa Hillsborough County Economic Development Corporation and Tampa Bay & Company (once known as the Tourist Development Council) were also interviewed for this story, which account for the following facts.

The Committee on

Arrangements (a part of the Republican National Committee) expects to host 2,286 delegates and 2,125 alternate delegates from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and five territories.

This year's convention marks the third time the Republican Party has convened its convention in Florida.

The Sunshine State also played host to the 1968 and 1972

Republican National Conventions that nominated Richard M. Nixon. Both of those conventions were held in Miami Beach.

People are told to expect congestion, slowdowns and

allow extra time for everything. But dollars will be spent and the whole area is expected to prosper monetarily— the amount of which the Host Committee says it can only guess.



School begins in South Hillsborough

Classes for the 2012-2013 school year began on Tuesday in South County so drivers will need to again keep a lookout for children and school buses. Schools such as Ruskin Elementary, Cypress Creek Elementary and Gibsonton Elementary are all on major roads with opening school hours coinciding with rush hour traffic. Hillsborough County Public Schools is the third largest school district in Florida and the eighth largest in the United States. Outside of South Hillsborough, at least four schools will be impacted by the Republican National Convention next week, with one school, Rampello Downtown Partnership School beginning a week early and then closing down during the week of the RNC. At Gorrey Elementary, Wilson Middle and Plant High schools, the district has planned for delays and has re-routed buses to accommodate students coming from near downtown Tampa.

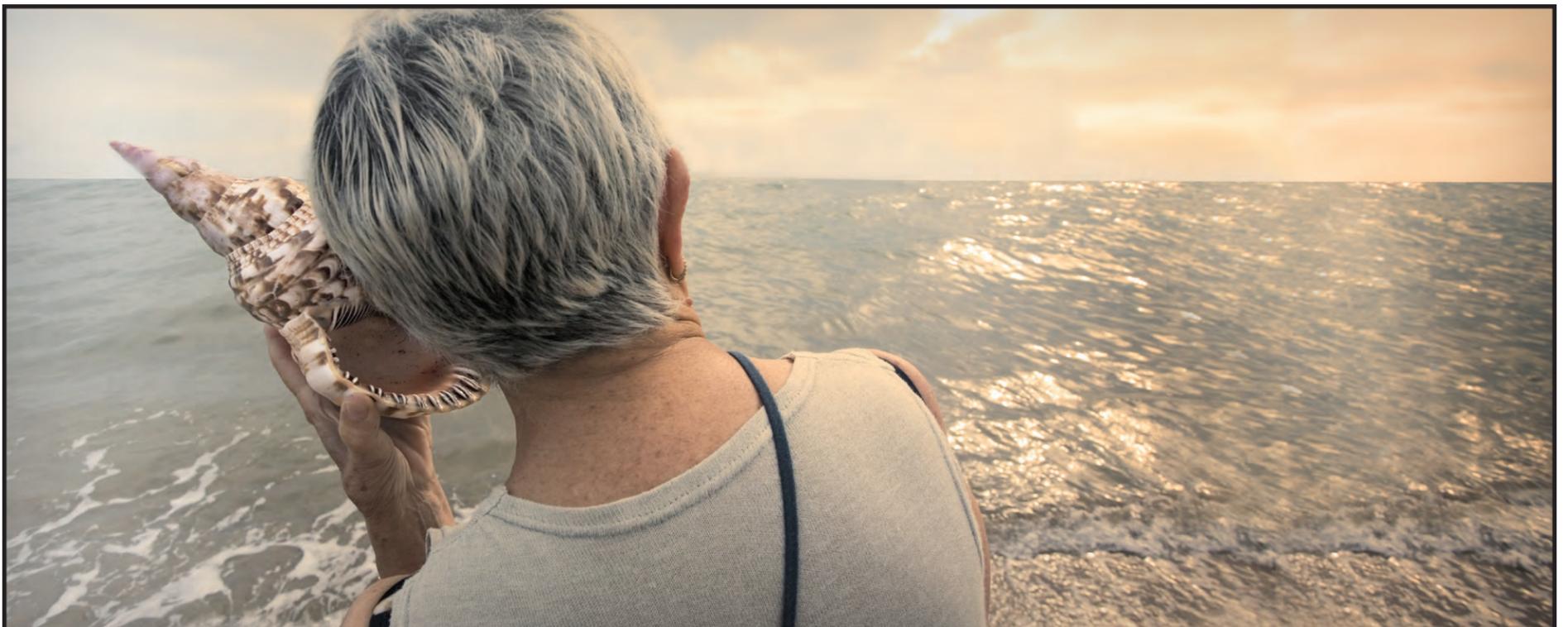
MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS



For the first few days of school, new students wear wristbands so teachers know if students will go home by bus or by car.



Ruskin Elementary School Principal Lisa Amos checks in new students on the first day of school in Hillsborough County.



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Tales from an RNC veteran

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kissinger as Secretary of State. A deal, however, was not made and George H.W. Bush became the vice-presidential candidate during the convention, creating a ticket that took the White House in a landslide.

Nick and Pat Christy, now a warm and youthful-looking couple living in Sun City Center, were there for it all. They catered the entire event, feeding the candidates and their wives, the delegates and the volunteers. Nothing was spared, no request was too trivial or bizarre to ignore. Christy's daughter squeezed fresh oranges each morning for Nancy Reagan's orange juice. Pat's mother catered to Elizabeth Taylor during the convention. Nick met and fed Frank Sinatra.

