

Classified Ads
and the BTD are in
Section B of this issue
beginning on page 8B.



Harriet Garbelman of Harriet's Flowers celebrates 75 sparkling years with friends and neighbors this week. See **page 1B**



Warren Resen continues reporting on his 2-month trek across the U.S.A. with a stop in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. See **page 6B**

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MITCH TRAPHAGEN FILE PHOTO

The forecast calls for a beautiful weekend for the 24th annual Ruskin Seafood Festival. The event will take place at E.G. Simmons Park both Saturday and Sunday. See more details on page 2.

Cracking the code

A study of the General Election ballot in everyday language

By PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY — Sample ballots for the Nov. 6 General Election can be studied before making your way to the voting screen but it won't be easy.

There's a lot more going on than voting for the President of the United States. State House, Senate and various other offices are also up for grabs.

Two County Commission seats are open — both affecting residents in the coverage area of *The Observer News* and *The Current*. The District 4 seat affects much of South County but is intertwined with District 1 (which is not electing a new commissioner this year) in several communities so a map is being provided along with this story.

The District 4 seat is being defended by incumbent Al Higginbotham against challengers (D) Mark Nash and Joy Green, who is not affiliated with any party.

The other Commission seat that is up for grabs is County-wide District 6, currently

held by (D) Kevin Beckner who is running against (R) Margaret Iuculano.

Sheriff David Gee is running unopposed and there are many judges on the ballot. The only way to know whether to check "retain" or "do not retain" the judges is to check them out individually by name beforehand.

Several local communities, FishHawk and Rivercrest being the only ones in range of this newspaper's coverage area, have internal issues to vote on as well.

And then, there are the 11 proposed amendments to the State Constitution.

"It looks like there are 12 amendments on the ballot but there are really only 11," said Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections Earl J. Lennard. "There's no Number 7. That's because No. 7 was rewritten by a judge's order and legislative rules say that once an amendment is rewritten, it has to get a new number."

Unlike many other years when special interest groups have used petition efforts to put amendments on the ballot, all 11 proposed Constitutional Amendments on

See **CRACKING THE CODE**, page 9



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Children in the Gifted Students program at Summerfield Elementary organize the items that have been donated as part of their project to help students in Haiti by collecting much-needed school supplies.

Bidding for trash collection well underway

By MELODY JAMESON
mj@observernews.net

Next week county officials will be talking trash.

By Friday, they are expecting bids from potential trash collection vendors interested in a piece of Hillsborough County's business currently valued as a \$40 million operation. Earlier in the week, on Monday, the bids from companies interested in hauling recyclables from around the area are due.

It's the first time in at least 15 years that contracts for the big money business of garbage handling have been subjected to a come-one, come-all competitive bid process.

And it is anticipated that savings in the millions of dollars can be realized — as well as passed on to consumers — with new approaches, including division of the county into five collection districts.

To get there, however, both officials

See **TRASH COLLECTION**, page 7

Windy days here turn to nightmares up north as Sandy makes landfall



CAROLYN HUFFMAN PHOTO

A dog runs in from the deteriorating weather in Annapolis, Maryland, on Monday as Hurricane Sandy churned just offshore of the New Jersey coast. Sandy, later dubbed Superstorm Sandy, merged with a strong winter cold front, creating hazardous conditions for much of the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States.

By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

A freak late-season hurricane that barreled into the largest population center of the United States also set a record on Monday. With a gale-force wind diameter of nearly 1,000 miles, Hurricane Sandy became the largest hurricane by diameter ever observed in the North Atlantic, surpassing Hurricane Igor of 2010.

An estimated 60 million people were impacted by the storm, which wreaked havoc on air travel worldwide as thousands of flights into the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states were cancelled. The storm also shut down ground traffic as Amtrak cancelled service in the Northeast corridor. The entire New York City transit system was shut down on Monday for only the second time in history, and also the second time in 14 months. Hundreds of thousands of people were under evacuation orders in Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states.

According to TECO, more than 100 power line employees have been sent to the northeast to aid in restoring power failures due to the storm. Florida has often been the

See **HURRICANE SANDY**, page 15

Making a difference, one pencil at a time

By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

RIVERVIEW — In days not all that long past, elementary school was strictly for the "three Rs" of reading, writing and arithmetic. In today's increasingly connected world, however, those days are gone and even the youngest of children are aware of global problems. At Summerfield Elementary School, a group of children in the gifted student program decided to do something about one problem. The students started with a plan, made goals and then worked hard only to exceed them. They may be elementary school children but they are making a difference in a problem of global concern.

Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. Going hand in hand with that are critical shortages of school supplies in the impoverished nation. Only about thirty percent of Haitian children reach the sixth grade and virtually all functioning schools in the country are private and funded by the international community,

See **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**, page 10

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The forecast? A beautiful weekend for the Seafood Festival

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

RUSKIN -- The 24th annual Ruskin Seafood Festival, which will take place this Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 3-4, has long since surpassed being just a popular local event. With an estimated 25,000 visitors, it has become one of Tampa Bay's premiere events and its steady growth has allowed organizers to make it into a enjoyable, family-friendly experience for all.

For those attending the event, traffic into Ruskin's E.G. Simmons Park is nearly unavoidable but a plethora of shuttle buses will be on hand to easily and efficiently whisk people from their parked cars to the entrance of the festival. Once inside, visitors will find everything from a boat show to a children's area that will include daylong interactive entertainment and appearances by Jumbo the Clown.

For the entire family there will be almost non-stop live entertainment from the main stage, along with hands-on exhibits showcasing this area's unique environment and wildlife, a variety of vendor booths and, of course, a wide array of some of the nation's best seafood and other delicious things to eat.

The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Parking is free, however there is a \$2 per carload Hillsborough County fee to enter E.G. Simmons Park and \$5 entry fee to the festival. Admission is free for children 12 and under as well as for active members of the military (with ID).

E.G. Simmons Park is located at 2401 19th Avenue NW in Ruskin. For information about the festival, email info@ruskinseafoodfestival.com or call 813-645-3808.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN FILE PHOTO

The forecast calls for a beautiful weekend for the 24th annual Ruskin Seafood Festival. The event will take place at E.G. Simmons Park both Saturday and Sunday.

The Gourd of the Season

With cool autumn air blowing through a beautiful pre-Halloween Florida weekend, Wolfe's Produce Market on the corner of U.S. Highway 301 and Bloomingdale Avenue in Riverview was a popular place for families and everyone in search of locally grown products as well as the gourd of the season, on display in the market's pumpkin patch. Also popular were the evening hayrides on the weekends leading up to Halloween. The family-owned produce market is typically open 9 a.m. until dark.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO



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[ALL YOU CAN EAT]
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<p><i>All You Can Eat</i> Fried Fish</p>	<p>Served with Tartar Sauce, Lemon, Garlic Bread and Your Choice of Fries, Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob, or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>\$13.95</p>	<p>First order, 1/2 lb. Second and all other orders, 1/4 lb.</p>
<p><i>All You Can Eat</i> Combo Snow Crab & Fried Fish</p>	<p>Served with Tartar Sauce, Drawn Butter, Lemon, Garlic Bread and Your Choice of Fries, Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob, or Fresh Fruit.</p>	<p>\$19.95</p>	<p>Second and all other orders, 1/4 lb. snow crab and 1/4 lb. fish OR 1/4 lb. one or the other</p>
<p><i>Full and Eat</i> Shrimp Special</p>	<p>Old Bay Steamed and Chilled Jumbo Shrimp Served With Lemon and Cocktail Sauce.</p>	<p>\$7.50 Half Order</p> <p>\$11.95 Full Order</p>	

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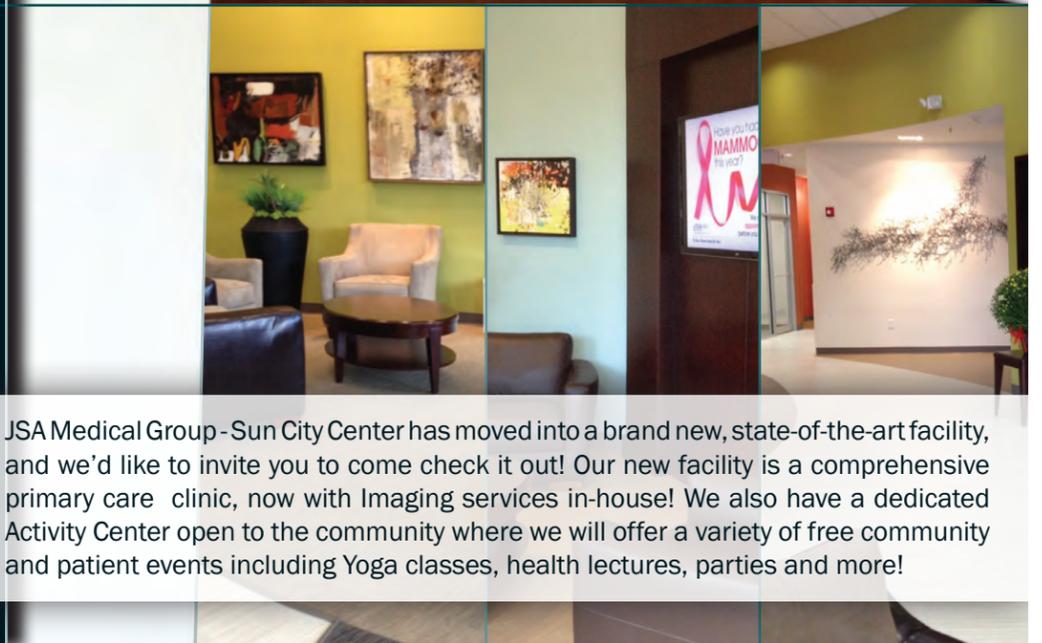
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Human trafficking, pornography, subjects of Nov. 3 day-long event

■ By PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

SUN CITY CENTER — In 2009 June Wallace discovered a life-and-death problem she never knew existed in the United States—human trafficking—and her life hasn't been the same since. After earning many awards for raising awareness of the problem in Largo, the one-time New Yorker began forming core groups in Hillsborough soon after moving to Sun City Center in 2011.

Now there are active groups in both South County and Brandon and a third has recently been started in Tampa.

Serving as the facilitator of the Tampa Bay Community Campaign Against Human Trafficking that covers Pinellas, Pasco and Hillsborough Counties, Wallace says her goal is to make people aware of what is going on right in their own backyards.

"This isn't just a problem in third-world countries," Wallace said. "It's happening all over the United States."

Armed with a diploma from the Florida Regional Policing Institute at St. Petersburg College and two years of immersing herself in her work, Wallace speaks to local groups, civic and religious organizations, and has set up a day-long event that will be held Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Creason Hall at the Sun City Center Methodist Church, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. W., one block north of State Road 674.

The event will host a continuous round of information, including a speaker from the FBI, the mental health field, Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships Inc. of Southwest Florida, and others. It is all part of "White Ribbon Against Pornography Week" from Oct. 28 to Nov. 4.

"Pornography has become pandemic and drives the sex trafficking figures higher and higher," Wallace said. "The average age is 13, and the life-span of an abductee is estimated at only seven years."

Wallace has contacted many organizations across the country including the U.S. Department of Justice that produced a report stating there are between 100,000 and 300,000 children in the United States trafficked each year, with California, Florida and Texas being "hot spots."

Presentations are being made in both English and Spanish and Wallace is encouraging area residents to inform as many people as possible to attend.

Roberto Chaple, associate pastor at the church, and Jeff Jordan, the church's worship director, have been busy coordinating the events which include presentations in both English and Spanish, a continuous-running movie, and facts, figures and tips on how anyone can help.

"Local grocery stores have donated food and drinks for a hot dog lunch to provide food between 11 (a.m.) and 2 (p.m.). Everybody's embraced this. Our biggest concern was for people who stay all day that may not have money to eat," Wallace said.

When she first started her local effort, it was all about human trafficking. Then workers at the Salvation Army brought it to her attention that pornography was driving abductions for sex.

"While there are children taken for forced labor, it is mostly about sex," she explained. "Pornography has become a tremendous addiction and can be found on many television packages right along with Disney."

So now Wallace's groups work on pornography alongside efforts to spread the word about trafficking.

Nola Theiss, executive director and founder of both Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships, Inc. and the Coalition Against Human Trafficking in southwest Florida, will be on hand with banners made by youth in middle and high schools.

Theiss has been working to educate the public about abductions since the 1960s, and has provided the banners with explanations that were made by youth who attended her ARTREACH presentations in school. Some of the banners show an adult in a playground lurking behind small children, while others are even more frightening.

"The explanations are in the words of the child that made the banner," Wallace said.

Other speakers include Dr. Diana Roque, who has practiced medicine in the area for more than 20 years and has been keynote speaker at many women's conferences; Edmond Dubreuil, founder and executive director of the Community Wellness Center located at the United Methodist Church in Sun City Center; and Kelly Murphy, victim specialist with the FBI who is active in education about trafficking and works closely with regional task forces.

The Spanish presentations will be separate and will focus on forced labor and sex trafficking," Wallace said.

True stories of cases that have touched families he knows will be told by Wilfred Trinidad, pastor at Iglesia Bautista Fundamental Providencia in Riverview, and a survivor of child sex molestation

will talk about her journey to recovery.

Alongside the live presentations, the movie "Somebody's Daughter" will be shown continuously all day, in English with Spanish subtitles.

A video made by founders of the 50-year-old Morality in Media and its offshoot organization Porn

Harms will also be shown.

People who cannot attend the event are encouraged to find out more about the problem and also visit the core group closest to their area. Information is available at the Porn Harms website, www.pornharms.com or by emailing Wallace at junemwallace@gmail.com.



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

June Wallace, facilitator for the Tampa Bay Area Task Force on Human Trafficking, gathers materials for the Nov. 3 "White Ribbon Against Pornography" information day at the Sun City Center Methodist Church.

"Hammer In" to be held at Ag Museum

PALMETTO — Interested in the art of blacksmithing? A novice or an experienced "smithy" will learn something from a Hammer In. Manatee County Agricultural Museum and Palmetto Historical Park are hosting blacksmith Steve Berglund for a Hammer In on Saturday, December 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is an opportunity to learn techniques and try them out. The Hammer In is free and you may attend for the full three hours or drop in when you can. The museum is located at 515 10th Ave. West, Palmetto. For more information call 941-721-2034.

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Positive Talk: What Is Your Goal?

Every person should have a goal in life. Without a goal, we are ships without rudders. We blow here and there, slaves to the winds of chance. Goals can be economic, educational and even directed to our self-betterment. In fact, I have goals in all three areas. I expand and change them as time and the situation dictates. It's important to remember that goals do not have to be static. They can be



By William Hodges

■ I will be slow to take offense and quick to forgive. If I expect both understanding and mercy from my friends, I must lead the way by first being understanding and merciful.

