



**PAGE 13:** More than 80 cats need homes after being rescued from a home in Riverview.



**PAGE 2:** The 'Gone Too Soon' display at Hard Rock Hotel documents history of lost artists.



**PAGE 3:** Medical students hit jackpot of community support.

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# THE OBSERVER NEWS

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## Deal with Amazon could bring 1,000 jobs to Ruskin

*But deal would also mean Floridians would pay sales tax on purchases from the world's largest Internet retailer*

By MITCH TRAPHAGEN  
mitch@observernews.net

RUSKIN — Just over a month ago, Florida's welcome for the world's largest online retailer appeared to have been pulled out, but things have since changed. Last week, Governor Rick Scott announced a deal with Amazon.com to bring 3,000 jobs to Florida, including 1,000 jobs that could potentially come to Ruskin, beginning as early as next year.

In May, it was said that a deal with Amazon could result in an indirect tax increase for Floridians. According to state law, any entity that operates in the state must charge sales tax to state residents. Since Amazon, and many other online retailers opened their virtual doors in the mid and late 1990s, Floridians and residents of other states have effectively enjoyed a six to seven percent discount, as non-Florida entities were not required to collect the sales tax.

But technically, the argument over sales taxes is specious. Although out of state retailers are not required to collect tax, Floridians are supposed to "self-report" and pay the sales taxes nonetheless. It seems, however, that few people actually do that and there is no enforcement from the state to do so.

But now, a month later, the welcome mat is back out with a flourish and both Governor Scott and Amazon have announced a deal that could mean a \$300 million dollar investment in the state, along with thousands of jobs. And a one million square-foot distribution center could possibly be built near the Southshore Corporate Park in Ruskin, just off I-75 and State Road 674. According to both the *Tampa Bay Times* and the *Tampa Tribune*, up to 375 of the one thousand jobs expected to be

► Continued on page 9



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

The world's largest online retailer, Amazon.com, could be bringing a one million square-foot distribution center and 1,000 jobs to Ruskin, perhaps as early as next year. The possible site would be the South Shore Corporate Park, near I-75, State Road 674 and Hillsborough Community College.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

### Campers green up Apollo Beach

Young people at YMCA Camp Cristina in Riverview helped the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission cross a significant milestone last week in Apollo Beach. The young campers were involved in the planting of more than one million plugs of marsh grass for habitat restoration. Read more on page 11.



## After 236 pound loss, speaker says he doesn't intend to quit

By PENNY FLETCHER  
penny@observernews.net

At 25, Stephen Pagano is looking forward to doing a lot of things he's never done before.

In fact, he's already started. "I dropped out of high school at 16," Pagano said. "But I got my GED (general education diploma) this year and I've already started taking business courses at HCC (Hillsborough Community College)."

After leaving Brandon High School, Pagano held a job but said eventually it became hard for him to work.

Then it became almost impossible for him to walk at all.

At his top weight, he was almost 602 pounds.

"I never took my weight really seriously before," he said June 1 before giving an inspirational talk at Weight Watchers Riverview on Big Bend Road. "But when I couldn't get around, I knew I had to do something."

So he got very serious about losing. "I always had my Smartphone with me so I started online," he explained. He enrolled in the Weight Watchers program and 16 months later, he had lost 236.4 pounds.

"I had been using electric chairs," he said. "But

► Continued on page 7

### Fast Facts

Data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey

- 2 in 3 adults are considered to be overweight.
- 1 in 3 adults are considered to be obese.
- 1 in 20 adults are considered to have extreme obesity.
- About one-third of children and adolescents ages 6 to 19 are considered overweight or obese.

### Obesity is common, serious and costly

■ Related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, some of the leading causes of preventable death.



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

Stephen Pagano goes over some of the things he chooses to eat while losing 400 of his 600 (starting) pounds with Weight Watchers leaders Janet Wright, left, and Michelle Broedur.

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## Ask the Experts...about GLAUCOMA

**Q: What is Glaucoma?**

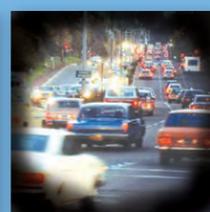
**A: Glaucoma is a sight-threatening eye disease** characterized by a buildup of fluid in the eye, which causes increased pressure. When this occurs, there is a risk of damage to the optic nerve, the part of the eye necessary for good vision. Glaucoma doesn't have symptoms until serious damage has already happened. Left undetected and untreated, the condition will cause vision loss. That's why it is often called "The Silent Thief of Sight".