"Large crowds never really scared me," Christy said. He took the task of providing service to 15,000 people in stride. He also catered Gran Prix events in Detroit and St. Petersburg. He knows how to feed both the Regals and the Everyday Joes. Except upon specific instructions from his clients (Regals got the really good scotch and the Joe's got beer), Christy doesn't differentiate between them. He wants to give everyone great service. It was important to him back then, and it still is today.

Arriving for an interview at the Christy home one recent morning, the table was set with rolls and sliced fruit. Nick made me a fresh cup of coffee, not a pot but a cup made to order. "You can't come to my home and not have something," he said.

He enjoys serving people. He

and Pat do it very well. Certainly, Sinatra was happy, which says a lot. Nick found him to be a good and charming man who cared about his employees and friends.

The Greeks' fierce pride in their heritage has kept the basic culture intact. Whether a slave under Roman rule, a captive under Turkish domination, or a newly arrived immigrant, the Greek is always aware that he is the direct descendant of men like Plato, Homer, Aristotle, Demosthenes, Aristophanes.

Author Theresa Yianilos wrote those words in *The Complete Greek Cookbook*. She should have added the words of Greek philosopher Epicetetus who said, "Bear in mind that you should conduct yourself in life as at a feast." Nick Christy is descended from those men and he has certainly conducted a lot of feasts in his life.

Security was not taken for granted, even in the pre-9/11 days of the Detroit RNC. All of the food brought into the arena and into Nick's kitchen was x-rayed. Secret Service agents were omnipresent throughout the arena and inside of the kitchen. Nick and all of his many employees had extensive background checks (which one employee did not pass for reasons previously unbeknownst to Nick). They were issued ID tags that dictated where they could go within the arena. Nick, of course, had full access — he was feeding the leaders and the stars. The arena was locked down a week before the convention began and construction on the still unfinished building was stopped. The Secret Service sealed off any

room that was not completed.

In all, he served 30 suites with VIPs, an executive lounge with a capacity of 400 people, a conference room with a capacity of 800 people and 40 other rooms that had to be served continually. He fed everyone from the top of the ladder to the bottom.

"The food service companies gave me refrigerated semi-trucks and we filled them with everything," he said. "I had 300 culinary students helping us and chefs on hand for food that could never run out. When the heavyweights came in, we went from roast beef to Beef Wellington. I couldn't tell you how many thousands of pounds of shrimp we went through. Each person had their own personal requirements."

Like today, television played a huge role in the convention in Detroit. Nick fed the anchors as well, including news legend Walter Cronkite, Tom Brokaw, Peter Jennings and Barbara Walters ("She was very fussy about her diet." Nick met her requirements). Nick assigned trusted staff to head up each room and venue. He also fed the local television and print media reporters.

"The television network booths were works of art," he said. They basically built 1,200 square foot homes inside the arena."

Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush were the stars of the convention, but there were many other stars in the arena including Donny and Marie Osmond, Dorothy Hamill, Wayne Newton, Tanya Tucker, Pat Boone, Tony Orlando, Glenn Campbell, Chad



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

Nick Christy, reflected in some memorabilia from the 1980 RNC in Detroit. His company, Detroit Olympia Catering, provided all of the food and beverages for the convention.

Everett, Efram Zimbalist, Jr., and, of course, Old Blue Eyes. Nick fed them all and fed thousands of delegates and volunteers, and all the while maintained hospitality tables throughout the arena with banners, brochures, pins, and food and beverages for everyone the entire time the convention was in progress.

Next week in Tampa, three food service vendors will be doing the job that Nick once did in Detroit. He has a pretty good idea of what they are thinking — and worrying about — right now. He was once on the inside looking out.

Nick and Pat Christy survived the 1980 Republican National Convention, of course, just as everyone in Tampa will survive it. A week that will no doubt be filled with traffic headaches and long lines in restaurants as delegates, volunteers and media

fill hotels across the Tampa Bay area, including Little Harbor Resort in Ruskin, will eventually end just as it ended for the Christy's.

After the 1980 convention, the Christy's catering business, Detroit Olympia Catering, thrived and they went on to serve more large crowds and prominent events. They were successful to the degree that they were able to retire at a relatively young age. Nick and Pat left the big city of Detroit and moved to a small, rural town in Michigan. Shortly after settling in, Nick bought a banquet hall.

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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
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Saturday, Aug. 25 -- Local Fire and Police Department Appreciation.
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Concerns about citizen verification for voter eligibility voiced

Nearly a month has passed since the U.S. Department of Homeland Security agreed to grant Florida access to the federal citizenship database (also known as the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements database, or SAVE). Florida still cannot access the SAVE system to identify and remove non-citizens from the voting rolls, and we are now less than three months away from the 2012 general election.

Given the Department of Homeland Security's failure to execute an agreement over the last month, after agreeing to provide Florida access to SAVE, attorneys representing the State of Florida and its citizens are now preparing all appropriate legal options to ensure that an agreement is executed in a timely manner and prevent the irreparable harm that will result if non-citizens are not removed from the voting rolls.

Today, in response to requests from several media outlets and other interested parties, and in compliance with Florida's open records law, Florida Secretary of State Ken Detzner is releasing an obsolete list of potential non-citizens registered as voters that was generated months ago. Governor Scott supports the decision to release the list. However, as the Department of State has said, the list is a preliminary and unverified former working document that is being provided upon request. The data has not been verified or vetted for credibility or reliability by the Florida Department of State. This information is now outdated, should be considered obsolete, and will not be used as the basis for any action by the Florida Department of State. Accordingly, removing non-citizens from the voting rolls requires additional analysis and specific procedures governed by state law to accurately determine voter eligibility.

Given the sensitivity of this information and citizens' right to privacy, as well as the proximity to a major primary election next week, anyone who obtains these public records must handle them with the utmost caution. Some have rightly raised concerns about the irresponsible use of these names and other accompanying personal information for political and other purposes. The Governor shares these concerns and further cautions all recipients of this list to act responsibly.