■ I will treat my adversities as lessons and learn from them. No problem I have ever faced in life has been without an accompanying lesson. The times that I have not learned the lesson have condemned me to repeat the problem.

■ I will expand my friendships to people of many races and creeds, for they all have lessons to teach me. How small my world would be if I limited my friends to only those who mirrored my own ethnic origin and beliefs.

■ I will work to be to others the friend I would like to have. My greatest wealth is the friends I have and if I am to retain that wealth, I must strive to be of value to them.

■ I will recognize the life I have is the one I built. If I wish it to be different, I am the carpenter who must reconstruct it. I am also the handyman who must keep it in good repair.

■ I will work to live in such a manner that no person has reason to be my enemy, and all people will see in me a ready hand of friendship. Keep in mind that a

man who has a thousand friends has not a friend to spare; a man who has one enemy will find him everywhere.

■ I will take joy in small victories. Every day good things happen to me; I will take the time to be thankful for these many blessings.

Maybe you have already accomplished all of these things; if you have, then go on to some new challenges. Maybe you have never thought of setting goals for personal growth. In that case, maybe you can use some of these ideas to start your voyage of self-improvement. No matter which case is true, don't drift. Take control of your life.

Hodges is a nationally recognized speaker, trainer and syndicated columnist. He also hosts an interview-format television program, Spotlight on Government, on the Tampa Bay Community Network which airs Mondays at 8 p.m. (Bright House channel 950, Verizon channel 30) and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (BH channel 949, Verizon channel 36). The shows can also be viewed at www.hodgesvideos.com. Phone: 824-641-0816. Email: bill@billhodges.com Website: www.billhodges.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Recently my wife and I were traveling from Fort Myers to Lakeland to attend our nephew's wedding. The plastic shield below the car's front end fell down and was scraping the Interstate highway.

Not knowing what had happened, we took an exit which put us across the street from the 10 Minute Oil Change on Sun City Center Blvd. in Ruskin. The manager, Greg Carlisle, immediately came out and examined our car. He told me he could fix the problem if I could wait 10 or 15 minutes.

Sure enough, in 15 minutes we were ready to resume our trip. Mr. Carlisle not only fixed our car he did not charge us.

The people of Ruskin should know what kind of a fine young businessman they have serving their community. By the way, because of Mr. Carlisle, my wife and I got to the wedding on time.

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MFST presents award to area high-school students

The Military Family Support Trust (MFST) recently participated in the recognition and presentation of student awards from six area high schools at the Renaissance Club in Sun City Center. Selected students from Newsome, Riverview, Bloomingdale, Lennard, Durant and East Bay high schools enjoyed a lunch and awards ceremony, which was sponsored by the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW). Shown, from left: Lt. Col. Gordon Bassett, USAF (Ret); student Ashley Wronka, 2011 MFST Award recipient; Don Schings, President/CEO of MFST; Nancy Alguire; and student Cameron Clark, 2012 MFST Award recipient.

Lennard High hosts 'white out' football game on Friday night

On Friday, Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m., hundreds will gather to see a match-up between Lennard High School and Dunedin's football teams. However, this year will be a little different. Rather than orange on one side of the field facing the red from the other, this year there will be *white*.

A White Out will take place to bring awareness to heart disease, the Number One killer of all Americans. During the game students will fund-raise to help fight heart disease and stroke.

Teams, students and community members are encouraged to purchase and wear an American Heart

Association "Rock the Beat" shirt to school and to the game in honor of loved ones. T-shirts are being sold at school and at the game for \$10.

Cardiovascular disease kills more people in the U.S. than the next five leading causes of death combined, including cancer. The White Out is a way to celebrate the lives of family and friends that have this devastating disease while making a difference by helping to save others. All proceeds go to the American Heart Association and will help to fund research and education.

For more information, contact Tammy Lara at laratammy24@gmail.com or (813) 506 2003

Southshore Regional Library Kids program/event highlights

Pee Wee Artists: Let's Create! - Monday, Nov. 5, 10:30 a.m.

'Pee Wee Artists,' 3-5 years, will join our art instructor for a fun morning creating an art project to take home. Limit 15. Adult must be present. Registration required at the Information Desk or by calling (813) 273-3652.

Baby Time - Monday, Nov. 5, 1:35 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 6, 11:35 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 10:05 a.m.

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

Crafternoon - Monday, Nov. 5, 3 p.m.

For children ages 5-12. Join the children's librarian and create colorful and fun crafts to take home. Registration is required. Register at the Reference Desk or by calling (813) 273-3652.

Toddler Time - Tuesday, Nov. 6, 10:05 a.m. and at 10:35 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 10:35 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, Nov. 6, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 11 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.

'Expressive Artists' and Teens: Let's Create! - Wednesday, Nov. 7, 4:45 p.m.

"Expressive Artists", 11 years and up, will join our art instructor and create an art project to take home. All materials provided. Limit 22. Registration required at either the Information Desk or by calling (813) 273-3652.

Teen Night: Game Zone - Thursday, Nov. 8, 5p.m.

For middle and high school students ~ Get in the zone and join your 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! Refreshments provided by Domino's Pizza. Get your game on. Funding provided by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library

Family Story Time - Thursday, Nov. 8, 7 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.

Membership with the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library helps provide the funding for free programs offered at the library. Anyone interested in becoming a Member of the Friends of the Library, call Jim Duffy at (813) 634-1396; or visit www.southshorefriends.com

Apollo Beach Women's Club holds luncheon meeting, bake sale

The Apollo Beach Women's Club will hold its November luncheon/meeting at Little Harbor in Ruskin on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

The program will be presented by Julie Brokaw and Judy Martin, new Director of Community Outreach for St. Joseph's Hospital. They will provide the construction timeline and plans for the new facility on Big Bend Rd. in South Hillsborough County.

Judy Martin, who retired earlier this year as director of the South Florida Baptist Hospital Foundation, now is at work in the South County as liaison between the hospital administration and the various communities that comprise the region. Both South Florida Baptist and the St. Joseph Hospitals are part of the local multi-facility network now known as the Bay-Care Health System.

Luncheon reservations must be made and paid for by Friday, Nov. 9 (\$16.00) by contacting Deanna Anest at (813) 938-3641 or e-mail: hookr06@hotmail.com.

Just in time for Thanksgiving festivities the ABWC will hold its annual Bake Sale Tuesday, Nov. 20 at 8 a.m. at two locations: outside the Apollo Meat Market on Apollo Beach Blvd. and near The Very Best Barber Shop and Day Spa in the Publix Shopping Center. Homemade cookies, pies, breakfast breads, cakes will be offered, with all proceeds going to the ABWC Scholarship fund to support graduating high school students in Apollo Beach.

This is also a good time to order poinsettia plants, available in red, pink or white for delivery in December.

Contact Sharon Vasquez at (813) 641 7856 for membership information. In addition to meeting each month, the club offers special interest activities sponsored by the Book, Bridge, Culture and Garden clubs.

Elections to be topic at Democratic Club meeting

The South Shore Democratic Club will meet Thursday, Nov. 8 at the South Shore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way in Ruskin.

The featured speaker will be John Hill, editorial writer for *The Tampa Bay Times*. John will discuss the Nov. 6 election results and provide insight about the interview process and candidate evaluation from a newspaper's perspective.

John's previous experience includes stints at the *Lakeland Ledger*, where he covered local government, and prior to that at the *Sarasota Herald Tribune* as a writer of computer-assisted special projects.

The meeting begins at 1:30 p.m., refreshments at 1 p.m. All Democrats and Independents are welcome.

Household chemicals are collected every 2nd Saturday

household chemicals are collected the 2nd Saturday of each month. Chemical materials accepted include: paints, solvents, automotive products, household cleaners, pool chemicals, lawn and garden supplies and other potentially toxic substances commonly found around the home and garden.

South County Collection Site is located at 13000 U.S. 41 S.,(off of Powell Rd) quarter mile north of Big Bend Road and will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Ruskin Woman's Club holds Christmas tea

The GFWC Ruskin Woman's Club has planned their annual Christmas tea for Saturday, Dec. 1. Buy your tickets soon, since the event quickly sells out. Tea tickets are \$20 per person, and can be reserved by calling Sonja at (813) 244-1015. There will be two seatings (with seating starting 15 minutes prior to serving), at noon and at 2:30 p.m..

This year's theme is 'Back to the Beginnings' and will celebrate the club's 100 years of service to the community: a 1912 Christmas. Attendees are welcome to dress in 1912 fashions and will enjoy a selection of tea fare, scones, and desserts, all made by the members of the club.



RUSKIN VFW POST #6287

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

Monday, Nov. 5 - Line dancing 6 p.m.; Treasure Hunt 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 6 - Games in Lounge 1-5 kitchen opens at 4:30 p.m. Bingo at 6 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 8 - Bar Bingo 6 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 9 - Fish Fry 4:30-7 p.m. Music by 'You 2 Kan' at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 10 - Ruskin Veterans Parade

Sunday, Nov. 11 - Fire a Steak 1 p.m. Music by 'You 2 Kan' at 5:30 p.m.



Last year's parade theme was the holiday or SCC's 50th anniversary. Bill Shanks (left) and Mel Hartman on the "Gift of Freedom" cart last year.

SCC gets ready for holiday events

The first of December is the Holiday Walk on the SCC Community Association's Central Campus, 1009 N. Pebble Beach Boulevard. Open to the public, it includes a breakfast in the Florida Room that starts at 7 a.m. and continues until noon. For \$5, attendees can enjoy blueberry (or plain) pancakes with strawberry topping (or not), sausage, eggs, toast, coffee and juice, along with holiday music by the Organ and Keyboard Club members. After breakfast is a good time to stroll around the decorated campus. The clubs will welcome guests who wish to shop or browse their handcrafted items. Rooms will be open from 9 a.m. till noon. Music and entertainment on campus will set the holiday mood. Volunteers are still needed. Contact: Sam and Joanne Sudman, (813) 633-3107 or jsudman@tampabay.rr.com

December 8 is the Golf Cart Parade and Winter Festival. The parade, with a theme of "Tis the Sea-Sun," starts at 10 a.m. at the SCC Central Campus. The ambitious goal of this community effort (SCC Community Association, Kings Point, Freedom Plaza) is to break SCC's previous record of 306 golf carts set in 2003. A second goal is

to establish a new Guinness World Record category for Decorated Golf Carts. Every golf cart counts, so community participation is essential. Residents are asked to put on their creative caps and plan their carts either with a holiday or Florida lifestyle theme. The decoration doesn't have to be elaborate, but there is a contest for big prize money Minto is donating \$5,000 for awards in four categories: 1. Individuals, 2. Clubs, 3. Condo Owner/Home Owner Associations and 4. Service Organizations. Prize allocations are: \$500 for 1st, \$300 for 2nd, \$200 for 3rd and \$100 for 4th place in each category. That's not all. The entry winning Best in Show, to be selected from the four 1st place winners, will take home an additional \$400 and a trophy. Info: Dave Birkett at (813) 534-2601 or dmbirkett@yahoo.com

After the parade, add fun to the day with the Winter Festival on the campus. Sponsored by Minto, it starts at 11 a.m. and continues until 2:30 p.m. There will be food, music, entertainment, car show, pet show, vendor booths and more. Info: Channa Calzone at (813) 480-3578 or ccalzone@mintofla.com.

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Tampa Bay area child in need of life-saving transplant

With the cost of a transplant often exceeding \$500,000, many transplant families are unable to shoulder the financial burden of such a procedure. The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national charity dedicated to organizing and guiding communities in raising funds for transplant-related expenses. In Tampa Bay, volunteers are raising funds for COTA in honor of transplant patients like local child, Sam Smirch.

Sam is the son of Michael and Sara Smirch, and the brother of Hannah. Sam, born on August 20, 2004, was diagnosed with Alpha 1 Antitrypsin Deficiency. The doctors at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania have recommended a liver transplant. An estimated \$100,000 is being raised by Tampa Bay volunteers.

Volunteers are needed to assist with fundraising activities that will help with transplant-related expenses. Individuals and groups interested in more information can contact Community Coordinator Bill Bahlke at (813) 244-6186 or bill.bahlke@clearviewland.com.

Donations may be mailed to the Children's Organ Transplant Association, 2501 West COTA Drive, Bloomington, IN 47403. Checks or money orders should be made payable to COTA, with "In Honor of Sam JS" written on the memo line of the check. Secure credit card donations are also accepted online at <http://cota.donorpages.com/PatientOnlineDonation/COTAforSamuelJS/>.

Sam's family has asked for assistance from the Children's Organ Transplant Association. The organization's priority is to assure that no child or young adult is denied a transplant or excluded from a transplant waiting list due to lack of funds. One hundred percent of all funds raised are used for patients' transplant-related expenses.

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

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



Daisy

Daisy is a very sweet black and white kitten with a white nose. She will come right up to you and encourage hugs and kisses. But all she really wants is a forever home with a loving owner. Although Daisy was found as a stray, she has adapted well with the other kittens. She is current on her shots. As part of her adoption she has been micro chipped and spayed.

DOB: March 5, 2012.



Dewie

Dewie is a petite Terrier mix with a cute pink heart on her nose. She was rescued from horrible living conditions and brought to the shelter as a baby with her three siblings. Her greatest love in life is water! She leaps in and out of the doggy pool and, in her mind, being sprayed with the hose beats Disney World any day. Dewie can be exceptionally charming with people. Dewie knows the sit, shake, and down commands and walks fine on a leash. She is also spayed, microchipped, and current on her shots.

DOB: November 3, 2010.

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<p>CHI Ionic Color Free Shampoo & Style</p> <p>Price will vary with length or condition of hair. Haircut extra.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$34⁹⁵</p> <p>OC4 - EXP. 11/30/12</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Fantastic Sams</p>	<p>Quick & Easy Perm Wave Free Shampoo & Cut</p> <p>Price will vary with length or condition of hair. Design wraps extra.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$34⁹⁵</p> <p>OP3 - EXP. 11/30/12</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Fantastic Sams</p>
<p>5-7 Foil Highlights Free Shampoo & Lite Dry</p> <p>Price will vary with length or condition of hair. Haircut extra.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$19⁹⁵</p> <p>OF1 - EXP. 11/30/12</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Fantastic Sams</p>	<p>Highlights/Lowlights Free Shampoo & Style</p> <p>Price will vary with length or condition of hair. Haircut extra.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$10 off</p> <p>OH2 - EXP. 11/30/12</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Fantastic Sams</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">\$50 Minimum</p>
<p>Shampoo & Set</p> <p>Price will vary with length or condition of hair. Haircut extra.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$12⁰⁰</p> <p>OSS1 - EXP. 11/30/12</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Fantastic Sams</p>	<p>NuFree Hair Removal</p> <p>The gold standard in hair removal! Only at participating salons.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$5</p> <p>OW2 - EXP. 11/30/12</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Fantastic Sams</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Per Area Brow, Lip or Chin</p>

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Trash collection

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and consumers may have to work out and pin down the multiple possible combinations of services involving what is hauled when from where.