**Q: How can I find out if I have Glaucoma?**

**A: A comprehensive, dilated eye exam** is the only way Glaucoma can be diagnosed. During the exam, your doctor will check your eye pressure with a painless device called a tonometer. Your optic nerve will be carefully examined, and your current field of vision will be measured. These tests will determine if you have glaucoma and what method of treatment is indicated. **Vision loss from Glaucoma is permanent, but can usually be prevented with early detection and treatment.**



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# Hard Rock Hotel offers a walk down a rock 'n roll memory lane



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

Hard Rock's resident historian Jeff Nolan in front of the display containing Buddy Holly guitarist Tommy Allsup's wallet and its contents. Allsup lost a coin flip and a seat on the small plane that crashed claiming the lives of Holly and others aboard. But his wallet was on the flight and was recovered from the wreckage.

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN  
mitch@observernews.net

TAMPA — From the elaborate costume hanging in a display, you can almost envision Elton John doing a handstand on the piano keyboard in front of tens of thousands of screaming fans. A dress from Amy Winehouse whispers silently of what could have, should have, been for the talented but troubled singer. A Les Paul guitar that somehow survived Pete Townsend of the Who hangs peacefully now; but the vibrations, the music it made, are still almost palpable. John Lennon's glasses...well, they are John Lennon's glasses. All you can do is stand there and try to envision what the legendary Beatle saw through them: how he saw the world, and how those things may

have affected him. Those glasses were the windows to his soul.

All of those items and much more are currently on display at the Hard Rock Cafe and Hotel in Tampa. The public has never seen before some of the dozens of pieces of memorabilia, from costumes and instruments to hand-written lyrics and notes. They are part of a traveling exhibit, a merger of two exhibit themes entitled, *Gone Too Soon* and *Music Gives Back*, containing memorabilia involving music, the music of icons and legends that has fed the souls of generations. The exhibit is hard rock and tenderness, innocence and innocence lost. A junior high yearbook shows a smiling, young Kurt Cobain, still immortal at a young age with an infinite life in front of him, and no idea of what was to come.

"Music Gives Back celebrates artists that are really philanthropic," said Jeff Nolan, Hard Rock's historian who is traveling with the exhibit. "*Gone Too Soon*, well it's self-explanatory and it happens a lot. People always think artists die from drug overdoses and so on, but not always. There are a fair share of vehicle accidents and things like that. It's a poignant display but not a ghoulish display. It highlights their artistry and their legacy."

The latter also includes two of Nolan's favorite pieces in the expansive exhibit that begins in the Hard Rock Cafe and extends throughout the public areas of the large hotel and casino.

"I get a kick out of Tommy Allsup's wallet," Nolan said. Tommy was Buddy Holly's guitar player. He very famously lost a coin toss to Richie Valens that cost him a seat on the plane that crashed. Tommy's wallet made the flight but he didn't. The wallet came from the wreckage and it is such a time capsule. It is an amazing piece of history, there is lots of stuff in his wallet so there is a lot of stuff to look at."

The flight that crashed claimed the lives of Valens, Holly and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson. It has come to be known as the Day the Music Died.

Standing in front of the exhibit, a young couple, born long after the Day the Music Died, approached Nolan to talk about the wallet and the contents. They were from northwest Iowa, a place where the crash is still very much a part of the community's fabric, and they told him they had no idea it existed. They were excited to see it, and the time capsule that it is dating back to February 3, 1959.

▶ Continued on page 14



A Gibson SG guitar owned by Jimi Hendrix. It is the guitar Hendrix used to perform on the Dick Cavett show.