The Farm City Week Bus tour group enjoying a Hay ride around the agricultural fields at Hunsader's Farm.

Agritourism: a growing industry in Manatee County

Agritourism is exactly what it sounds like: a mixture of agriculture and tourism, two of Manatee County's largest and most profitable industries. An operation that participates in agritourism is a farm, ranch or other agricultural operation that incorporates entertainment for visitors and generates a profit for the operation. Agritourism offers visitors and residents alike the unique opportunity to experience all that Florida agriculture and other nature-based enterprises have to offer in a fun and educational way.

Currently, many farms are struggling financially, and expanding their operations to include agritourism activities provides an alternative source of income. Also, most farmers and ranchers are passionate about what they do and want nothing more than for the general public to be aware of the importance of agriculture and resource conservation.

Local agritourism sites include anything from fruit and vegetable farms and markets to, nature preserves and animal sanctuaries. Here are just a few places that you may be interested in visiting. For a more complete listing visit the Manatee County Convention and Visitor's Bureau at: http://www.annamari-aisland-longboatkey.com/things-to-do/articles/Agritourism_Attractions_in_Manatee/

Dakin Dairy: Dakin Dairy is one of the few remaining dairy farms in Florida. They offer farm tours as well as special events. <http://www.dakindairyfarms.com/>

King Family Farm: A family owned farm and market growing several varieties of fruits and vegetables, many of which you won't find in the grocery store. King Family Farm also hosts tours and promotes sustainable production. <http://www.facebook.com/King-FamilyFarmMarket>

Bunker Hill Vineyard and Winery: Located in Duette, Bunker Hill Vineyard and Winery is a "green" family run operation. Delicious Florida wines are produced from Florida grown grapes and other fresh fruits and vegetables. Bunker Hill Vineyard and Winery also hosts tours and special events. <http://www.bunkerhillvineyard.com/>

Manatee County Agricultural Museum: Located in Palmetto, the Manatee County Agricultural Museum provides a snapshot of the "good old days" of agriculture in Manatee County. See old farm tools and equipment and learn about local people who have made the industry a success. www.manateeclerk.com/historical/AgMuseum

Bearadise Ranch: Located in Myakka City, Bearadise Ranch offers educational programs to promote habitat preservation and con-

servation of bear species. Private tours are also available. <http://www.bearadiseranch.com/>

Farm City Week Bus Tour: This tour is held annually in November during Farm City Week and is organized and hosted by the Farm City Week Committee and Manatee County Extension Service. Contact the Manatee County Extension Service at (941) 722-4524 to be added to a contact list for the next tour announcement. For more information visit: http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/farm_city_week/index.shtml

Spring Farm Tour: Hosted by the Manatee County Soil and Water Conservation District annually in March. For more information contact Gain Somodi at Gail.Somodi@fl.nacdn.net

Both tours include a full day bus tour of a variety of different farms. Examples of tour stops include strawberry farms, tomato packing-houses, cattle ranches, watercress production among many others. Participating in bus tours gives you the opportunity to visit operations which may not normally be open to the public.

No matter what your purpose, look into agritourism for your next vacation or family outing.

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Pet lovers volunteer for disaster training

As the height of hurricane season approaches, Hillsborough County Animal Services will conduct disaster training for volunteers to assist at pet-friendly evacuation shelters in the event of an emergency, such as a hurricane. From 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 25 at the County shelter 440 N. Falkenburg Road in Tampa.



Officers from Hillsborough County Animal Services will demonstrate emergency sheltering procedures, such as the citizen/pet check-in process, quick construction of stackable cages, and scanning of micro-chips. Attendees need only wear close-toed shoes and comfortable clothing, and the training is expected to last less than two hours.

Able-bodied volunteers who enjoy helping neighbors can provide needed assistance to animal control officers operating pet-friendly shelters across Hillsborough County. Previous animal or emergency response experience is not mandatory, but anyone interested is asked to RSVP for the event. While FEMA credentials will be required for actual deployment, Incident Command (ICS) course numbers

100, 200 and 700 are available free of charge online at <http://training.fema.gov/EMICourses>.

During disasters, Hillsborough County Animal Services is responsible for the Emergency Support Function for animals in our large county. Currently, four approved pet-friendly evacuation shelters are located within existing Red Cross Shelters. Pets will be sheltered on a first-come/first-served basis with no reservations or drop-offs permitted. Snakes or other exotics will not be admitted, and shelters only open upon order of the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Manager.

Animal Services reminds the community that now is the time to review personal and family emergency disaster plans. Pet owners should ensure that all pet vaccinations, license tags, micro-chip registration, supplies, carriers, boarding and evacuation routes are ready and up-to-date.

For more information or to RSVP for pet-sheltering training and volunteer sign-up event, contact Hillsborough County Animal Services at 813-744-5660 or email info@hillsboroughcounty.org. For more on pet-friendly shelters in Hillsborough County, log onto www.hillsboroughcounty.org/animalservices.

You, me and business

Walk to end Alzheimer's

Last summer I lost my mother to Alzheimer's Disease. It was the longest goodbye. Eleven years of watching her mentally disintegrate until her brain finally stopped telling her lungs how to breathe. Not a day goes by I don't miss her.

My maternal grandmother died of it when I was in college. I told Husband to keep a close eye on me, since it seems to run in the family.

If you are caring for someone with Alzheimer's, you are not alone! There are more than 15 million caregivers in the U.S. In fact, in 2011 alone, these caregivers provided over 17 billion hours of unpaid care valued at over \$210 billion!