Since 1996, trash, garbage and recyclables have been picked from homes and businesses across Hillsborough and dispensed or disposed of by three vendors, Waste Management, Inc., Waste Services, Inc., and Republic Services, Inc. Their contracts have been renewed periodically with few adjustments over the years and will expire next in September, 2013.

Residential customers who are homeowners pay for the curbside service on a twice-a-week basis through their annual property tax bills at a yearly rate in the low \$200 bracket. Similarly, owners of rental properties such as apartment complexes or mobile home parks are billed for the services and then may pass on appropriate portions of the bill to their individual tenants. Fees for pick-up and disposal from business entities can be based on the tonnage.

A year ago, Commissioner Al Higginbotham, who represents District IV stretching from Plant City to Sun City near the Hillsborough-Manatee county line and including most of South County, began suggesting to fellow commissioners and community leaders that allowing all possible vendors to submit bids could both save money and address services needed but not currently provided.

In December, commissioners agreed to begin a wide open bid process and invitations to bid went out last month. The 102-

page package of instructions and criteria was distributed through the electronic system known as Onvia DemandStar, according to John Hollingshead, procurement manager in the county's business and support services department. The system is widely used by both bid seekers and bid makers.

Higginbotham estimated this week that eight to 11 trash and recyclables collectors located around the Southeast U.S. are potential vendors for Hillsborough County. They could bid to furnish services to one or more of the five collection districts. South Hillsborough, from Tampa Bay to the Hillsborough-Polk county line and south of the Alafia River comprises the fifth collection area.

Companies bidding for any of Hillsborough's trash business will meet a number of criteria substantiating such factors as their experience, financial stability, bonding capacity and law suit liabilities, Hollingshead said. Potential collection vendors, for instance, will have provided their residential and commercial services for three of the last five years involving at least 30,000 households. They will have the financial ability to serve two of Hillsborough's districts, supply a \$300,000 bid bond and post a \$3 million performance bond if a successful bidder. Their top managements will have at least five years of experience in the solid waste collection industry, have no claims exceeding \$100,000 pressed against them in the last five years and produce four references covering 12 recent months of services provided.

Vendors bidding to handle

Hillsborough's recyclables on a county-wide rather than district basis will meet similar criteria demonstrating successful and substantive experience, sufficient financial resources and limited legal claims liabilities, Hollingshead added. These possible vendors also will have the appropriate Florida certifications. Their bid bonds are pegged at \$75,000, with the chosen bidder's eventual performance bond set at \$250,000.

Once in hand, all bids will be evaluated for sufficiency of the response in his department, Hollingshead said, and then forwarded to managers in the county's public utilities department for additional precise comparison with Hillsborough's solid waste handling needs.

Before staff recommendations are made to commissioners, it may be necessary to check out potential vendors' facilities, the procurement manager added. And, at some point, questions such as the number of collections in a given span of time, the specific days of collection, the types and volumes of collected materials in each district all must be addressed, he indicated.

Ultimately, the effort will be worthwhile to the county and its citizens, Higginbotham asserted. Encouraging more competition in the bidding process does not reflect poor service by the current vendors, he added, but recognizes that new technologies are applicable and new methods of collection come into practice that may be advantageous to the county. And competition for the business simply is likely to lead

to reduced rates in Hillsborough which has had some of the highest solid waste handling costs in the state, he said.

In addition, he emphasized the importance of working into the collection system under future contracts the pick-up of what he called "bulk items - tires, couches, refrigerators." At the present time, such large pieces are not collected by the haulers and may not be transported to county disposal sites by residents

and therefore frequently turn up dumped as litter on roadsides, he noted.

Higginbotham suggested a commission workshop on the entire trash collection subject may be scheduled after staff evaluations of the bids have been outlined. The new contracts must be drawn and executed by September, he noted, adding "it's a very fluid process now, but the expectation is we'll see significant savings."

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Prep football results



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Last week's scores:

Riverview (2-6) fell to Newsome (4-4) 6-42
Lennard (0-9) fell to Spoto (3-5) 3-13
Brandon (1-7) fell to Plant City (4-4) 20-22
East Bay (3-5) fell to Durant (8-0) 3-28

This week's schedule:

Riverview hosts Durant
Lennard hosts Dunedin
Spoto hosts Lakewood
East Bay hosts Brandon
Bloomingdale visits Plant



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THE SAVVY SENIOR: How to Write Your Own Will

Dear Savvy Senior,
Can you recommend some good do-it-yourself resources to help me write my will? At age 62, I want to get my affairs organized, but I hate paying a high-priced attorney fee if I can do it myself.

Don't Have Much



By Jim Miller

Dear Don't,
If you have a simple, straightforward estate and an uncomplicated family situation, writing your own will – with the help of a good do-it-yourself guide – is a viable alternative to hiring an attorney and a whole lot cheaper. Here are some good resources to help you get started.

Computer Required

There are a number of computer software products and online resources available today that can help you create your own will very easily, and they usually take less than an hour from start to finish. Like tax software, these tools will guide you through a series of questions and will insert your answers into a will for you. But, you'll need a computer to use them. Some good options to check out include:

Quicken WillMaker Plus 2013: This is a comprehensive estate planning software product that's very user-friendly. It lets you create customized wills for an unlimited number of people, along with other important documents like financial powers of

attorney, health care directives, executor documents, final arrangements and more. And once you're finished, you can store your documents on your computer and update them as needed, and you can print them out on paper. Available in downloadable or CD format at nolo.com for \$43 or \$52, this software works only with Windows operating systems and is valid in every state except Louisiana.

Rocket Lawyer: This is an online resource – available at rocketlawyer.com – that helps you create a will, trust, power of attorney and dozens of other legal documents in every state. They start by offering a free seven-day trial period so you can actually make one document for free. Or, you can become a member for \$20 a month, or \$120 for their annual "Basic Legal Plan," and get unlimited access so you can make, store, share and update any documents you want. They even provide annual members free legal reviews of their document and free phone assistance with an attorney.

LegalZoom: Available online at legalzoom.com, this site makes wills, trusts, powers of attorney, pet-protection agreements and many other documents. After you create your will, or other documents, they double-check them for spelling and grammar mistakes (but not for legal issues) and mail you a printed copy in about a week to 10 days. Wills run \$69, other documents range between \$35 and \$249.

No Computer Necessary

If you don't have a home computer or Internet access, a good resource to turn to is the *Quick & Legal Will Book*, sold by Nolo for \$21. This guide provides forms and step-by-step instructions that can help you make a basic will that meets your needs. To order a copy, call 800-728-3555.

Hire a Lawyer

It's also important to know that if you have a complicated financial situation, blended family or if you have considerable assets, you need to hire a lawyer to write your will. An experienced lawyer can make sure you cover all your bases which can help avoid family confusion and squabbles after you're gone.

The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (naela.org) and the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils (naepc.org) websites are good resources that have directories to help you find someone in your area.

Costs will vary depending on your situation and location, but you can expect to pay somewhere between \$200 and \$1,000 to get your will made.

If money is tight, check with your state's bar association (see findlegalhelp.org) to find low-cost legal help in your area. Or call the Eldercare Locator at (800) 677-1116 for a referral.

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.



Dr. Noe and her staff at the Apollo Beach Family Medical Center.

Apollo Beach Family Medical Center puts down roots on US 41

Physician/Owner Sasha Noe DO, PhD welcomed patients, friends, family, and neighbors to the "Grand Opening" of her new Family Medicine and Aesthetics practice "Apollo Beach Family Medical Center" on Oct. 10. At the official opening of the office, which is located at 6150 N. US Highway 41 in Apollo Beach, Dr. Noe said, "It's a dream come true to serve and meet the medical needs of the residents throughout the South Shore area." Dr. Noe, a resident of the South Shore for over ten years, is excited to offer her patients a beautiful state-of-the-art facility to meet their medical needs. The center is open Monday - Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. New patients are welcomed!

The medical office specializes in Family Medicine, Skin Rejuvenation, Wellness, and Prevention. Her staff has been complimented for being professional, courteous, knowledgeable, friendly, and compassionate. Dr. Noe earned a PhD degree in Medical Microbiology and Immunology from the University of South Florida's College of Medicine in 2000 and a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine – Bradenton, FL. She completed her Family Medicine Residency at St. Petersburg General Hospital where she was elected as both Chief Intern and Chief Resident during her time there. Dr. Noe is known for having great bedside manners and she spends quality time while caring for and educating all of her patients. Dr. Noe and the staff at Apollo Beach Family Medical Center can be reached at (813) 641-0007. Website: ApolloBeachFamilyMed.com or Email: info@ApolloBeachFamilyMed.com.



Supporters for Joy Green gather for ribbon cutting

The Sun City Center Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for the Elect Joy Green for Hillsborough County Commissioner Campaign. Ms. Green is running as an independent from District 4.

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Cracking the code

Continued from page 1
the 2012 General Election ballot were sponsored by the State House or Senate. The complete amendments and the original bills that introduced them may be

viewed at <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/initiatives/initiativelist.asp?year=2012&initstatus=ALL&Ma deBallot=Y&ElecType=GEN> but are summarized in easy English here for readers' convenience.

This story neither endorses nor objects to any amendment.
No. 1 – This amendment, if passed, would override what's being called "Obamacare," the real name of which is the Patient Protection and Affordable

Care Act. Saying "yes" to this amendment would mean you are in favor of allowing Florida to "say no" to the act and not accept the federal law that is now in place.

No. 2 — This amendment is straightforward. It says if you say "yes" property discounts on homestead exemptions will be given to veterans of combat who were not Florida residents at the time of their service when they entered the military.

No. 3 — If passed, this amendment would not take effect until the 2014-2015 fiscal year. It states that the State Legislature may change the way it determines how it will collect revenues. It would replace the existing way of collection, which is determined by personal income growth, with a new state revenue system that is based on changes in population and the rate of inflation. This amendment says the Legislature "may" submit proposed increases to voters.

No. 4 — This amendment, if passed, would stop increases in taxable value of all homesteaded property and lower the increase percentages on some non-homestead properties when market values decrease. Specific percentages for certain classifications of residents and homebuyers are mentioned in the amendment.

No. 5 — This amendment provides that either the State House or Senate must confirm the appointment of State Supreme Court judges by the Governor. Percentages and specific powers are outlined in this amendment which transfers some powers from the judicial branch of government to the legislative branch.

No. 6 — This amendment is to add stricter measures to the State Constitution about using public funds for abortions or health coverage that includes abortions with exceptions specifically named in the proposed amendment.

No. 7 — Rewritten to become No. 8

No. 8 — Titled the "Religious Freedom" amendment, this graph says passage would "delete the prohibition against using revenues from the public treasury for any... sect...or sectarian institution."



MITCH TRAPHAGEN FILE PHOTO

Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections Earl J. Lennard.

This means that public money could be used toward a private institution (such as a school or other institution operated by a religious denomination.)

*This amendment has been reworded by a judge's order.

No. 9 – This proposed amendment grants full property tax relief to spouses of military veterans and first responders (including policemen, firefighters and others specifically named) who are killed in the line of duty if they were county residents as of Jan. 1 the year they were killed. They would pay no property tax as long as they stayed in that home and remained unmarried.

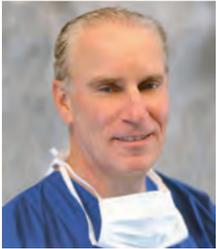
No. 10 — This would provide businesses an exemption from paying tax on tangible personal property with value between \$25,000 and \$50,000. The two parts to this amendment would allow the state, and also county and local municipalities to also choose to exempt the property from taxation. (The amendment does not say "businesses" but only businesses now pay this tax.)

No. 11 — This would allow the State Legislature to draft a law that allows counties and municipalities to grant additional homestead exemptions to low-income seniors (as defined in the amendment) if they have lived in the home 25 years or more.

No. 12 — If passed, a new council composed of student body presidents would be created and the president of that council would sit on the Board of Governors of the State University System instead of the president of the Florida Student Association who now occupies that seat.

*Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

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Making a difference

■ Continued from page 1

including the United States. Despite that Haiti's constitution requires that education be free for all, the government has been unable to fulfill that obligation. The massive earthquake of 2010 has only further deteriorated an already dismal and tragic educational situation.

The students in the gifted program at Summerfield Elementary, however, saw the problems as something to work on rather than merely lament. The students learned that something as simple as a pencil is generally unavailable and would be treasured by many Haitian students. The Summerfield students made up signs and began encouraging their fellow students to donate supplies; they communicated their plan to help with the entire school via the school's morning show.

According to Latoya Desamour, the Teacher of the Gifted at Summerfield, the students set a goal to collect 700 items for donation over a three-week period. By the end of the first week, however, they had already collected more than 1,000 items. By last week, they had collected 1,800 items and were hoping to finish the drive with more than 2,000 items.

"The kids are super excited," Ms. Desamour said. "They are very smart and they are aware of the world around them."

Indeed, in a classroom at Summerfield on a recent Monday, the students, ranging from second to fifth grades, organized and took inventory of their latest donations. Mixed in with the chatter and laughter was a seriousness

of purpose. They knew the importance of each and every item.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to estimate the impact that 2,000 items (pens, pencils, glue sticks, folders, notebooks, and so on) will have. It will be difficult to gauge how much that will mean to children who have next to nothing to call their own, to children for whom survival is a challenge and obtaining an education is part of a gauntlet of obstacles they face. It is difficult to imagine what those 2,000 items will mean for so many unseen children to know that other children in the United States cared enough to do something to help them. It is difficult to measure, yes, but not difficult to know. The students at Summerfield Elementary worked to make

something happen that changed the world for the better. They did something good for others who needed help.

The students in the Gifted Program are Alvin Wu, Andrew Shelton, Angele Garcia, Dalton Palmer, David Espinoza, Elizabeth Hackett, Heather Route, Jasen Patubo, Joshua Andre, Kayla McLoone, Kyle Murray, Lance Morton, Leigha Howell, Madison Westley, Marcos Morales, Meagan Tuthill, Mia Alanis, Michael Whiles, Nevaeh Garcia, Perla Gonzales and Savannah Dale.

Each one, and every student at Summerfield Elementary who pitched to help, made a difference in the world. They are children leading the way towards a better world. They are making a difference, one pencil at a time.