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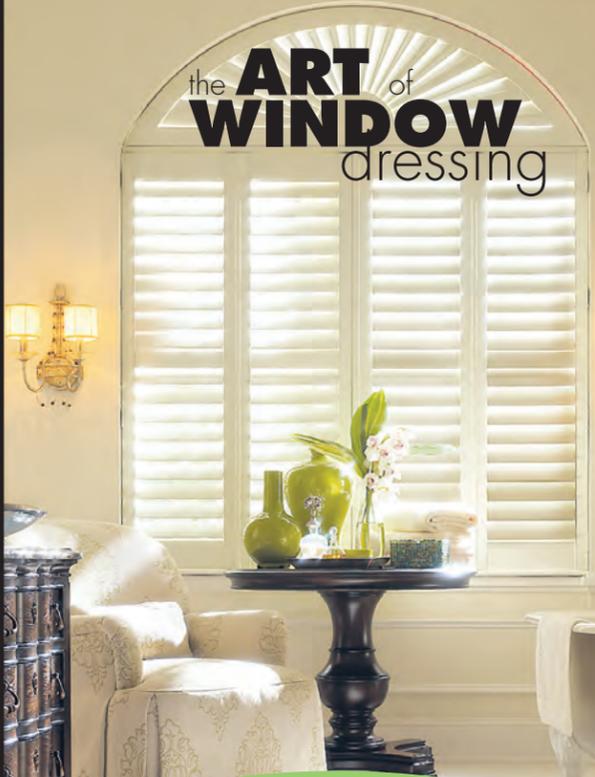









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A dress owned by the late Amy Winehouse whispers silently what could have, should have, been for the troubled but remarkably talented singer.



An elaborate costume from Elton John is among the many iconic costumes in the exhibit.

# Businesses helping students benefits whole community

■ BY PENNY FLETCHER  
penny@observernews.net

Natalia Diaz and Sherrell Bennett of South Bay Hospital gathered hospital scrubs, lab coats and patient gowns.

Mike Langjahr from Sun City Center Funeral Home donated around 1,000 pairs of non-latex surgical gloves.

It was all part of a project of the Educational Partnership Committee of the SouthShore Chamber of Commerce's effort to enlist businesses to help area students.

Earlier in the spring the committee hosted a "Meet and Greet" for teachers and school staff and had them submit "wish lists" of things businesses could help them with that would further student's education.

"We got so many requests we're going to spend quite a bit of time this summer prioritizing and categorizing them," said Committee Chairwoman Carrie Elwell, of Kids R Kids SouthShore in Gibsonton.

As a result of the project, a load of medical supplies was delivered May 31 to the EMT and Certified Nursing programs at the South County Career Center by Bennett, her intern Jenna Ksaibati, and Charlotte Clark of American Momentum Bank of Apollo Beach and Sun City Center.

"Charlotte took this project and ran with it," said Elwell. "She did the lion's share of the work."

Melissa Sawyer, assistant principal at the career center said the items would make a huge difference to students. Items still needed are all different sizes and strengths of medical tape, a scale like the kind used in medical

offices, stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, and empty oxygen tanks.

"When the bank did its drive, many of our customers brought in supplies and hospital gowns," said Clark.

Almost 50 pairs of scrubs and lab coats were donated by the hospital, and about 1,000 pairs of non-latex gloves by Langjahr.

"We donated two cases," he said. "That's about 1,000 pairs. They had to be non-latex in case someone had a latex allergy."

Langjahr said he was happy to participate.

"We believe in doing whatever we can to supply educators with whatever they need to help the students reach their goals so they can become productive members of society," he added.

Anyone who wants to donate medical supplies is still welcome to call Diaz at (813) 634-0496.

Now that the committee has raised community awareness about the need for medical supplies for these classes, it is busy working on its next two projects: the gathering of school supplies and backpacks for students who will need them to return to school in August and a Back to School Health Fair to be held before school starts back up.

"We hope to get doctors and others in the medical profession to help us pro bono," Clark said. "Businesses and individuals can help educators in many ways."

People who want to find out about the "educational business project," or just learn more about the committee may call the South Shore Chamber of Commerce at (813) 645-1366.



PENNY FLETCHER PHOTOS

Above, a committee that gets local businesses to help area schools gathered medical supplies and delivered them May 31 to students in the EMT and Certified Nursing programs at the South County Career Center. Most needed were the 40-to-50 sets of scrubs and lab coats because just like in the world of work, students are not permitted in class unless they're dressed for the job. At right, Charlotte Clark (left) and Sherrell Bennett are shown some of the projects done by students by future EMT Jeffery Kirby after they delivered donated medical supplies to his class.