By **Dana Dittmar**, Executive Director SCC Chamber of Commerce

What started out as minor annoying forgetfulness devolved into her not knowing where she lived or how to buy groceries. Her world existed only in her suite at Sun Towers which she shared with her cat, Gilly.

This woman, who was the Director of Communication for the Science and Technology Research Center in North Carolina, now sat and wrote herself notes that meant nothing. She hid money in the freezer and between pages in a book. And she looked at pictures of her grandchildren and wondered who they were.

The day she didn't know who I was will always be the most devastating day of my life.

After breaking a wrist and a hip, enduring shingles and skin cancer, I had to admit I was grateful she was unaware of what was happening to her. The last two years of her life, I actually prayed for the end to come. Her body was a shell and nothing more.

It was hard for me to remember who she had been.

Alzheimer's affects the family and the caregivers more than it affects the person who has it. Personally, I've had more than my

This Thursday night (the 23rd) the Chamber will host the kick off for the Walk to End Alzheimer's. The walk

itself will be held on Saturday, October 6, at the United Methodist Church on Del Webb Blvd. This week's kickoff is designed to set up teams, share fundraising ideas, and get into the spirit of the event. There will be pizza, libations, and door prizes along with great opportunities to meet new people who all share a passion to end this disease. The festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. Please join us - this event is open to anyone and everyone.

If you don't have the energy to form your own team, you can walk as an individual or join the Chamber Chargers team. If you can't walk, you can still be a part of the event through fundraising or organizing.

I invite you to become a part of this event in whatever way reaches your heart. We look forward to seeing you Thursday evening at the Chamber!

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Observations: A finer day

Carly Simon sang, "We can never know about the days to come but we think about them anyway." We don't know what tomorrow will bring. In all honesty, we don't even know if there will be a tomorrow. But I think we all need to think about the days to come. Making plans and being excited about the future is what we need to return to as a nation. Individually, however, I think we also need to accept the fact that we simply don't know about that. Nothing is guaranteed, and nothing should be taken for

granted. Planning for the future but living in the moment seems to be the recipe for making these days the good old days.

One of the few perks of air travel in this twisted world of security theater and reality is that the flights offer copious amounts of time to simply think without the interruption of phone calls, text messages and emails (yes, airplanes have WIFI now but that doesn't mean I have to use it). I love just losing myself in thought on an airplane; I think it's healthy and somehow mentally

rejuvenating.

On this flight, I'm thinking about two people who have left us — or, at least, left this earth. I am thinking about my Dad, who passed away at the age of 43. I was just 15-years-old and was there when he died. He taught me a lot about life in 15 short years, but I know with certainty that he had much more to teach. He laid some important groundwork for my life, teaching me to respect things and to be respectful, teaching me to be curious, and perhaps most importantly, teaching me that the well-worn path may not be my path.

I think that things happen for reasons that those of us left behind can't always understand. I know my Dad had plans for life; I know there were things he wanted to accomplish yet. Right now, the lesson he has left for me 35 years after his passing is don't take too much for granted.

During the flight, I watched my favorite music video of Carly Simon performing "Anticipation" at a small concert on Martha's Vineyard. As much as I like the song, as beautiful as Simon is in that setting, these days I watch the video to see the concert musical director and bass player, Tom "T-Bone" Wolk. Like Simon and the rest of the band, he is having a great time making great music for a small and happy audience in a beautiful setting. The stage was a pier in the small town of Lobsterville.

Wolk was an extremely talented, versatile and well-known musician. He passed away in 2010 at the young age of 58. Those who knew him, including Simon, described him as a good man. There is something haunting about watching him in the video, but there is also something magical in seeing just how much he was enjoying himself.

Seeing him smiling and having a good time at that moment in time,

I am reminded that life is short and fleeting. The time to do something you've always dreamed of, the time to be a decent person to others, the time to smile and enjoy yourself, is right now. Tomorrow is not guaranteed for any of us. Over the course of 15 short years, my Dad taught me that, too. And much more. I haven't always listened.

Remembering my Dad laugh at the stupid things his teenage son did (or better yet, not laughing when he probably wanted to explode with laughter); remembering his full-belly laugh at something he loved, his passion and compassion, and seeing Wolk happily performing in the beautiful yet

impractical and improbable setting on Martha's Vineyard all tells me that it is OK to be doing something less than practical by buying a sports car 1,000 miles from home.

In "Anticipation," Carly Simon also wonders if she's really just chasing after some finer day, wanting something better than what she has right now. I am flying to Washington DC to buy an inexpensive sports car that I have not yet seen. I go by gut feel, and thus far, my guts have not let me down. I am getting older, however, and somewhat less prone to risk.

If it turns out that the car is not the right one, I'll walk away from it, hop on the Metro, and spend the afternoon visiting the very cool Newseum before catching a return flight home. My total cost for the risk of it not being the right car will be less than \$300. If worse comes to worst, that's not bad for a quick break to the Capitol and, either way, I'll come home happy. Seeing the early morning sun outside of the aircraft window, I have a feeling it will be a beautiful day.

Indeed, life is short. I want badly to help others with everything I can muster, but enjoying the ride in this life is important, too. Besides, I know my wife, Michelle, will love driving a cool little car to work everyday. That thought makes me happy.

As I crossed the Florida border behind the wheel of a new-to-me sports car, I pulled into the Florida Welcome Center to just slow down, catch my breath and smell the ocean in the air. I looked at the car, watched kids and families celebrate their arrival to the Sunshine State and became fully aware for the first time in a long time that this time is pretty good, I am home, here with you, and it was a very fine day. Right now, I don't need to chase after anything else.