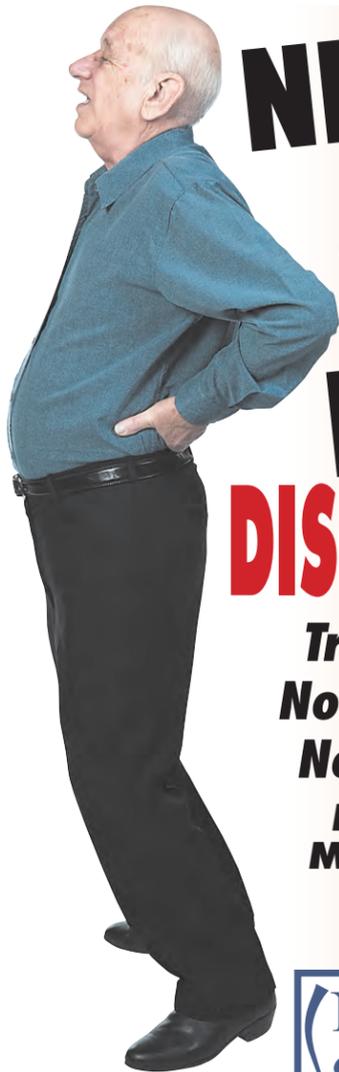


Students organize and take inventory of the donated items under the direction of Latoya Desamour, Summerfield Teacher of the Gifted.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS



Gifted Students at Summerfield Elementary made signs and announcements during the school's morning program. In the end, they far exceeded their goals.



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Portraits of Power offers unique, eye-level look at world leaders

Within the larger-than-life images are faces of majesty and, perhaps, madness; humility and mystery; confidence and compassion.

■ By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net

TAMPA — In today's media saturated environment, world leaders have taken on almost mythical proportions. They are global, purposefully unassailable and seemingly unapproachable. Given all of that, it is easy to forget that they are men and women just like everyone else. The only difference is their ability to wield power.

Platon, a 44-year-old photographer of British and Greek parents and staff photographer for The New Yorker, has made a name for himself in making photographic portraits of the world's leaders. Last year, when nearly all of the world's leaders convened in New York for a meeting at the United Nations, Platon was there, set up in a tiny studio off the floor of the General Assembly. Although his magazine had been working on the project for months by contacting leaders around the world, the outcome was "a five-day improvisation" of luring the leaders of world into the makeshift studio to sit for a

portrait.

The stunning result, an exhibition entitled *Platon: Portraits of Power*, is at the Florida Museum of Photographic Arts in Tampa through Nov. 11. The portraits include Presidents Obama and Bush, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Hugo Chavez, Muammar Qaddafi, Benjamin Netanyahu and many others. And within the larger-than-life images are faces of majesty and, perhaps, madness; humility and mystery; confidence and compassion.

The portraits bring humanity to names and faces often seen only in news reporting. All together, they reveal a world struggling, sometimes at odds, sometimes in concert, to move forward. Or, in some cases, to cling to old ways as the rest of the world moves on.

The exhibit is a rare opportunity to see the world's most powerful people at eye-level, in portraits that uniquely reflect the men and women in that exclusive group. With the exhibit ending Nov. 11, the window of opportunity to see it is also brief.

The Florida Museum of

Photographic Arts is located at 400 North Ashley Drive in downtown Tampa. Admission to the exhibit is free for museum members, with a suggested \$10

donation for non-members and \$8 for students and members of the military. The museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8

p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The reception desk is located on the second floor.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

The Portraits of Power exhibit runs through Nov. 11 at the Florida Museum of Photographic Arts in Tampa.



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Pioneer Roundup at Riverwalk

"Postcards from the Friendly City" come alive as your family experiences pioneer life in early Manatee County at the Tower Plaza on Bradenton's Riverwalk Sunday, November 4, from noon to 4 p.m. This free event includes interactive discovery stations, a whip cracking demonstration, learn to lasso, create fish prints, try your hand at old-fashioned laundry, color crate labels and lots more.

The Riverwalk is located at 1404 Manatee Ave. E, Bradenton, FL 34208. Look for signs off 3rd Avenue pointing to the Roundup on the east side of the Green Bridge.

Also on November 4, take a historical cruise on the Manatee River. One hour trips will leave from Riverwalk at noon, 1:30 or 3:00. Narrated by local historian, Cathy Slusser, who will tell stories of the river's history and the people who lived along its banks. Ticket prices for this historical cruise are \$15 each. For reservations, call 941-780-8010.



Well deserved

MELODY JAMESON PHOTO

Taken by surprise but pleased by the accolades, Ann Marie Leblanc (right) received a large floral bouquet, a standing ovation and words of praise during a SCC Community Association meeting last week as organization directors and members honored her years of service. Ed Barnes, CA president, (left) pointed to her lengthy list of accomplishments as a two-term director, including year-long celebration of the community's 50th anniversary in 2011 which also initiated a community tradition — annual July 4th fireworks. Expressing the sentiments of many, sister board member Jane Keegan thanked her from the podium "for making a difference in my life." Leblanc responded that it has been the the community that made her service possible and her retirement an enjoyable experience.



Festival fun

CHERE SIMMONS PHOTOS

South Bay Church held their first annual Family Fall Festival Saturday night with a crowd of over 1,200. Families came from as far as Brandon and Ruskin to the Riverview-based church to partake in free candy, games, and an outdoor movie featuring Madagascar 3. Along with the free sweets there were homemade French fries, corn dogs, hamburgers and more for sale. The festival was a part of the church's community outreach effort. For more information about the church and its programs or services, visit SouthBay.cc or stop by at 13498 U.S. 301 S., Riverview.

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Southshore Regional Library

Adult program/event highlights

Adult Writing Workshop - Monday, Nov. 5, 1 p.m.

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

No Fuss Foods: Side Dishes - Monday, Nov. 5, 6 p.m.*

Side Dishes: Cooking delicious and nutritious meals does not need to take a lot of time or cost a lot of money. Join Rowena Sjøvall of "No Fuss Foods" as she demonstrates a budget-friendly recipe. Seating limit: 20.

Mouse and Keyboard - Tuesday, Nov. 6, 12:15 p.m.

In part one, learn how to grip, move and click the buttons on the mouse. In part two, you will learn the keys on the computer keyboard. This is a beginner level class. Limit: 20

Teen/Adult Zentangle Notecards - Tuesday, Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.*

Join Art Instructor, Patsy Monk, for this popular drawing class. You will be creating notecards for the Thanksgiving holiday. Limit 22. Registration required at either the Information Desk or by calling (813) 273-3652.

eBooks for Kindle and Kindle Apps - Wednesday, Nov. 7, 10:15 a.m. Learn how to check out and download free library eBooks to read on the Kindle or any device using the free Kindle app and Overdrive! Also discover how to use library eBooks with an Amazon.com account. Limit: 20 Presented by the Tampa Bay Library Consortium

Paper Crafting for Adults - Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1 p.m.*

Enjoy an afternoon of paper crafting using the latest Stampin' Up! products. Create beautiful cards using stamps, ribbons, embellishments and more, design scrapbook page layouts using fast and fun techniques, and make unique 3D creations. No photographs required. All materials will be provided. Seating limit: 15. **Mah Jongg Club - Wednesday, Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m.***

Enjoy an evening of the popular table game Mah Jongg, featuring challenging play for experienced players and instruction for beginners. The American Rules will be used. Spectators are welcome! Participants are asked to bring their own Mah Jongg card. Limited to 16 players.

SouthShore Needle People - Wednesday, Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m.

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

* Register in advance at the Information Desk or call (813) 273-3652.

Community Foundation of Tampa names new board members

The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay has announced the appointment of Betty Castor, Linda Hartley, Mary Anne Reilly, and Jennifer Williams as its newest board members.

"Each of these individuals is an active vital member of this community," said Board Chair Greg Rosica. "They bring proven skills and a commitment to the wellbeing of both the Community Foundation and our region as a whole. We look forward to our work together in furthering the mission of the Community Foundation."



Betty Castor is a resident of Tampa and has devoted much of her life to public service. She served most notably as the president of the University of South Florida, Commissioner of Education for the state of Florida and president and CEO of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She served recently as Director of the Patel Center for Global Solutions at USF. Castor is currently a member of the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the Tampa Bay Committee on Foreign Relations and is a member of the North Star Bank Board Bank of Directors, Tampa.



Linda Hartley

Linda Hartley is a Shareholder of Hill Ward Henderson and Co-Chair of the firm's Taxation Group, and leads the firm's Trusts & Estates area. Her practice is primarily devoted to estate planning, probate, trust administration and post mortem tax planning. Hartley also supports the firm's Probate, Trusts & Estates Litigation Group. She is active in both professional activities and the community. She is a member of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the Hillsborough County Bar Association and a past director of the Tampa Bay Estate Planning Council. She is also the immediate past Chairman of the Board of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross.



Mary Anne Reilly

Mary Anne Reilly is a founding shareholder in the firm of Reilly, Fisher & Solomon, P.A. Prior to founding Reilly, Fisher & Solomon, Reilly was a partner in the Tampa office of Arthur Andersen LLP. She is an honors graduate of the Uni-

versity of Notre Dame. She joined Arthur Andersen in 1978 after two years with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. in Chicago. She became a manager in 1981 and a partner in 1987. In 1994 she assumed the leadership of Andersen's Central Florida Tax Practice. She was also responsible for Andersen's Florida Federal Business Tax Practice. She has lectured extensively on a number of topics dealing with different aspects of taxation. She has been actively involved in the community and is currently the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Shorecrest Preparatory School in St. Petersburg, Florida.



Jennifer Williams

Jennifer Williams is an 18-year veteran with SunTrust Bank, providing investment management and advisory services to high-net worth-families, foundations, businesses and not-for-profits. Williams is consistently recognized as one of America's Best Financial Planners by the Consumer's Research Council of America. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Florida, Cum Laude. She lives on Davis Islands with her husband and three sons.

The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay was established in 1990 to build a better community through creative philanthropy, vision, and leadership. It is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization which administers funds established by individuals, corporations, private foundations and nonprofit organizations to support the charitable needs of the Tampa Bay area.

The work of the Foundation is enhanced through its divisions in Greater Sun City Center, Pasco County, Greater St. Petersburg, and Hernando County. The Foundation currently administers more than \$140 million in assets, placing it in the top 100 of more than 700 community foundations nationwide.

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WAVES meeting is Nov. 10

The next meeting of WAVES (Women of the Military Sea Service.) Unit #55 is 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10, at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, 10701 Bloomingdale Ave. in Riverview.

The meeting will be in St. Anne's Hall, located at the rear of the church building. Membership in the Unit and in the parent organization, WAVES National, is open to all women who served honorably (including those currently serving) in the U. S. Navy, Navy Nurse Corps, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Maritime Service, or related reserve components.

For further information, call Jeannette Green, (813) 657-9164.

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Nominations open for Hillsborough County Women's Hall of Fame

The Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Class of the Hillsborough County Women's Hall of Fame. Up to three outstanding women will be selected. Inductees may also be honored posthumously.

The Women's Hall of Fame was created in 2011 to honor and celebrate the achievements of local women who have made significant contributions in areas such as business, education, philanthropy, military and public service for the betterment of life for residents of Hillsborough County. Thirteen women have now been inducted.

Nomination forms are available

online at www.hillsboroughcounty.org/WHOF or by calling Brandon Wagner, Commission on the Status of Women, (813) 276-2640.

Nominations are due on or before 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16. The induction ceremony will be held March 28, 2013, at the Tampa Convention Center.

The Commission on the Status of Women is comprised of 13 members and was created by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners April 16, 2003, to advise the Board, County administration, the community, and all agencies and persons in Hillsborough County with respect to matters pertaining to the status of women.

Brandon Regional Hospital invites the public to join the fun at H2U

Brandon Regional Hospital invites seniors to join H2U (Health To You), which allows seniors to meet new friends and participate in meetings, senior exercise, crafts, games, Bingo, lunches and dinners at neighborhood restaurants. Participants enjoy attending theaters and various trips to many locations. H2U is located on the campus of Brandon Regional Hospital, 119 Oakfield Drive, Suite 258, Brandon. For more information call (813) 684-3316.

Benefits of H2U include, but are not limited to:

- Direct links to HCA facilities and physicians
- Education resources
- Subscription to Health To You quarterly magazine
- Subscription to *Health eNews*
- Special rates and discounts with national retailers, travel providers, health services, and products and pharmacy discounts

H2U members enjoy a free meal per day in the hospital cafeteria for a spouse or caregiver of a member who is hospitalized at any HCA hospital (maximum seven meals per hospital stay).

Special events take place monthly that focus on members' health, education and having fun. Activities for the month of October include, but are not limited to:

- Mall walking
- Senior exercise
- Crafts
- Game day
- Meet & Eat
- Social Nite

For more information, call Patricia Montgomery at (813) 571-5105 or go to www.BrandonRegionalHospital.com.

Barnes & Noble Bookfair supports Brandon Ballet

Sunday, Nov. 11 marks the Barnes & Noble Bookfair in support of the Brandon Ballet.

From 1 to 3 p.m. there will be such magical events as *The Nutcracker* story time, tea with the Sugar Plum Fairy, autographs and photos with costumed dancers, even a live performance of excerpts from *The Nutcracker*.

The fundraiser element of the day comes when attendees buy books, DVDs, calendars or other merchandise at the Barnes & Noble store. When they use the Bookfair ID 10900884, a percentage of their purchase amount will go toward supporting the Brandon Ballet. In fact, even purchases made online at bn.com/bookfairs Nov. 11 - 17 will support the ballet, when the special ID number is used.

48th Annual Veterans Day Tribute set for Veterans Memorial Park in Tampa

On Sunday, Nov. 11, the Veterans Council of Hillsborough County, Inc. will conduct the 48th Annual Veterans Day Tribute to honor all veterans from all wars. This ceremony will take place at Veterans Memorial Park and Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins Jr. Veterans Museum located at 3602 U. S. Hwy. 301 N. in Tampa, a half mile south of the Florida Fairgrounds.

The ceremony will begin promptly at 11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month, which is in remembrance of the date and time that the Armistice to end the First World War was signed.

The ceremony will begin with the presentation of colors by a joint color guard made up of members from MacDill AFB Honor Guard and JROTC Cadets.

The National Anthem will be sung by Petty Officer Yarrick Conner, USN from the Joint Communications Support Element, MacDill AFB.

There will be over 100 JROTC Cadets from area high schools in attendance to perform drill demonstrations and a Pass in Review.

The POW/MIA empty chair ceremony to remember those who have not yet made it home will be performed. A Wreath Tribute will be presented by the Gold Star Wives, Gold Star Mothers and Gold Star Families of America. The playing of TAPS and a rifle salute will be rendered by the Riverview Detachment of the Marine Corps League.

Master of Ceremonies will be Walt Raysick, President of the Veterans Council of Hillsborough County, Inc., and the keynote speaker will be Colonel Scott De-Thomas, USAF, Commander, 6th Air Mobility Wing, MacDill AFB.

Several dignitaries will be in attendance. The coveted Edwin Porterfield Award and the Keeping the American Patriotic Spirit Alive Awards will be presented.

This ceremony is open to the public and tented seating will be available. Following the Veterans Day program, refreshments will be served by VFW Post 8108 from Riverview.