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Angie's list

## Positive Talk: What kind of boxer are you?

What kind of a boxer are you? No, I am not talking about kick boxers or shadow boxers, but rather intellectual boxers. We are all intellectual boxers of some sort. That may lead you to believe I am talking about having a battle of wits, but that's not the case. I am referring to how you think. In that regard, there are several types of thinkers: In the Box, Out of the Box, Other Box and No Box. Each attempts to solve a problem in a different manner.



By William Hodges

The In the Box thinkers are committed to using traditional thinking on any problem they face. They rely heavily on past experience and conventional wisdom that fit society's need for order. For example, a friend of mine who is in this group was hanging some pictures on her wall and was stymied when she could not find her hammer. I pointed out that she had a perfectly good set of pliers sitting there and they would surely pound in the small nail. She responded to my suggestion with a look of horror and exclaimed, "Nobody pounds in nails with pliers." Her box did not allow for nontraditional thinking.

The Out of the Box thinker is just the opposite. Since I happen to be one of those, I know firsthand how we think. We tend to be very creative and sometimes carry creativity too far. I just love to put bits and pieces together to make something serve a purpose for which it was never intended. I love it so much that I sometimes

overlook the obvious tools around me. Even if my friend had a hammer, I would probably have still handed her the pliers. Our box requires that we be creative, even when it is not necessary.

The Other Boxers are people who have few thoughts of their own. They play a constant game of follow the leader. If you ask them for an idea, they will look to someone else's life experience for the answer or seek advice. These people are extremely cautious and rarely get into any trouble because they will seek counsel at every turn of the road. On the other hand, you cannot expect any creative thinking from them. The Other Boxers find themselves in trouble when they are left to their own devices.

The No Box thinkers are the ones that I admire the most. These are people who can combine the best of all worlds; they have a

good grasp on the traditional, can see possibilities, and are not embarrassed to look to the rest of the world for opinions. They will use the hammer when it is available and be bright enough to use the pliers when the hammer is not at hand. They may even ask around for other alternatives. These people are pragmatic and realize the method is only the way to get the job done—not the reason for the job.

If you want to be a No Box thinker, try to do the following when confronted with a problem. First, look to your past knowledge of this problem. How have you solved it in the past? Next, ask yourself if that solution was a good one with long-lasting results, and if you still have the ability to apply that solution to your current problem. If there is an obstacle to its application, try to think of other ways to solve the problem

that might make the solution more palatable or permanent. Now talk about your solutions with those around you. They may have other ideas from which you can draw to better solve your problem.

The next time you are in the ring with a problem that is plaguing you, stop for a moment and make a conscious choice as to what kind of "boxer" you want to be. Then go out and fight the good fight.

*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*

### Cool Summer fun for kids and adults at Manatee Ag Museum

This summer, bring your children down to the Manatee County Agricultural Museum, 1015 6th St. West, Palmetto, to explore our Junior Ag Spots. While visiting, kids can play "John Deere American Farmer" on the computer, put together a large farm floor puzzle, solve flower riddles, identify seeds, play a citrus matching game, watch a movie about citrus farming or discover "Ten Things Kids Want to Know About Farming." And when you're through having fun at the Ag Museum, you can discover all the Pint-Size Pioneer Spots in the buildings in the adjoining Palmetto Historical Park.

Looking for something "cool" to do yourself during the dog days of summer? Pop into the museum one Friday morning at 10:30 to watch "The History of Agriculture in Manatee County." There's always something new to see in the museum as well. For hours of operation and more information, call 941-721-2034.

### Dog Fun Show and Fundraiser is June 22

A Dog Fun Show is set to run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Saturday, June 22, at Mike's Smokehouse, 7117 Hwy. 301 N. in Tampa.

Expect a day of fun with your dog. There will be a dog costume contest, Doggie Treasure Hunt, Paw Paintings, raffle prizes and much more.

All proceeds will benefit Pibbles to the Rescue, a local dog rescue that provides medical help and rehabilitation for dogs in need.

For more information, email donna4pitbullnation@yahoo.com.