By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net

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

Otis

Otis is a grey and white male domestic medium hair. There isn't a volunteer who can pass by his bed without some cuddle time. He is a very expressive and attractive young cat. Otis says he is looking for a real forever home. Won't you come and meet him at the shelter? Otis has been neutered, micro chipped, and brought current on his shots. Chip # 050-127-339. DOB: January 2009.

CARE is a non-profit, no-kill animal shelter for abused and abandoned cats and dogs located in Ruskin. In addition to a shelter, CARE also offers a low-cost spay/neuter clinic in the hopes of deterring the homeless pet population in the Ruskin Community.



OTIS

Sophie

Sophie is an adorable mix of Lab and Basset Hound. Short stuff has no small personality. She is silly and rambunctious. She loves people and will try to plant a kiss right on your lips if she can get anywhere close to them. She is crazy about playtime in the doggy pool. Her gal pal Phoebe is her favorite wrestling partner but she seems to like most of the other dogs too. Sophie has just started obedience training. She is still a young puppy so patience and commitment will be required of her new owner(s). If you are looking to spice up your life, Sophie may be just the gal for you. Stop by and meet her. She is spayed, microchipped, and current on her shots. DOB: April 20, 2012.



SOPHIE



The Observer News office will be closed
Monday, Sept. 3 in observance of **LABOR DAY**

Deadlines will advance as follows:

Classified ads 4 p.m., Fri., Aug. 31
Display ads 11 a.m., Fri., Aug. 31
News Releases 4 p.m., Thurs., Aug. 30

Questions? Call: 813-645-3111

Area Obituary

Lillian (Lee) Dyczynski

Lillian (Lee) Dyczynski of Sun City Center died on August 12, 2012. A loving mother and grandmother, she is survived by two sons, their wives, and four grandsons. Burial is to be in a family plot in Massachusetts.

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.
Proverbs 10:19

Rev. Davis to present inspirational talk

Reverend Prentiss Davis will be the guest speaker at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 9 at Unity Community of Joy meeting at the Beth Israel Temple, 115 Del Webb Blvd. East.

Reverend Prentiss Davis was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan where he was introduced to Unity's, "practical Christianity" in 1962.

Rev. Davis has enjoyed serving on a number of public service committees that address the quality of life for the human race including: higher educational achievement for minority students; a number of multi-religious organizations; and the rights of returning veterans. He's the past chair of the NAACP's Political Action Committee and has performed as Chaplain for the Hospice of the Florida Suncoast and Hospitals in St. Petersburg. He enjoys marriage and being a grandfather of five.

Reverend Prentiss will present an inspiring talk entitled "Who do you say that I am?"

On the way to becoming stars

Members of South Shore United Methodist Church Arts Academy became stars of their own Disney show on July 11, 2012, when they took part in Disney's Broadway Magic Workshop. The group traveled from Riverview to the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida to take part in this unique Disney Performing Arts Workshop.

Created by Disney Performing Arts Workshops and Disney on Broadway, this exclusive workshop blends the thrill of a Broadway production with classic Disney magic to create an exciting, interactive experience. Participating groups from all over the world have the opportunity to work with Disney Entertainment professionals and learn a Disney production number.

Disney's Broadway Magic Workshop is available for theatre and drama groups, dance studios, dance teams and show choirs. The program is designed for participants ages 11 and up.

Disney Performing Arts Workshops offers band, choral, dance and auxiliary performers the opportunity to learn and perform at Disneyland Resort and Walt Disney World Resort.

For more information, visit www.DisneyPerformingArts.com or call 800-603-0552.



Prince of Peace Catholic Church opens registration for faith formation

Registration for the 2012- 2013 Children's Faith Formation Program will be held on Sunday, August 26 following the Sunday Masses in Conesa Center.

Classes commence on Saturday, September 8 and will be held from 9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Adults who are interested in becoming a Catholic or who are baptized Catholic and looking to complete their sacraments are invited to attend the R.C.I.A. Inquiry Presentation, also being held on Sunday, August 26. This presentation will take place in Conesa Center, immediately following the 8 a.m. Mass.

For more information call the parish office at 634-2328.



From L to R: Pat Hill, Tammy Lucht, Destiny Lucht, Nikki Roberts, Dustin Lucht, JoAnne Podgurski.

Going back to school in style

As Mission of The Month at the United Methodist Church, the congregation supported Good Samaritan Mission's Back to School event with a contribution in excess of \$3,500. Volunteers from the church served as guides for children receiving backpacks, shoes, haircuts, manicures, plus vision and dental care. As a recipient of a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Sun City Center, George A. Lutz Fund for Project Tooth, the church was able to provide preventative dental care through the Suncoast Mobil Dental Unit with vouchers for identified need for the children in attendance at this event. Sponsorship of this Back to School Event is an annual mission of the church.



PHOTO BY DIANE SKINNER SNIDER

Robert Winslow and Bob Garrod (left to right, standing) recently honored Ken Grom (seated).

Long-time music director honored

Robert Winslow and Bob Garrod recently honored Ken Grom a former longtime music director at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Sun City Center. Winslow, organist for the church, and Garrod, a frequent soloist, chose "Hold Thou My Hand," a song introduced to Garrod by Grom about eight years ago. All three men have led lives of making beautiful music.

Ken Grom life's journey included building up a choir in La Porte, Indiana, one voice at a time, in the same way he did at St. Andrew. He also carried a small portable organ all over Europe during WWII, and played for Sunday services for the troops. Bob Garrod said, "It has been my honor and privilege to have known Ken Grom for the past eleven years; he was a tough but understanding teacher."