Attention all Veterans

The Disabled American Veterans SCC Chapter 110 who assist Veterans and surviving spouses with VA claims have relocated. They now utilize the meeting room of the security office located at 1005 N. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center. They provide support to Veterans and surviving spouses in need of assistance with:

- Applying for initial VA Benefits
- Requesting reevaluations of current benefit status
- Applying for surviving spousal benefits

Appointments will be available each Monday from 2 - 6 p.m. There are no fees for service and all Veterans are welcome.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call Darrell Katz at 813-260-3692.

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**Actual Fee May Vary Depending Upon Degree of Complexity in a Given Case*

Hurricane Sandy

■ Continued from page 1

beneficiary of such support from power services around the nation in the aftermath of storms.

The storm made landfall in the area of Atlantic City, New Jersey, on Monday evening. The effects, however, were felt from North Carolina to Maine, with storm surge flooding the coast, including New York City. Last week, the passing storm created windy conditions in Florida and resulted in rip tide warnings along the east coast of the Sunshine State.

As the storm raged in Newark, New Jersey, Mayor Cory Booker, who has gained fame for once saving a city resident from a house fire and for his endless engagement with residents via Twitter, maintained his personal vigilance with social media. At one point, he offered to take a family to a shelter after a person tweeted that they were without power and had no candles or anything else for their children.

In New York City, a construction crane on a 90-story building partially collapsed in strong winds, leaving a large portion dangling over West 57th Street in Midtown. Police had cordoned off the street and surrounding area. Floodwaters were reported in various subway stations across the city. The New York Stock Exchange was closed for two days due to weather for the first time in more than a century.

Far away from the Tampa Bay Area, one casualty of the storm had a local connection. The HMS Bounty, en route from Connecticut to St. Petersburg, sunk in high winds and seas off the coast of North Carolina. The U.S. Coast Guard heroically rescued 14 crewmembers from life rafts, another crewmember was found unresponsive and later died, and

the 63-year-old captain, Robin Walbridge of St. Petersburg, was still missing. The 180-foot ship had appeared in several movies, including 1962's *Mutiny on the Bounty* starring Marlon Brando. Over the years, it had become an iconic part of the St. Petersburg waterfront. Although a stop in St. Petersburg was on the itinerary, the ship was scheduled to winter in Galveston, Texas.

As the storm made landfall in southern New Jersey, Maryland was beginning to flood and trees were downed in Massachusetts. By Tuesday morning, it was estimated by CNN that the storm caused the deaths of 26 people and more than seven million people were thought to be without power. The total impact of the storm, however, may not be known for days.

Referred to as the "Frankenstorm" or the "Storm of a Lifetime," it was unusual in several respects, not the least of which was a powerful hurricane traveling so far north so late in the season. In addition to sheer size, the storm also set a record for the lowest barometric pressure ever recorded north of Cape Hattaras, NC, at 942 millibars.

Adding to the woes of residents in the northeast, the storm merged with a powerful cold front and was penned in by a high-pressure system in the Atlantic, the result being days of damaging and potentially life-threatening conditions for millions of people.

On Monday evening, Florida Governor Rick Scott issued a statement offering assistance to states impacted by Hurricane Sandy, offering equipment and personnel expertise based on Florida's long history of recovering from such storms.

Community association directors hold annual dues to small increase in 2013

■ By MELODY JAMESON
mj@observernews.net

SUN CITY CENTER – A combination of increased expenses and reduced membership have bumped up by \$6 the proposed annual dues that retirees here pay for access to their elaborate amenities.

If approved when SCC Community Association members cast ballots during their annual election early in December, the yearly dues in 2013 will be

\$269 per person. In other area communities featuring far fewer recreational facilities, similar membership fees are paid by residents each month or on a quarterly basis throughout the year.

However, with the increase, the SCC Community Association's \$2,960,400 budget will be balanced in 2013, Neil Rothfeld, CA board treasurer, noted this week. The association nine-member board, along with a

professional community manager, oversees the community's common areas including three major campuses hosting a wide variety of athletic and activity-oriented, intellectual and entertainment facilities.

A 2013 fiscal snapshot projects total income of \$2,877,000 and total expenditures of \$2,960,400, producing a shortfall offset by carryover savings from the 2012 budget.

Rothfeld, a former corporate financial officer who has been handling the board's budgetary business for several years, pointed out that the income and expenditures plan for the coming year must and does accommodate increases in the wages, taxes and benefits category, rising insurance premiums, costs related to maintenance and supplies as well as to maintenance contracts, plus administrative expenses.

All are basic necessities, imperative for operation, upkeep and protection of the swimming pools and ball fields, meeting rooms and club headquarters plus a multi-purpose community hall, that characterize the 50-year-old community.

Conversely, balancing the increased expenses are savings realized in several areas of the 2012 budget, including utilities, professional services and entertainment-related outgo.

The second aspect leading to the necessary dues increase is a reduced dues-paying membership, Rothfeld said. With greater frequency, SCC homes are being purchased and occupied by single individuals rather than a couple, with the result that a single dues assessment from the household accrues to the association rather than dues for two persons. In 2012, the CA individual membership dropped by 200 persons, compared with 2011, he added.

The new dues figure of \$269 per individual member – or \$.50 per person per month – if approved, would be divided up to support four different budgetary categories, the treasurer said. The largest portion, by far, – \$231 – is applied to general operational funding while \$30 goes to the replacement reserve, \$5 is designated for the furniture and equipment reserve and \$3 is set aside for the hurricane deductible reserve.

Another portion of the CA budget for 2013 shows that the Capital Fund, in which \$1500 is deposited from sale of each SCC home to a first-time buyer in the community, will stand at slightly over \$1.5 million on January 1, 2013. By the end of that year, the fund is projected to reach or top \$2 million.

Community association members will vote the proposed dues increase up or down on December 4 and 5 when they also chose among four candidates to fill three seats on the CA board of directors.

The complete budget can be viewed on the association's website at www.suncitycenter.org under the Sun City Center category on the left side of the screen, under Community Association on the next screen and then by accessing the CA budget meeting 2013 on the following page.

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Sharon Roush, CEO of South Bay Hospital and sponsor of the Chamber's October meeting introduces keynote speaker Dr. Sasha Noe.



Riverview Chamber continues growth MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

The Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce continues to grow, adding eleven new members during the October monthly membership meeting alone. The well-attended meeting, held at the Regent on Tuesday, Oct. 23, was sponsored by South Bay Hospital. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Sasha Noe of Apollo Beach Family Medical Center. As highlighted in last week's Current, during the meeting Elijah Heath was named the winner of the Honorary Mayor of Riverview contest. The next monthly membership luncheon will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 27.

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How to be prepared to make unexpected decisions

If you can envision being thrust into the role of critical decision maker about health or financial affairs—either for yourself or others—this free, open-to-the-public symposium from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13 at Sun City Center Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd. is for you. The event is designed to help us prepare for a time in our lives, especially as seniors, to deal with the responsibility of making difficult decisions. A lineup of professionals will speak at specific times during the day. You can choose to attend all or only those of particular interest to you.



From left: Nell Taze, United Methodist Church of Sun City Center; Dana Ditmar, Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce; and Debbie Caneen, Sun Towers Retirement Community meeting, to plan the upcoming Caregivers Symposium.

Registration begins 8:30 a.m.

- 9:30 a.m.: "Help I'm running out of health care money - two public benefits that can help you afford Care." Amanda M. Wolf Board Certified Elder Law Attorney
- 10 a.m.: "Trusts explained - Opening the Black Box." Attorney Justin Klatsky
- 10:30 a.m.: The "No Will - Will." Attorney James Eggert
- 11 a.m.: "Annuities: Right or Wrong?" Gary W. Cotter, Certified Financial Planner
- 11:30 a.m.: "Protecting a loved one's Personal Property and Assets." Dale Smrekar, ASEL, C.A.G.A. President Downsizing Advisory Service. Certified Personal Property Appraiser and Professional Estate Liquidator.
- Noon - 1 p.m. Lunch provided
- 1 p.m.: "Behavioral Symptoms of Dementia and End-of-Life Care," Ladislav Volicer, MD, PhD School of Aging Studies, University of South Florida

- 2 p.m.: "Caregiving; Self Fulfillment or Self Destruction?" Edmond Dubreuil MSW, ACSW, RCSWI

- 2:30 p.m.: "Developing a Caregiver Plan." Genevieve Faulk, MSW, LCSW, CMC, C-ASWCM President & Lead Geriatric Care Manager at Aging Care Advocates, Inc.

- 3 p.m.: "Biggest Mistakes When Hiring an In-home Caregiver." Gregg Mazza M.B.A., Certified Senior Advisor, PCMA Instructor- from Brightstar Lifecare

- 3:30 p.m.: "Structuring & Maintaining Follow-up to Members When They Can No Longer Physically Attend." Doug Moore, United Methodist Church, Congregational Care Co-Coach.

This Caregivers Symposium is sponsored by SCCChamber of Commerce, Sun Towers Retirement Community and The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center. A portion of the net pro-

ceeds will help support the Coalition for Mental Health and Aging.

Expand your knowledge: Attend sessions relating to topics of interest. Visit displays of service providers and pick up literature relating to both speakers and vendors.

Vendor booths can be reserved for \$50 for the entire day by calling the Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce at (813) 634-5111.

No reservations are required to attend the speaking events; however, RSVP for a free luncheon by calling Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce at (813) 634-5111.

The Nov. 13 symposium is a "must attend" for those who wish to expand their knowledge in order to be informed decision-makers for either themselves or another person. Whether being put in that position is expected or unexpected, decisions will be easier when armed with the information presented by the speakers and vendors at this event.

Hillsborough County Parks receives National Excellence in Youth Sports Award

The National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) has announced that Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department's Youth Athletic Services is a 2012 *Excellence in Youth Sports Award* winner.

The prestigious award, presented in part with *Athletic Business* magazine, recognizes youth sports programs that are doing superior jobs in conducting diverse activities and education that focus on providing safe and positive experiences for the children, parents and coaches. Hillsborough County will be presented with its award during the NAYS Youth Sports Congress held Nov. 28 - Dec. 1 in New Orleans.

Hillsborough County was chosen from more than 100 youth sports programs that submitted applications from recreation departments, independent sports leagues and military bases around the world. In addition to their dedication to providing safe sporting experiences to the youths in our community, Hillsborough County Athletic Services programs focus on providing quality training to their volunteer coaches, which helped them stand out among the other submissions.

"Life-long skills are often learned at a young age. We applaud Hillsborough County for their commitment to providing children with positive, rewarding opportunities through youth sports," said John Eng of NAYS.

For more information on Hillsborough County's Youth Athletic Services, call Aileen Henderson, Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department, at (813) 744-5595, ext.223.

Hillsborough County's Athletic Services provides recreational sports for Hillsborough County youth and adults and provides the mandatory coach training to more

than 5,500 volunteers in Hillsborough County.

Hillsborough County's Athletic Services manages the Ed Radice Sports Complex, Larry Sanders Progress Village Sports Complex, and William Owens Pass Sport Complex. County-run adult sports programs provide athletic opportunities to more than 6,000 adults in sports as slow pitch softball and flag football.

There are 59 youth sports organizations that assist the County's Athletic Services in conducting various recreational sports to more than 32,000 children. Sports offered include baseball, football, soccer and softball.

Founded in 1981, NAYS is America's leading advocate for positive, safe sports and activities for children. The non-profit 501(c)3 organization is headquartered in West Palm Beach, and more than 3,000 community-based youth sports programs across the country use NAYS programs and services. For more information, visit www.nays.org.

Marine Corps

Marine Corps Pfc. Armando J. Ayra, son of Diana M. Ayra of Riverview, Florida., earned the title of U.S. Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC.

For 13 weeks, Ayra stayed committed during some of the world's most demanding entry-level military training in order to be transformed from civilian to Marine instilled with pride, discipline and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Training subjects included close-order drill, marksmanship with an M-16A4 rifle, physical fitness, martial arts, swimming, military history, customs and courtesies.

One week prior to graduation, Ayra endured The Crucible, a 54-hour final test of recruits' minds and bodies. Upon completion, recruits are presented the Marine Corps emblem and called Marines for the first time.

Ayra is a 2012 graduate of Riverview High School.

Marine Corps

Marine Corps Pfc. Gabriel Carmona, a 2012 graduate of Riverview High School, earned the title of U.S. Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC.

For 13 weeks, Carmona stayed committed during some of the world's most demanding entry-level military training in order to be transformed from civilian to Marine instilled with pride, discipline and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Training subjects included close-order drill, marksmanship with an M-16A4 rifle, physical fitness, martial arts, swimming, military history, customs and courtesies.

One week prior to graduation, Carmona endured The Crucible, a 54-hour final test of recruits' minds and bodies. Upon completion, recruits are presented the Marine Corps emblem and called Marines for the first time.

Air Force

Air Force Airman Ismael B. Santiago graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Santiago is the son of Rosita Santiago of Lake Tahoe Drive in Riverview.

He is a 2011 graduate of Riverview High School.

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Upcoming Events

Monday Night.....Bingo. Free hot dogs.

Tuesday Night.....Bar Cards. \$1 drafts all day.

Friday Night.....Feather Your Nest

Saturday, Nov. 3 10 a.m. Craft Show / Yard Sale
.....Baked goods sale
.....5 p.m. Dinner.
.....6:30 p.m. Music by Bro n Bro

Sunday.....6 p.m. Feather Your Nest. Free
.....hotdogs during football

For more information, call (813) 645-2922.

South Hillsborough Elks Lodge

#2672 Upcoming Activities

Every Tuesday -Jam Session -3 p.m. - 5ish, No Charge for all Elks and their guests.

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

Every Friday - Seafood, Sandwiches, and a Chef's Special for all Elks and their guests from 5 to 7 p.m. Karaoke by Bryan from 5 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 31st - Let's all show up in our best costumes!

Monday, Nov. 12th - Blue Plate Special for all Elks and their guests, \$7 a person, Menu: Cornish Hen with all the trimmings and dessert, only 50 tickets will be sold.

Monday, Nov. 26th - Blue Plate Special for all Elks and their guests, \$7 a person, Menu: Meatloaf with all the trimmings and dessert, only 50 tickets will be sold.

Join S. Hillsborough Elks Lodge Eastern Caribbean Fund Raiser Cruise - Jan. 13 to 20, 2013, contact Howard Elkin at Discover Travel for details and reservations.

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

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Need a new mattress? A guide for a good night's sleep



Advice from Hillsborough County's Consumer Protection Bureau

Consumers often spend hundreds or even thousands of dollars purchasing a mattress to achieve the coveted good night's sleep, and associated health benefits. Buying a mattress is an increasing topic of consumer complaints, with consumers unsatisfied with the quality of the products, high-pressure sales tactics, and defective mattresses. Consumers should make sure they understand warranty terms, conditions and return policies in order to make an informed purchase decision.