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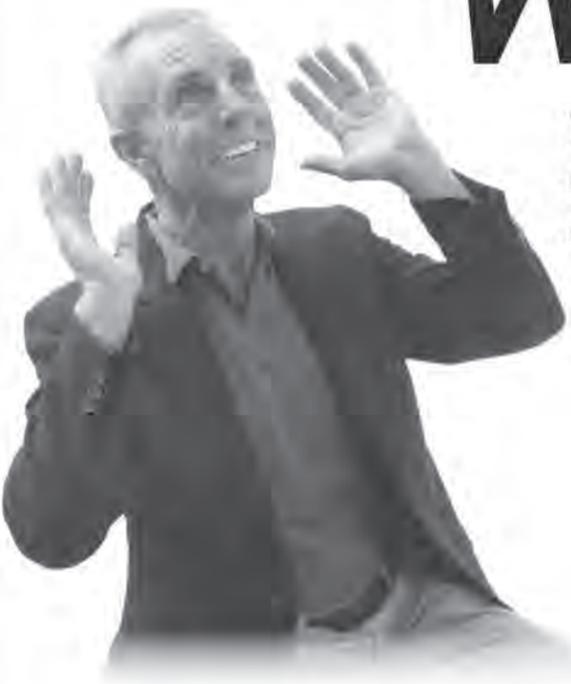
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**Congratulations to Gibsonton Elementary's Terrific Kids for May**

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**Rudy Rosa to play at next Moonglow Dance June 27**

Moonglow Ballroom Dance Club will feature the live music of Rudy Rosa for the first time at their monthly dance on Thursday, June 27 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd. in Sun City Center.

Rudy has recently played at Freedom Plaza, Sun Towers, and the Elks Club in Ruskin, and was a regular attraction at the Sun City Center Inn for three years in the 1980's. He has played a concert at Carnegie Hall and has toured the country professionally from California to New York.

Even those no longer physically able to dance, are welcome to come listen to the unique talent of Rudy Rosa.

The attire at Moonglow Dances is dressy casual. Members are free; guests pay \$5 per person at the door. Singles table(s) are always available. BYOB and snacks; the club will provide ice, water and paper products.

Moonglow schedules its dances on a monthly basis year round, always with live music for dancing or listening pleasure. Visitors are always welcome.

For more information, call 813-633-1297 or 813-642-8845. If you would like to receive Moonglow information by email, contact gail3357@gmail.com.

**Peaceful Harbor Spa adds massage therapist to staff**

A Peaceful Harbor Day Spa and Salon, located at 1312 Apollo Beach Blvd. in Apollo Beach has announced the addition of new staff member: licensed massage therapist Debi Sanguedolce.

A massage therapist for over 30 years, Debi has continued her education throughout her career. She offers a variety of deep tissue and relaxation massage techniques and practices reflexology.

She joins owner and esthetician Kathie McPhee and her existing staff: hairstylists and cosmetologists Patti Greene, Edwin Martinez, Mary Tanner and Christie Rasmussen; nail technician Tonya Beatty; and esthetician Kelli Greik Greene.

In addition to massage, A Peaceful Harbor offers complete skin care, permanent makeup, waxing, teeth whitening, spa pedicures and manicures, as well as a full range of haircuts and expert color. For a complete list of services, visit [www.apeacefulharbordayspaandsalon.com](http://www.apeacefulharbordayspaandsalon.com).

A Peaceful Harbor is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To make an appointment or purchase a gift certificate, call 813-645-3303.



Debi Sanguedolce

**New officers named for Rotary Club of SCC**

On June 11, the Rotary Club of Sun City Center inducted officers and board members for its 2013-2014 year.

President for the coming year is Peggy Gleason of Hillsborough Community College, South Shore Campus.

Her support officers are President-Elect Steve Overton, with Raymond James; Vice President Jim Everett, Ruskin; Secretary/Treasurer Marilyn Everett, Ruskin; Sergeant at Arms and Youth Services Chair George Cardillo, from Apollo Beach; Membership Chair Georgana Collins with Hanson Services; Vocational Chair Sally Nichols with Freedom Plaza; International Chair Rod Grant of Sun City Center; Club Service Chair Syd Ashbridge, of Sun City Center; and Community Service Chair Phil Aronson of Apollo Beach.