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is located at 1239 Del Webb Boulevard, West. Members and guests worship at two services – a 9:30 a.m. traditional service and an 11 a.m. contemporary service. Visitors are always welcomed.

Area Places of Worship

Ruskin United Methodist Church

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Rance Goad, Pastor (Southern Baptist)
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Wednesday 6 p.m. Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

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www.popcc.org
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Vigil Mass.....	Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass.....	8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Contemporary)
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.



Two of the many aviators who participated in the Vacation Bible School of Northside Baptist Church.
Vacation Bible School soars

Recently, Northside Baptist Church held Vacation Bible School complete with airplanes soaring above the stage, pilots with silly faces and yummy chocolate cupcakes. The week was filled with Bible stories, beautiful crafts, music, action, and fun. More than one hundred children and adults participated each night during the event. The Gospel of Jesus was proclaimed and the love of God was evident everywhere. Smiles and laughter could be found in every corner of their campus.

A contest was held between the girls and the boys to see who could add the most money to the missions offering. Each day, a video was presented during the worship rally that highlighted a different missionary and the children were able to get a glimpse of missionaries in action from Alaska to Madagascar. While the girls won the contest, the final totals showed it was nearly a dead heat. The important result was that nearly \$500 was collected for LifeCare of Southshore.



David Durrance, Pastor Dan Collis & Frieda Durrance.

Southside Baptist donates diapers

Southside Baptist Church, Sun City recently held a "diaper drive" and donated over 1300 diapers to Metropolitan Ministries in Tampa. Every three months the church sponsors a project to support the ministry. Last quarter a "cereal drive" was held and over 100 boxes of cereal were collected. In addition the church has collected clothing and shoes and donated them to Metropolitan Ministries. They are a family of faith who are active in community ministry and welcome all.

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Fun Brigade promises a pot luck picnic

The Fun Brigade is planning a special event focusing on food, fun, and entertainment at 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 13 at the United Community Church, 1501 La Jolla Avenue. There will be a Hoe Down Picnic Pot Luck Dinner. Just bring your favorite dish and the Front Porch Pickers will provide music and entertainment and maybe some square dancing. The Men's Famous Bake-Off is also on board for the evening. Read that again! Yes, Gentlemen, put on your apron and bring your dessert creation for all to enjoy. There is no admission, just your covered dish and smiles. For more information, call Paula Lickfeldt at 633-6739 or Karl Buffington at 634-7062

Beth Shalom Players to perform

Congregation Beth Shalom Players, the temple's theater troupe will present an emotional and uplifting live dramatic presentation, *Windows* (PG), which precedes the traditional service of Selichot at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 8 at the temple.

This Selichot service takes place the week before Rosh Hashanah. This original work, written by congregant Anna Brubaker, will take the audience into the lives of a small group of friends and relatives working through issues that everyone can relate to: loss, love, guilt, second chances, blame and most of all, forgiveness. *Windows* consists of four separate short vignettes, all taking place on the same Sunday afternoon in the homes of various characters. Realistic without being depressing, the play contains some mild sexual references and mature language; it is not intended for younger children.

After the play is presented, Rabbi Torop will lead an interactive discussion based upon the themes and issued presented in *Windows*. Audience members are invited to bring dairy desserts to share between the end of the discussion and the start of the Selichot service which includes some traditional prayers and melodies associated with the High Holy Days and concludes with the blowing of the Shofar.

Congregation Beth Shalom is the only temple in the area with a theater troupe that adds an unusual and entertaining dimension to services for holidays like Selichot and Purim. There is no charge to attend. For more information call the temple office at 813-681-6547.

Visit us on the Web



www.ObserverNews.net

It's not your Grandma's day care anymore!

■ Continued from page 1

consistent enough caregivers that your kids knew them by name. Maybe they were read to. Maybe they colored or played with blocks or other simple toys. Sometimes, they were guided into group activities but mostly they were told "Okay, time to go outside," while the mom in charge took her coffee break.

I remember the first actual preschool "my first batch of children" went to. While we were living in what was then called Sandman Mobile Home Park on Highway 70 in Oneco, an actual facility was opened that had brightly colored rooms with Disney figures painted on the walls and a playground with a fence around it. I was thrilled; as for the three kids I then had, they still had to go to the sitter before school because the day care facility was only open from 7 to 5 and I worked longer hours than that, but they had the distinction of being the first children registered in that brand new facility and the bus from Oneco Elementary School took them right to the door.

Wow! How things have changed over the years.

When I remarried a Ruskin native in 1980 after life as a single mom in Bradenton for many years, I inherited stepchildren quite a bit younger than mine. Things had changed by then, and it was noticeable. There were parks programs in Ruskin, and the kids had opportunities there I had not encountered before. Ruskin Elementary School was walking distance from the Ruskin Recreation Center, and my stepson took part in baseball both there and at Vance Vogel Park in Gibsonton.

My problem with (mid-day) after school transportation disappeared when we used the county parks after-school programs, as until the late '90s, buses took the children directly from elementary and middle schools to parks and other programs.

We still didn't worry much about security in the '80s or early '90s. As the children got older, they stayed home alone, even though we lived on the river and I knew the boys especially would often swim or take the Jon boats out.

Heck, they were boys, and they were both like Huck Finn.

I didn't deal with child care much for about five years until I inherited custody of a 7-month old granddaughter (at 54 years old) in 1999. Suddenly I saw that everything around me had changed.

"You can't put a baby on the floor of your car in a laundry basket Mom!" My grown son, this child's uncle, told me. "You can get a ticket for that. Or maybe even worse. Children need to use car seats, and seatbelts."

Okay, so now my grown kids were teaching me.