What You Should Know Before Purchasing A Mattress

- Mattresses all have different names and labels at different stores, making it difficult to comparison shop.
- Manufacturers or retailers change the names of models almost yearly.
- Mattress manufacturers make approximately 6 to 12 different models, with substantially different quality and prices for each.
- Sales people may use high-pressure sales tactics.
- Many retailers will allow you to keep the mattress for 30 days before you return it.
- Most retailers and manufacturers will require the original 'law tag' affixed to the mattress.
- Many manufacturer warranties have a pro-rata factor in determining the refund or credit on a returned mattress.
 - o Consumers may end up paying for all shipping costs to and from the repair location in addition to their pro rata costs, depending on the age of the mattress.
 - o The costs can be different depending on the model.
- Make sure you know if you are purchasing a new mattress or a refurbished mattress.
- Bedbugs can live in both new and refurbished mattresses. Bedbug infestation is now in all 50 states.
- By federal law, reconditioned mattresses must display yellow tags with the words 'used materials' printed on them.

What You Should Do

- Wait for a sale or negotiate the price and ask for 'extras' to be thrown in, like a bed frame or sheets.
- Lie down on the mattress in the store for at least 15 minutes to test it for comfort and support.
- Read the fine print because the terms can differ dramatically.
- Inspect the mattress carefully upon delivery.
- Keep your original receipt, since manufacturer warranties are usually designed to cover defects and not normal wear or comfort. If you need to file a claim, you must also be the original owner.
- Measure the amount of sag if the mattress is sagging or has a depression. This measurement can be the determining factor whether it's considered defective or not.
- Protect your mattress by purchasing a mattress pad/protector/cover, since any staining will usually negate the warranty.

For more information on buying a mattress, go to www.consumerreports.org and click on Home & Garden.

Nation's first train-to-pipeline distribution system nears completion

Construction is nearing completion on the Tampa Gateway Rail terminal, a collaborative project undertaken by CSX Corporation (NYSE: CSX), the Tampa Port Authority (TPA) and Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P. (NYSE: KMP). This innovative intermodal project, announced last year as a public-private partnership, will not only bring fuel-grade ethanol into the Tampa market more efficiently and safely via the nation's first ethanol unit train-to-refined products pipeline distribution system, but also provide Florida its first on-dock unit train intermodal container capability.

For its part, the TPA built new rail track and support infrastructure to handle 96-car unit train deliveries, as well as a multi-product unit train offloading yard at Hooker's Point, in the Port of Tampa. Kinder Morgan invested in new pipelines to transport the ethanol from the rail offloading facilities to its Tampa terminal where it can be distributed to other Tampa terminals for blending or transported to Orlando for gasoline blending at Kinder Morgan's Orlando terminal.

Designed to also handle intermodal containers and other general cargo traffic, the new Tampa Gateway Rail facility is adjacent to the Port's container terminal. It provides direct access to the CSX

rail network, enhancing the Port's container rail service offering. The Port of Tampa Container Terminal, operated by Ports America, currently encompasses 40 acres, with phased expansion planned to over 160 acres on adjacent land owned by the Tampa Port Authority and ready to be developed as the business grows. The terminal is currently served by three rail mounted gantry cranes and a 100 ton mobile harbor crane with 2800 linear feet of berth and 43 water depth alongside the berth and in the channel.

The Gateway Rail project will reduce the ethanol delivery carbon footprint through a more efficient use of rail capacity and pipeline movements, while also easing truck traffic. Further, the project promotes use of biofuels, known for having less impact to air quality.

Kinder Morgan will expand its ethanol receipt and distribution system within its terminal at the Port of Tampa and modify its 2-mile, 8-inch Inter-Terminal Transfer (ITT) pipeline to move denatured ethanol from its terminal to all Hooker's Point terminals for blending and distribution to the market. The joint effort is expected to be operational in late fall 2012. The TPA and CSX are investing more than \$10.9 million to construct and open the rail facilities to handle these cargo operations.

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TOM WALLACE PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM TRAPHAGEN

My Dad devoted his life to teaching, pictured here lecturing in a community college class. Although he passed away 34 years ago, he's still teaching me.

Observations: The road to serendipity

Newspapers around the nation are struggling, but I think it has as much to do with how the newspapers are run than it does the medium itself. I think that print will be around for a long time — and, yes, the future is bright as technology will someday provide the means for true electronic sheets of paper (it will happen, probably sooner than later). Your local newspaper will be delivered with the press of a button to a piece of paper you can hold in your hand. And it will be updated whenever necessary, just turn the page over and a new page will appear. That is not science fiction; it is science.

Looking over the page of a newspaper can be a serendipitous experience that has not yet been fully achieved on the web. A computer screen full of headline links just isn't the same as seeing a printed page, with the very real possibility of stumbling upon an article or three you didn't know you would be interested in. The bottom line is that until reusable electronic paper is available, it's

hard to beat holding an old-fashioned newspaper.



By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net

That said, the web does have its own form of serendipity. Last night Michelle and I were watching an independently produced television show. The budget was low, the acting was a little hit or miss, but the show was the result

of someone's dream and hard work and, all things considered, it was pretty good. At one point, Michelle thought she recognized the person who played Nellie on the 1970's television show Little House on the Prairie. We had no idea what Nellie's real name was so we just typed, "Nellie Little House on the Prairie" into Google and all we ever could ever want to know about Alison Arngrim appeared in links before our eyes.

Here's where the serendipity part comes in.

Among the links for Ms. Arngrim was one to her Twitter feed, which included a tweet to Melissa Gilbert, who played Laura on Little House on the Prairie. That led me to Ms. Gilbert's Twitter feed, which was an interesting documentary of her life in 140 character scenes. Her most recent tweets included a good bit of anger, thanks to an article in a supermarket tabloid bastion of soulless sensationalism, and also included a few words that cute little Laura certainly never uttered on the prairie.

Today Ms. Gilbert is a strikingly beautiful woman of 48 who lives her life the same as all of us. She has a home, a cat, a dog and a son. She experiences joy and heartbreak. She sometimes has trouble sleeping at night. I've never seen Dancing With The Stars but I've heard she is on it. I'm assuming the world still considers her a celebrity, with all the perks and pitfalls involved with such a status. But in most ways, she has the same problems I have. She is just trying to get by in life.

My Dad would have been 78-years-old last week. He passed away at the age of 43 when I was 15. Let me tell you, 15 is a really bad age to lose your father. I wasn't done yet, I still had a lot to learn from him. The

truth be told, however, I am still learning from him. I look back at the things he did that I couldn't possibly appreciate at the time and I try to emulate them now. "Try" being the key word because, in all honesty, I'm rarely successful. Right now, I can't find the serendipity in his passing birthday, but most days I can find it in the example he set for me.

My Dad had dreams that he will never fulfill. His job was important, a lot of people depended upon him, but at the age of 43, his priorities were changing. As the youngest child, I benefitted from that. I didn't appreciate back then that he had precious little time for himself, but I've grown to immeasurably appreciate the extra time he gave me in his last years. I am also increasingly appreciating the meaning of the leave of absence paperwork in his files, dated the month he passed away but will forever be unsigned. Somehow, I think there is a tragic form of serendipity there.

In Horace Walpole's Three Princes of Serendip, the princes were continuously making discoveries of things they were not in search of. The princes' father was a good man who worked to make sure they were not only educated, but were also endowed with the virtues they would most need in their lives.

I think my Dad did just that, too, and is still providing it to my sisters, my brother, and me. Serendipity is in where you look for it — feeling empathy for a beautiful but sometimes sad 48-year-old celebrity or discovering an article on a newspaper page that just happened to catch your eye. I find there is serendipity in every single day that I think about what my Dad would do, what he might suggest I do. And sometimes I can even find it in the things he didn't do. The biggest virtues of all that he tried to endow us with were happiness and the confidence to follow our hearts. That's a good thing to remember — for me, and possibly for you and Ms. Gilbert, too. It seems the best discoveries are those we didn't know we were searching for, but always our hearts knew the way. The problem is whether we will always choose to follow.

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Fundraising can be fun and rewarding

The World of Suzie Vong will hold its annual fundraiser for local Teachers of the Year and the scholarship fund sponsored by the American Business Woman's Association on Friday, Nov. 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each year as part of their anniversary celebration Suzie and her staff select a community recipient to be honored. Once again they have chosen the Teacher of the Year from local elementary schools: Cypress Creek, Wimauma, Ruskin, Apollo Beach, Sessums and Reddick. With 2 daughters who attended local elementary, middle and high schools Suzie feels these teachers should be rewarded for their commitment to their students. "Good teachers deserve recognition for their efforts. They often spend numerous hours and personal funds satisfying the needs of their students, our children," she emphasized.

Part of the celebration will include well known artist Virginia Laudano who will set up an art exhibit. Barbara Migliaro will showcase high fashion costume jewelry, Peter Zebo from Candle Delights will provide gift ideas, Maran Silks will have their silk plants on display and Lynn Wise will bring plenty of Miche bags for the ladies.

Entertainment by the Music Avenue will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., 12 Lotto tickets will be drawn each hour plus a 50/50 raffle will go to a lucky winner. Don't miss this event! Bring your friends and show your support for the local teachers of the year and the American Business Woman's Association's scholarship fund.

The World of Suzie Vong is a full service salon located at 3820 Cypress Village Shopping Center, SR 674 across from Home Depot. A complete line of hair services is available including cuts, coloring, highlighting, frosting, foil, perms and styling plus eyelash and eyebrow tinting, waxing and a wide array of nail services, both manicure and pedicure. Gift certificates may be purchased. Seven hair stylists and a nail technician are on hand to serve you.

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WEDNESDAY
21st
NOVEMBER

MONDAY
26th
NOVEMBER

Program Agenda

- 10:00_{AM} – 11:00_{AM} Understanding Medicare and changes for 2013
- 11:00_{AM} – 11:30_{AM} Complimentary lunch provided by Suncoast Catering
- 11:30_{AM} – 12:30_{PM} How to use the Medicare.gov Plan Finder Tool

Participants are encouraged to bring laptops or ipads. This event is only for educational purposes and no plan-specific benefits or details will be shared.



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Harriet Garbelman continues to sparkle at 75

There will be a Diamond Celebration at Harriet's Flowers on Nov. 7. No, it's not the 75th anniversary of the flower shop, although it has been serving Ruskin and the surrounding areas for almost that long. The honor goes to Harriet Garbelman, founder of Harriet's Flowers, who turns 75 on Nov. 7.

Harriet has been creatively sharing her talents with the Ruskin-South Shore area since she and her mother, Violet Hovey, completed floral design school when Harriet was only 14 years old. She has lent her talent and creativity to countless weddings, birthdays and holiday

celebrations. During those years, Harriet has accomplished some remarkable things. Beyond creating award winning floral arrangements, she became personally invested in the lives and emotions of her customers. Over the years she has celebrated, laughed, and sometimes cried with her customers over the events that have impacted their lives. So single minded has Harriet been over her commitment to her customers, that the day after her flower shop and home burned to the ground in 1977, she put her personal life on hold so she could fulfill her commitment to a young bride whose wedding celebration took place

the following day.

The beauty of her creations has also eased the suffering of many families during times of great loss. She has woven an intricate pattern of color and style into our community. She has a long list of achievements and awards, more blue ribbons than you can count and has served as President of the Florida West Coast Florist Association. Harriet has shared her talent over the years doing many demonstrations for community organizations, most recently helping to prepare FFA (Future Farmers of American) students from Lennard High School for the

National Floriculture Competition where they went on to win 3rd place.

Harriet, like her mother did with her, has shared her love of the floral business with her daughter, Gail, who now carries on the family tradition as the third generation owner of Harriet's Flowers. Harriet continues to make beautiful floral designs and has even branched out creating her own line of jewelry. She also spends much of her time outdoors in her orchid garden and with the plants and flowers surrounding her home she continues to share with Harriet's Flowers.

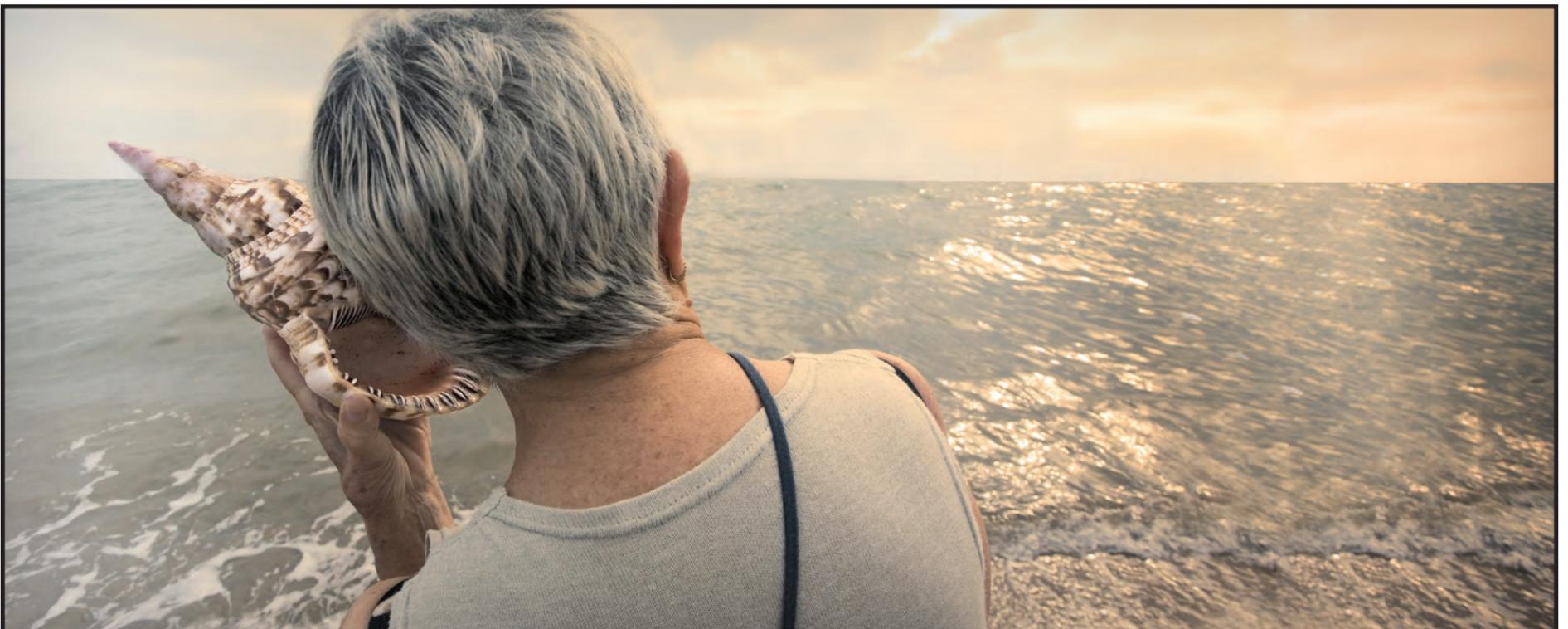
In honor of Harriet's colorful career, you

are invited to stop by the shop Nov. 7, 8 or 9 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to reminisce, share your stories, look through photo albums and scrapbooks (your wedding photos might even be in them), enjoy some refreshments and wish Harriet a happy 75th birthday. If you can't make it by the shop, her daughter Gail, would love for you to send a story of your favorite memory about Harriet that brought you some of Harriet's creative love. Send your birthday wish via e-mail to harrietsflowers@tampabay.rr.com or find them on Facebook.

The flower shop is located at 226 W. College Ave., Ruskin.



PHOTOS BY MITCH TRAPHAGEN



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JENNIFER SIMMONS PHOTOS via iPhone 4

Stately sighting

Last Saturday while on the family's fish farm in Ruskin, Jennifer Simmons glanced out toward an open area and caught a glimpse of a huge bald eagle coming in for a landing. The eagle spotted a softshell turtle next to a pond and made quick work of the free meal. Jennifer whipped out her iPhone and took these photos from a good distance away. While there are a number of osprey sighted on local farms, eagles are little more rare. According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Florida has one of the densest concentrations of nesting eagles in the lower 48 states, with over 1,000 nesting pairs. The FWC and others have monitored the population of nesting bald eagles in Florida for over 30 years. To learn more about bald eagles in Florida, visit www.myfwc.com.

Differences between Eagles and Ospreys

Here are some differences between the Bald Eagle and the Osprey:

■ Bald eagles are larger, have a dark chest and underside, white tails, yellow legs and hold their wings flat when they fly. Juvenile eagles are all brown and get their adult plumage (white head and tail) around year 4 or 5. Their nests are larger with finer woody materials, they are often reused for many years, and are often placed in the largest tree in the area or an artificial structure like a cell tower.

■ Ospreys are smaller, have a white chest and underside, grey legs and feet and their wings are not held flat when they fly. Their nests are smaller, often lined with bark, sod, grasses, vines and sometimes plastic bags. Often they are located on nesting platforms or on top of sign posts (i.e. no wake signs in lakes)

(From the Florida Wildlife Conservation website myfwc.com)

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Fish Tales: Catfish is a favorite catch, meal

A late season hurricane called Sandy has curtailed boating this week. Due to the choppy water and winds, boats were advised to stay ashore.

There were those who boated with caution and fished all week.

Reports last week were of a waterway full of baby tarpon. With this week's report came tales of bullsharks chasing the tarpon. Some reported that each time they hooked a tarpon, the sharks were there in pursuit of their catch. A lot of action this week on our waterways, even with warnings of choppy waters.

Saltwater catfish have provided an entertaining week for many anglers. One said that he was just

as happy with his catfish catches. He had a lot of action and felt that the day's fishing was great.

Catfish are known around the world. There are thousands of different species.

In the United States we claim only seven freshwater catfish. It seems that every region has their own names. Our seven are called: channel cat (which seems to be the most common), white, blue, black, bullhead both brown and yellow, and the flathead.

The catfish feeds by sight and smell and eats most anything dead or alive. Anglers can use dead shrimp, worms, frogs,

grasshoppers, chicken or beef liver for bait.

The color of the catfish, depends upon the bottom of the water where they live. They could be steel grey or milky white, some have scattered spots, others blue with yellow bellies or the spotted one could be dark brown.

Fishing for freshwater catfish is simple. It is often the first fish that children catch with a bamboo pole.

A catfish is often found dead on piers and bridges. Anglers do not throw them back into the water as catch and release. Many kill them as soon as they catch them.

Freshwater catfish graces many dinner tables poached in white wine, or cooked with chopped white onion, Worcestershire

sauce, salt and pepper. Cover with thin sliced lemons, and a dash of cooking wine of your choice, cover with a lid and let steam. Watch it, as fish isn't good overcooked.

I enjoyed fried catfish and cajun rice in New Orleans. In Mississippi we enjoyed cheese, garlic, hot spices, tomato sauce stewed catfish. In Georgia, they called it "Redneck Catfish," dipped in a heavy flour egg batter and cornmeal served with hush puppies. Alabama's Dixieland catfish was heavy in paprika; cavity full of lemons, and baked in French dressing. Catfish, I have enjoyed in Florida has been deep fat fried, served with cheese grits and hush puppies.

I asked some boaters how they cooked their catfish catches and they all said: "We cook it in beer."

All catfish are not trash fish. Yellow and black bullhead are good tablefare.

Black drum are still in the swim in the rivers. Some throw this fish back, as they think it is a trash fish. It is edible, small size only, as the larger ones often are full of worms.

Sheepshead seem to be in all waterways this week. This fish has a lean white meat which makes a great tablefare. Catches have been reported from the canals, piers, bridges and rivers.

Larger than usual flounder catches came in from out in the deeper waters along with some cobia catches.

Fresh waters were active this week with pan fish, largemouth bass and catfish.

Watch the weather, fish together, and in your boat keep a raincoat.

Aleta Jonie Maschek is a member of Florida's Outdoor Sports Writers Association.



By Jonie Maschek

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Area Obituary



Jane Boehler Nowlin

Jane Nowlin, of Savannah, Georgia, formerly of Sun City Center, Florida, and Seymour, Indiana, died peacefully in Greenville, SC October 20, 2012.

Jane was born in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, on December 6, 1918. She was the fifth of six girls for Joseph and Augusta Boehler. Upon graduation from Lawrenceburg High School, Jane studied nursing at Bethesda Hospital in Cincinnati. She worked at Bethesda as a nurse and would continue her nursing profession and career several years later after relocating to Seymour, IN.

In 1941 she married Orin "Red" Nowlin, a school supplies salesman who served in World War II from February, 1943 to February, 1945. Red and Jane moved to Versailles, IN, after the war and worked together at the DuPont Munitions plant in Charleston, IN, she as a nurse and Red as a supervisor. They relocated with their four sons, to Seymour, IN in 1954, where Jane worked for Dr. Joseph Black for many years. After Dr. Black retired, she worked as an office nurse for Dr. Harry Baxter until her own retirement. Jane then moved to Sun City Center, where she served as parish nurse for her church. She then moved in 2006 to Savannah, GA.

Jane was a practicing Christian who loved the church and spiritual life. She served the First United Methodist Church in Seymour in several capacities over many years: Sunday school teacher, Sunday school superintendent, greeter, fund-raiser, and care-giver to the elderly. She was an active member of Psi Iota Xi, a service sorority, for years. She also loved to swim, take walks, and enjoy the outdoors. Jane was an involved mother who supported her sons' interest in all areas and activities. She instilled in her sons the axiom that "the good you do will come back to you." She will live in the minds of family members as a deeply faithful, loving and caring person.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Seymour, as well as the United Community Church in Sun City Center, and she attended Isle of Hope United Methodist Church in Savannah, GA.

She is survived by her son, Joseph C. Nowlin and daughter-in-law, Susan K. Nowlin of Bloomington, IN; her son, Thomas O. Nowlin and daughter-in-law, Linda C. Nowlin of Greenville, SC; her son, Timothy C. Nowlin and daughter-in-law, Suzette Nowlin, of Cincinnati, OH; three grandsons and their wives, Marty and Christy Nowlin of Carmel, IN, Tom and Bonny Nowlin of Whitestown, IN, Nate and Maria Nowlin of East Rutherford, NJ, and one granddaughter, Alexandra Nowlin of Charlotte, NC; and six great-grandchildren, Cara, Norah, and Joseph Thomas Nowlin of Carmel, IN, and Annica, Aiden, and Adelaide Nowlin of Whitestown, IN.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, five sisters, her son Eric G. Nowlin and her husband, Orin Nowlin. She touched many people with her love and faith.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that gifts be sent to the Seymour First United Methodist Church 201 East 3rd St., Seymour, IN 47274, with a designation for the Memorial Garden or the Sunday School Program. Condolences may be made to the family at www.woodlawn-fh.com.

But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.
- 2 Peter 3:13 (NIV)

Soprano Patrice Rasmussen to perform at United Methodist tomorrow evening

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center will be hosting a recital by soprano Patrice Rasmussen and her husband Keith Rasmussen at the organ tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m. The recital will include several operatic arias as well as organ works by J.S. Bach, Albinoni, Manz, Allain and Widor.

Patrice recently completed the requirements for the Masters of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of South Florida, where she studied with Dr. Brad Diamond.

Keith Rasmussen has been the Coordinator of Music and Organist at Prince of Peace Catholic Church since September, 2011. For additional information about this and other events and activities at the United Church of Sun City Center, contact Jeff Jordan, Director of Music and the Arts, at (813) 634-2539. To learn more about the United Methodist Church of Sun City center, visit its website at www.sccumc.com.



Keith and Patrice Rasmussen



Musical church dinner proves popular
Church Organist Robert Winslow (left) at the keyboard and Bill Barker, popular local baritone, thrilled a large gathering of members and guests at a recent church potluck dinner at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. This very talented duo presented music ranging from songs made famous by Frankie Laine to Jimmy Buffett. Dinners with entertainment are held monthly at the church, located at 1239 Del Webb Blvd. West in Sun City Center.

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9912 Indiana St. • Hwy 41 & Estelle Avenue Malcolm S. Clements, Pastor
Gibsonton, FL 33534 813-677-1301

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
702 Valley Forge Blvd., SCC, FL 33573
Phone: 634-2328 • Fax: 633-6670
www.popcc.org
Masses:
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon
Saturday Vigil 4:00 & 6:00 p.m.
Daily..... 8:00 a.m.
Confessions:
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. and Sat. 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School (all ages)..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday (all ages) 6:30 p.m.
"Loving God, Loving Others, Serving Beyond Borders"
Dr. Samuel (Sam) A. Roach, Pastor
1301 U.S. Hwy. 41 N., Ruskin, FL • 645-1121 • www.nbc.org

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1611 First St. SW • Ruskin, FL • 645-7607
—NON-INSTRUMENTAL—
SERVICES: Sunday.....9:30 & 10:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center
1210 Del Webb Blvd West • 634-2539
<http://www.sccumc.com>
Come Grow Belong
Worship Services:
SUNDAY
8:15 a.m.....Sanctuary (Communion Service)
9:15 a.m.....Creason Hall (Oasis Contemporary)
10:55 a.m.....Sanctuary (Traditional with Choir & Bells)
11:00 a.m.....Hispanic Worship
4:00 p.m.Hispanic Worship
Senior Pastor: **Dr. Warren Langer**
Assistant Pastor: **Rev. Robert Chaple**

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of SCC
Meets in the Henry Gibson Social Hall of the Beth Israel Synagogue • 1115. E. Del Webb Blvd.
Thursday, 7:00 PM • Call 633-0396 • www.uuofsc.org
Our failure to choose may become the choice we have to live with. — Robert Stein

Changing Services? Having a special event?
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Area Places of Worship

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813-362-0806
 sue@alterways.com



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 Chamber of Commerce
 1651 Sun City Center Plaza

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 Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Night Service 7:00 p.m.
 Awana 7:00 p.m.



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"Getting to Know You" (Donuts & Coffee)9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:55 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening Service7:00 p.m.
 Thursday Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m.

Come join us to learn about God's Word and salvation in Jesus Christ

First Church of Christ, Scientist
204 2nd St. N.W. • Ruskin, FL 33570 • (813) 645-6102
Christian Science Heals

Sunday Service..... 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Service.....5:00 p.m.
 Reading Room..... Wednesday 4 to 4:45 p.m.

All Are Welcome

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Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service 11:00 a.m.
 Prayers with anointing for healing and wholeness during worship the second Sunday of every month.
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mark E. Salmon
 Meet friends in Fellowship Hall between Services.
 Refreshments served.

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 Sun City Center, FL 33573 For information visit:
 Church is Handicap accessible www.standrewatssc.org

Saint Anne Catholic Church
 SouthShore: Apollo Beach, Ruskin, Sun City and S. Gibsonton



U.S. Hwy. 41
 106 11th Ave. NE
 Ruskin
 813-645-1714
 SaintAnneRuskin.org

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

MASSES

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.



Calvary Lutheran turns 45 with goal of feeding 450

On Monday, Nov. 19, Calvary Lutheran Church in Apollo Beach turns 45 years old and will celebrate the occasion with the goal of feeding 450 local families this Thanksgiving season.

Founded in the SouthShore community in 1967 with 61 charter members, Calvary now has more than 1100 members on the books. The church has expanded its mission-focused heritage by continually giving back to the community that supports it. Today, Calvary asks that same community to help it achieve its mission goal this Thanksgiving.

Calvary's annual Thanks for Giving campaign is a food donation program that has provided Thanksgiving meals to thousands of area families over time. This year's drive ends Sunday, Nov. 11 and has a goal of attaining 450 Thanks for Giving bags from congregants and community donations.

While this goal is lofty, the demand for food is even higher in the SouthShore area, where it is believed that 1 in 6 families need assistance sourcing meals. Empty food bags ready to be filled will be distributed at worship services in November. Monetary donations are also appreciated as they are used to purchase fresh produce and meats. All food will be distributed through Calvary's Community Cupboard food pantry, located on the 25-acre mission center at 1424 E. College Ave. in Ruskin. Questions regarding Thanks for Giving donations can be directed to the church office at (813) 645-1305.

In addition to collecting the food bags, Calvary's 45th anniversary will also feature a special visit from Florida-Bahamas Synod Bishop Edward Benoway of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America during the Nov. 18 services. Calvary members and guests can enjoy a Harvest Festival brunch between services and the church will also conclude its annual Gifts and Giving campaign, where congregants determine personal financial goals to help fund the church and expansion plans.

Alzheimer's research is subject of Nov. 7 meeting

The Samaritan Services Alzheimer's monthly meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sun City Center. Speaking on Alzheimer's research and development will be Jill Ardila, from USF.

For more information, call Doris at (813) 634-3489 or the office at (813) 634-9283.

Sermon to explore elections

"Election: Biblical, Political, Critical" is the title of the sermon to be delivered by Dr. Robert Tucker to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of SCC at its meeting on Thursday, Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. The service is non-political and non-partisan. All are welcome.

United Methodist offers Friday night at the movies

Hidden Places will be the featured movie playing in the United Methodist Church's Creason Hall, Friday, Nov. 9 at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Hidden Places is about widow Eliza Wyatt, played by Sydney Penny, her two children and an elderly aunt, played by Shirley Jones. The family is trying, against all odds, to bring in the harvest before they lose everything to the bank as foreclosure looms in every corner of their lives.

Coffee, popcorn, cookies and other beverages will be available just inside the doors of Creason Hall. A small donation will be greatly appreciated to help pay for the homemade snacks and beverages.