My granddaughter entered child care at 7 months old at the Maranatha Church of God child care center, although that was not our church. I soon found they had planned activities, even for the tiniest babies. They were rocked. They were read to. And the older ones played supervised games outside.

As she grew, we tried several different kinds of child care. She went to three private child care



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTOS

Security has become a big deal in today's child care industry. This new building at Kids R Kids adds 2,800-square feet of classroom space and more than 8,000-square feet of playground space, but notice that each building, as well as the playground, opens only into one entrance (and exit) so there is no danger of children roaming between areas. Security codes are now part of almost every child care facility in the area as well, with parents logging into the building by computer to drop off and pick up their children.

centers, two of which I had to enter using a security code to get in the door.

Registration and attendance for the day were done by computer at the front desk by the parent. I could see we had come a long way from letting the kids out of the car in front of the building and driving off to work.

Oh, but there were other changes too. By age two, my granddaughter recognized words in her favorite books. By age three, she had begun to read.

Why, she was actually learning something before entering school!

Later we utilized the Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation program both after school and during the summer.

I think these programs are worth every tax dollar spent on them. Not a minute goes by when children are left bored or unattended. Games, activities, crafts, computer learning labs and field trips left the children I met there tired and happy.

Since coming to this area in 1980 I have done many news stories about the long waiting lists for many private child care facilities and (recently) the lack of transportation for working parents from school to after-school care that does not have its own bus. School bus transportation to anywhere but home was eliminated in budget cuts right around the year 2000.

I have watched the changes with my own eyes, yet the explanations of why they have come about have come from local experts, like area recreation specialist Dave Ramirez who supervises parks programs, and Kemly Green, spokesperson for the Parks Department.

Every year, despite budget cuts and staff reduction, often accompanying even stricter rules as to ratio of kids to adults, and/or more training required, they manage to keep their charges happy and safe.

Meanwhile, the private facilities are in a type of friendly competition with more than enough children to go around. There's usually a waiting list so some even refer to each other. One thing they all seem to recognize is the need to pick up children at the schools and see that they arrive safely.

County ordinances now say that children cannot enter a child care or preschool facility until they are 6 weeks old. But then, nowadays, they have maternity

leave so mothers can spend those few crucial weeks at home with their babies.

The top age for private child care facilities—whether for after-school care or full time during vacations, is 12, although the parks department takes kids from 5 to 15.

Some of the private child care and preschools cook hot lunches; others cater them in and still others make them bring a bag lunch. It all depends on the facility as there is no state or county rule governing this.

Most provide after-school snacks.

Prices, that in the 1960s ranged from \$15 to \$25 a week per child (always with a break if you had more than one) now run from \$50 to around \$100 per child for after-school programs, most of which include pick-up from school, to around \$150 per week full time during summer and school vacations.

Many of these facts were made from telephone calls to local child care facilities but most were provided by Carrie Elwell — not wearing her hat as co-owner of the Kids R Kids franchise in the Kings Lake subdivision with her husband Kevin — but as a member of the Hillsborough County Child Care Advisory Board, a volunteer board that listens to child care owners, staff and parents and works to better the industry as a whole.

I met with Kevin and Carrie Aug. 18 and learned things that I could never have predicted 30-plus years ago when I was wide-eyed at the facility our mobile home park had just installed.

I had gone to Kids R Kids to talk about and photograph its expansion but found out much more about advancements in the industry in general while I was there after learning Carrie was a county Child Care board member.

I learned that safety and security, background checks, including fingerprinting, and 45 hours of training are required for anyone working in the industry now — no longer are just babysitters allowed — and that facilities like Kids R Kids operate like a school, except that children learn through play.

When I arrived, a group of two-to-five-year olds were interacting with a touch screen that allows them to write their own stories, do math, draw, and all sorts of other things.

It was a long way from the blocks I remembered my kids

piling up at their day care at that age.

"Children learn something like 3,000 words between the ages of 1 and 2," Carrie Elwell told me. "They learn to interact with things and people. This is such an impressionable age, we want to be sure they get the most out of it as possible."

Carrie, who is the mother of two children herself, ages 4 and 6, said one of the original reasons she and Kevin decided to open the business was because they could see the tremendous need for preschool education in today's world.

"Not just in technology, but in the ability to get along with others from a very early age," she said.

Both the Florida Department of Children and Families and Hillsborough County check the background of all prospective teachers and aides—anyone who now works with children. "There are three levels of checks, state, federal and local," Carrie said. "And the initial 45 hours training can be taken at a center in class or online given by DCF before they can start work."

Carrie and Kevin had not been in this business until five years ago. They had friends open a Kids R Kids franchise in Pasco County and saw the need. "It took us three years to find just the right place and secure this land," Carrie said.

The local Kids R Kids began with about 15,000 square feet of space and until the recent expansion had 180 children registered. Aug. 18 they held a Grand Opening of a new building that gives them 2,800 more square feet of classroom space and 8,000 more square feet of playground. The added space will increase their approved amount of children to 376.

"We don't have any TVs. We aren't babysitters," she said. "We will have enough staff to keep everyone busy and learning."

The other child care facilities I have used and/or written about these last 14 years since I again became a "parent" using child care facilities (for the third time) aren't "babysitters" either.

The people caring for children all over South County, in general, keep their charges busy with games and activities.

"We are aware that we are entrusted with precious cargo," Carrie said. "Not just their bodies, but their brain."



Franchise owners Kevin and Carrie Elwell prepare for the opening of their new building which will allow many on their waiting list to begin preschool classes in a few weeks.



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105 PERSONAL

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~ Pearl Moss

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5133 Clover Mist Dr, Braemar Subdivision, Ruskin. Saturday, 8am-2pm. Computer games, toys household goods, linens, tools, paintings & collectable dolls.