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	Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3
Nov 7	Nov 8	Nov 9	Nov 10*

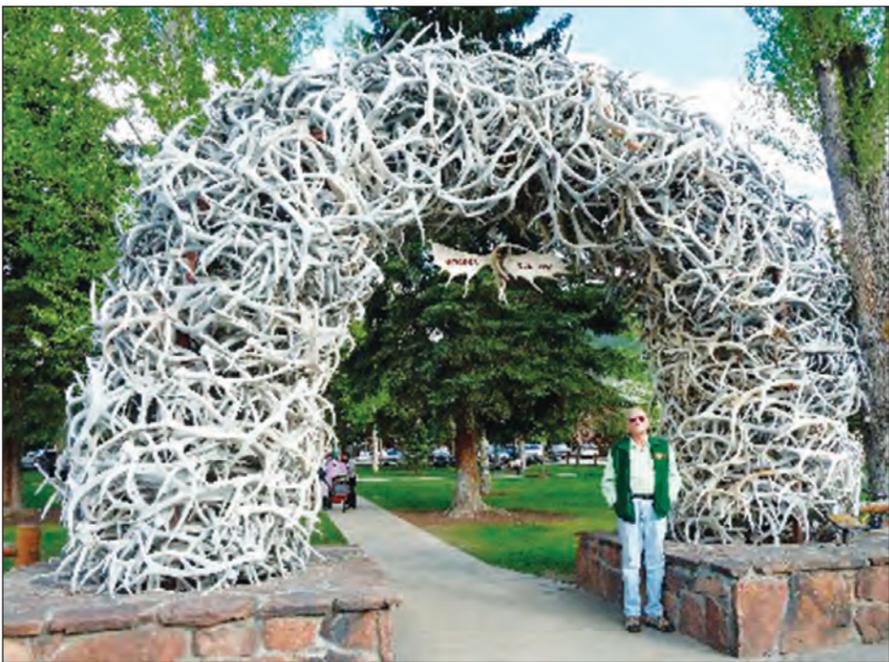
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See the U.S.A.

Next Stop: Jackson Hole, Wyoming



A visit to Jackson Hole isn't complete without a stage Coach ride from Town Square park. The author and his wife, Jeanne, couldn't resist. Below, one of four elk antler archways to Jackson Hole's Town Square Park. Elk shed their antlers every year making it a renewable resource.



■ By WARREN RESEN – North American Travel Journalists Association
Photos by JEANNE O'CONNOR

Continuing on our two month trip around the USA, we left the high desert country of New Mexico, heading towards the lush mountains of Wyoming. There isn't much green to be seen until you reach southern Colorado and Utah when the terrain begins to look like the brochure pictures of that part of the United States.

An overnight stay in a Provo, UT, motel sandwiched between snow-capped mountains and the Great Salt Lake, and then we were off to The Wort Hotel (pronounced WERT) in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Shakespeare asks in Romeo and Juliet, "What's in a name?" In the case of Jackson/Jackson Hole, Wyoming, it means confusion to

a visitor arriving there for the first time. The Wort Hotel's brochure says that it is in Jackson Hole but their mailing address is listed as Jackson, so a little research was in order.

The town of Jackson, at 6,237 feet of elevation, is located in the Jackson Hole Valley of Teton County, Wyoming, but the name Jackson Hole is used by businesses and people living in the town of Jackson for

marketing purposes. Okay, now that this has been cleared up, let's get on with the next stop in our USA road trip.

Wyoming is 4-season outdoor country: hiking, rafting, rock climbing, horseback riding, skiing and so many other things that a complete list would use up too much space here. Look up the web page for the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce for a detailed listing of activities.

Pulling up to the front of The Wort Hotel in the center of town, it was obvious that this was the THE place to be in Jackson. Opened in 1941, the hotel has only 59 guest rooms and is a gem of warmth and intimacy. Many of the staff and especially those at the front desk call you by name from the moment you register. The Wort Hotel is a proud member of Historic Hotels of America, an organization whose participants have agreed "to preserve the authenticity of America's most prominent lodging addresses' and offer visitors a remarkable travel experience..."

The center piece of the wood-paneled lobby, distinctive today because of its lack of chrome, is the graceful sweeping carpeted grand staircase to the second floor. Tucked away behind the stairway on the first floor is a massive stone fireplace and intimate seating area.

The grand staircase leads to the second floor landing where another stone fireplace and another charming parlor-like sitting area in front of the fireplace awaits guests. Over both fireplaces are the ubiquitous mounted heads, a moose downstairs and an elk upstairs.

The overall feeling The Wort Hotel imparts to arriving guests is that of having been transported back in time to an elegant hotel of the Old West in the early 1900s. You can almost hear a honky-tonk piano being played in the bar and expect to see ranchers, cowboys and miners enjoying a drink at day's end.

The second floor houses most of The Wort Hotel's luxurious

See JACKSON HOLE, page 7B



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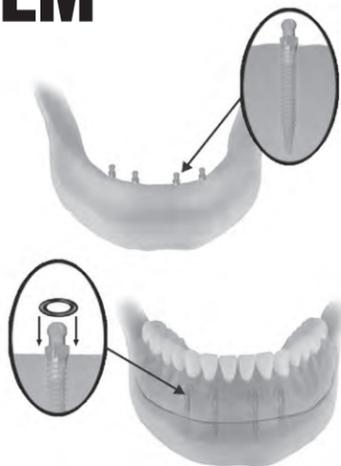
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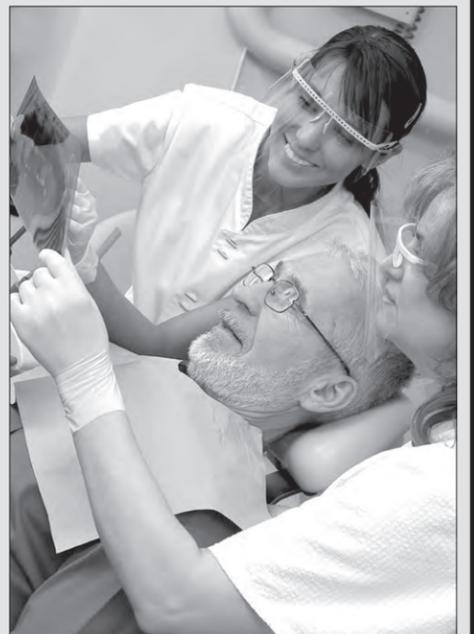


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Michelle Halcomb, DDS

See the U.S.A. Jackson Hole, Wyoming

■ Continued from page 6B

guest rooms and suites. Compared to accommodations offered by today's national chain hotels/motels, The Wort Hotel's accommodations are oversized. Each room and suite is decorated with original Western style art. Furnishings are also unique to this hotel. They are custom made, not the generic store-bought pieces of the chains.

Entry to the rooms is by key, a real metal key, not electronic card. There is never a need to return to the front desk because your electronic key doesn't work.

The Jackson Hole area is a mecca for lovers of Western and nature based art and The Wort Hotel is a major go-to location for viewing it. More than one million dollars worth of original oils and bronze statuary are on display throughout. There is so much to see in the hotel that an illustrated guide is available to guests and visitors.

Free self-parking, an unusual feature for a mid-town location is available to all guests at The Wort Hotel. But once there, a car is not generally needed. The hotel is only one short block from Jackson Hole's Town Square Park with its four massive elk antler arches which are probably the most photographed place in town. No animals were harmed for this impressive display though since elk shed their antlers every year.

Approximately 50 restaurants and 30 galleries are within four blocks of the Town Square making shopping and dining by foot a breeze. For a real touristy experience you might want to take a ride from Town Square Park in an authentic horse drawn stage coach.

Before leaving The Wort Hotel

to sample the pleasures of Jackson, take stock of what the hotel has to offer guests and visitors. The famous Silver Dollar Bar & Grill gets its name from 2,032 uncirculated 1921 Morgan Silver Dollars inlaid into the top of the bar. No, you can't get them out. In 1980 the hotel suffered a major fire and the bar top was stored in a bank vault until rebuilding was completed a year later.

The Wort Hotel's bar offers a reasonably priced food menu but for a little more elegant Western fare, yet still informal dining, leave the bar and visit the Silver Dollar Grill for special Western fare. If the weather cooperates, there is also an outdoor café.

Jackson nightlife is alive and well any night of the week, year 'round, for summer tourists, winter skiers and every seasonal visitor in between. The Wort Hotel's Silver Dollar Bar, featuring unique murals and bronzes, offers some of the best live entertainment in Jackson Hole and it's free.

Bluegrass Tuesdays is particularly popular and enjoyed by locals, visitors, cowboys, and anyone who likes to have fun. Bring your partner for listening and dancing to the foot stomping music.

There are many subtle things that separate a good and great hotel. For The Wort Hotel, it's the staff that makes this a great hotel. The proof is that 25 percent of its guests are repeat visitors.

For generations, The Wort Hotel has been the standard of excellence in Jackson Hole. As the locals say, "Meet me at The Wort." Hope to see you there on my next visit.

If you are heading north from Jackson Hole on the way to Yellowstone National Park, a highly recommended stop only 2.5 miles north of town is the National Museum of Wildlife of Art, a world class exhibition of oils and bronzes. The museum sits across the road from the National Elk Refuge hinting at some of the most beautiful wilderness area in the United States just up the road.

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SCC 16 homes around South Lake. Watch for signs & balloons. Tools, household misc. Rain or shine. 11/2 & 11/3, 8am-1pm.

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Fri., Nov. 2, 8 am - 3 pm

Sat. Nov. 3, 8 am - 1 pm

- Golf Cart • Organs • Tools
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Ruskin United Methodist Church

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Nov 1, 2 & 3, Household, garage, furniture, clothing. 714 Ojai Ave., SCC. 2nd Rd past Clubhouse. Multi family 8am-3pm.

Huge Garage Sale

Friday & Saturday, Nov. 2 & 3, 9am-? Contents of house. Generator, ladder, tools, fishing, linens, household items, sewing machine, sofa & love seat, table w/ 6 chairs. 739 Torrey Pine Ave., SCC

Used peoples stuff. Never ending yard sale. Open most everyday except when closed. 705 10th St., SW, Ruskin. RV space for rent.

Antique clocks/ parts, Mexican coins, tools, Mexican pottery, decorative items, crafts, much more. 1713 Atrium Dr., SCC. Friday & Saturday, Nov. 2 & 3, 8am-1pm. Cash only.

Riverview. Huge yard sale. Something for everyone. Priced to go. Make offers. Saturday, Nov. 3, 8am-? 10245 Allenwood Dr. Cristina

\$150 each. Bridal gowns, Quince, Prom, all new, other misc items. 11/3 Saturday, 9am-noon. 10205 Ashley Oaks Dr., Riverview

Down sizing & moving. Furniture, antiques, household items, toys, tools, designer clothes. 8am-1pm. Friday & Saturday, 1238 W. Del Webb, SCC.

Community-Wide!

Saturday, Nov. 3 • 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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310 GARAGE/YARD SALE

746 Flamingo Dr. Apollo Beach. Some items for sale. New living room furniture, loads of kids clothes, toys, electronics, washer, dryer, Pokemon cards & other collectibles. Friday 9am-?, Saturday 8am-?

Laureate Zeta Kappa/ Beta Sigma Phi annual garage sale. 8am-2pm. Friday Nov. 2 & 8am-noon Saturday Nov. 3. SCC 1601 Flamingo Dr., Tools, clothes, holiday decorations, kitchen items, more. Proceeds donated to area charities. Phone 813-634-9774

Garage Sale Cash For Gold

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Annual Neighborhood garage sale. Sago Palm Way (west side) Apollo Beach. Saturday, Nov. 3, 8am-2pm. Household, furniture, clothes, linens, more.

Garage sale. Nov. 2 & 3, 8am-2pm. 6415 Lake Sunrise Dr., Apollo Beach. Misc. household, fishing, automotive ramp & jacks, boat anchor & house generator.

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Wed., Fri. & Saturday
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312 ESTATE SALES

Estate Sale

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www.AnnesEstateSales.blogspot.com

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RENTALS

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630 M.H. RENTALS

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1.92 ACRES CLEARED LOT ACROSS FROM RIVER, with new well, septic, electric, and few trees left for shade, it is ready for your dream home! Secluded and peaceful, it offers great views of nature and birds. Park and boat ramp down the road, survey available. \$84,500. Call **CLAIRE TORT 363-7250**

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COMMERCIAL ACREAGE IN RUSKIN! 3.7 acres (MOL) with CG Zoning. The initial work has been done for office buildings. This property has a great location, on corner of 10th St SW and Woodland Estates. \$324,900 Call **KAY PYE 361-3672** or **ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

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RUSKIN PROPERTY with water view boat ramp & dock for your use. Close to stores, interstate, churches. Cleared and ready to build! Duplex zoning! \$42,500. Call **KAY PYE 361-3672** or **ROXANNE WESTBROOK 748-2201**

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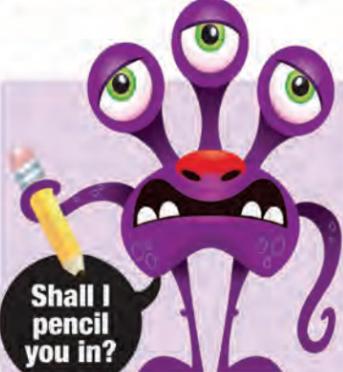
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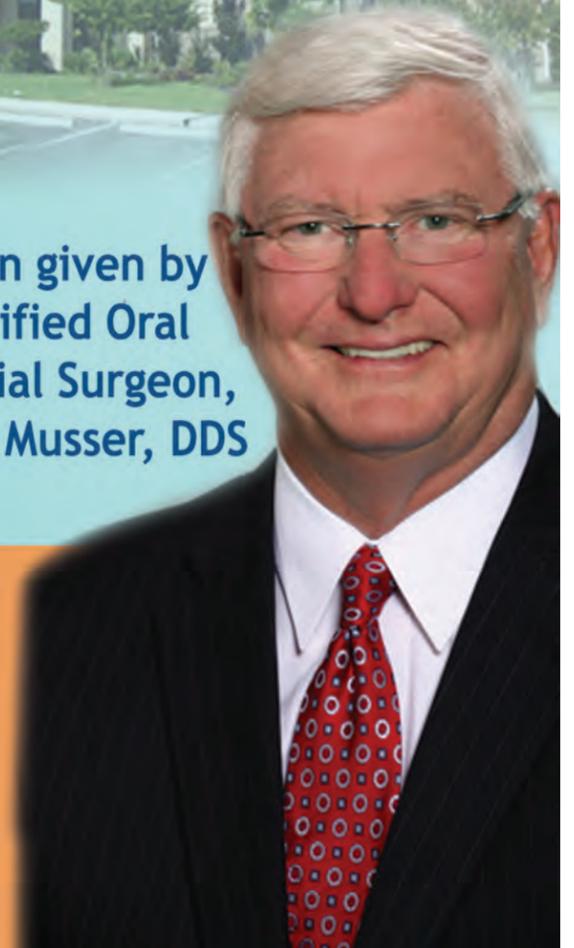
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