Yard sale. Friday & Saturday, 8am-2pm. 1409 Jacobson Dr., (off Danbury) Chairs, tables, Christmas, furniture, tools, artwork, odds & ends, TV stands, misc.

Estate, moving sale. Furniture, antiques, household items, toys, designer clothes, etc. Friday & Saturday, 8am-1pm. 315 Brockfield (St Andrews) SCC.

Garage sale. Saturday, Aug. 25, 8am-2pm. 2302 Potomac Mark Place, (Riverbend Subdivision) Ruskin. Numerous household items & more

2 Family Sale

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SALES EVENT

NEW 2013 HYUNDAI SONATA

MDL#27402F4S



LEASE FOR **\$149** PER MO.

NEW 2013 HYUNDAI ACCENT

MDL#16402F4S



LEASE FOR **\$99** PER MO.

NEW 2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA

MDL#45412F4S



"2012 North American Car of the Year"



LEASE FOR **\$129** PER MO.

NEW 2013 HYUNDAI TUCSON

MDL#83422F4S



LEASE FOR **\$249** PER MO.

NEW 2012 HYUNDAI SANTA FE

MDL#62422F4S

AS LOW AS
0% APR
FINANCING
FOR 36 MO.!



PLUS UP TO **\$2000 TOTAL SAVINGS!**

All leases are based on 36 months/12,000 miles per year, with 20¢ per mile thereafter with approved credit and \$2995 down (Tucson \$2699, Sonata \$3495). All offers exclude tax, tag, title, registration, destination charges and dealer fees. Must qualify for Hyundai Loyalty to qualify for pricing. **0% APR financing for 36 months is \$27.78 per month per \$1000 borrowed with \$0 down payment and approved credit for well-qualified buyers. †Up to \$2,000 savings includes \$500 HMF Bonus Cash, \$1,000 Valued Owner Coupon (VOC) and \$500 HMA Consumer Rebate. Bonus Cash must be used with low APR program and is only available when financing through HMF. Must be applied as a down payment. \$500 consumer rebate can be combined with HMF low APR, but not with HMF lease offer. See dealer for complete details. All images may not depict actual model. Offers expire end of day 8/26/2012.



HYUNDAI
OF BRADENTON
A Gettel Automotive Dealership

2503 1st Street • Bradenton
On 1st Street, 2 Blocks South of Where 301 Meets US41
1-941-747-9262
Monday - Saturday 9am-8pm • Sunday Noon-5pm
HyundaiOfBradenton.com

HYUNDAI Assurance
America's Best Warranty[®]
10-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty





Hibachi & Sushi Restaurant



JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR

**10722 Big Bend Road
Riverview, FL 33579**

(813) 671-2388

Fax (813) 671-7086

HOURS:

Mon. thru Thurs. - Lunch: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30 to 10 p.m.

Fri. and Sat. - Lunch: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30 to 11 p.m.

Sunday - Dinner: Noon to 10 p.m.



Happy Hour Teppanyaki SPECIAL

2 for \$25⁹⁵

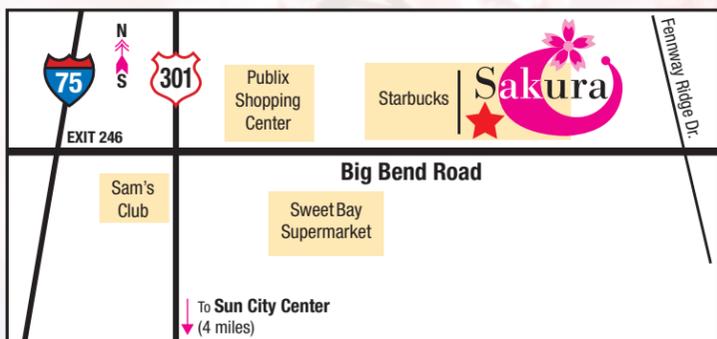
Choose One Appetizer from Happy Hours Menu

Happy Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 4:30-6 p.m. 8:30-10 p.m. • Fri. & Sat. 9-11 p.m.

Vegetable.....	9.95
Chicken (8 oz.)	11.95
New York Strip (6 oz.)	13.95
Calamari	13.95
Shrimp (9 pcs.).....	13.95

Served with soup, salad, vegetable, rice and noodles



Kids 10 & under
EAT FREE ON SUNDAYS
with 2 adult purchases

Ladies' Night - Thursdays
**1st glass of House Wine
or Beer FREE**
4:30 p.m. to close

1/2 Price Beer or House Wine

KITCHEN APPETIZERS

Edamame.....	2.75
Chicken Nuggets.....	2.75
Gyoza.....	2.75
Shrimp Shumai.....	2.75
Haru Maki.....	2.75
Krab Rangoon.....	2.75
Vegetable Tempura.....	2.75

SUSHI ROLLS

California Roll.....	2.95
Spicy Tuna Roll.....	2.95
Salmon Skin Roll.....	2.95
Spicy Crunchy Krab Roll.....	2.95
Kamikaze Roll.....	2.95
Sweet Potato Roll.....	2.95
Shrimp Tempura Roll.....	2.95
Chicken Tempura Roll.....	2.95

DESSERT

Ice Cream.....	2.00
Fried Cheesecake.....	2.00

SPECIAL ROLLS

Rainbow Roll.....	5.95
Fantasy Roll.....	5.95
Yummy Yummy Roll.....	5.95



\$5 OFF
any purchase
of \$50 or more



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With this coupon. Not valid with other offers.
Offer expires 9/14/12

\$10 OFF
any purchase
of \$100 or more



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With this coupon. Not valid with other offers.
Offer expires 9/14/12