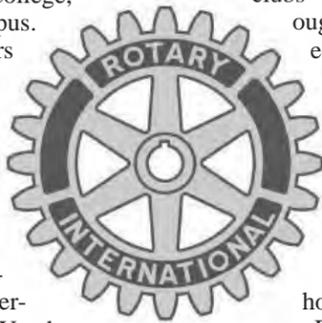
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countries and geographical regions, approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 33,000 Rotary clubs.

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The Rotary motto is, "Service Above Self." Rotary Clubs in District 6890 perform hundreds of local projects, with thousands of community service hours. Collectively, our District also supports projects including: Rotary's Camp Florida, enabling an accessible camp experience for special needs children; Seminar For Tomorrow's Leaders (S4TL), offering leadership development for high school seniors; Dictionary Distribution contributing dictionaries to area 5th grade students; Project C.U.R.E., collecting used and discarded medical equipment for distribution in developing nations; and Gift of Life, providing life-saving surgery at no charge to children in need from around the globe.

For more information about Rotary go to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) or for District 6890 in Florida, go to [www.rotary6890.org](http://www.rotary6890.org).



**SouthShore Regional Library**

**Kids program/event highlights**

15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin • 813-273-3652

**Libraryopoly - Thursday, June 20 at 4 p.m.**

For teens entering grades 6-12 ~ Roll the dice in an attempt to become the wealthiest player traveling down Drama Drive on this life-sized game board. Buy books and library services without landing in Library jail or having to pay any late fines. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

**Teen Advisory Board Meeting - Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m.**

For teens in grades 6-12 ~ Join the Teen Advisory Board to get involved with the library's teen programs or earn community service hours for graduation, scholarships and more. Funding provided by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

**Dig Into eReading! - Saturday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m.**

For children entering grades K-5 ~ Grime! Mud! Muck! Bring your iPad or Kindle Fire and investigate the world of dirt through eBooks. No tablet, no worries! There will be 12 iPads available for families and participants to share in this entertaining program that explores summer eReading with myON books, games, and activities. Limited to 20 children and their caregivers.

**Pee Wee Artists: Let's Create! - Monday, June 24 at 10:30 a.m.**

Pee Wee Artists, 3-6 years, with caregiver, will join Art Instructor, Tim Gibbons, and create an art project to take home. Limit 15. Registration required at either the Information Desk or by calling 813-273-3652. Funding for this program provided by a grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Sun City Center.

**Creative Artists: Let's Create! - Monday, June 24 at 11:30 a.m.**

Creative Artists, 7-10 years, will join Art Instructor, Tim Gibbons, 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. Funding for this program provided by a grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Sun City Center.

**Baby Time - Monday, June 24 at 1:35 p.m.**

**Tuesday, June 25 at 11:35 a.m.**

**Wednesday, June 26 at 10:05 a.m.**

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

**Toddler Time - Tuesday, June 25 at 10:05 a.m. & 10:35 a.m.**

**Wednesday, June 26 at 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, June 25 at 11 a.m.**

**Wednesday, June 26 at 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.

**Pirate Tales! - Tuesday, June 25 at 1 p.m. & 2:15 p.m.**

For children entering grades K-5 ~ In this program, puppets invite participants to dig for pirate treasure! Audiences will discover what treasure lies at the spot marked X and be inspired to dig into books about pirates. Presented by Katie Adams of Make Believe Theater. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

**Jobs We Dig - Wednesday, June 26 at 2 p.m.**

For children entering grades K-5 ~ What do scientists', garbage collectors', and underwear salesmen's jobs have in common? They can all be very dirty! Learn more about these gross and gruesome professions with activities, books, crafts and games.

**Bored Games - Thursday, June 27 at 4 p.m.**

For teens entering grades 6-12 ~ Feel the need to compete? Bring friends and unplug with classic board games like Sorry and Cranium, and new games like Worst Case Scenario. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

**Teen Game Zone - Thursday, June 27 at 6 p.m.**

Teen gamers come join us as we plug our Xbox 360, Wii and Playstation into our large projector screens for two hours of gaming.

**Family Story Time - Thursday, June 27 at 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. If you would be interested in becoming a Member of the Friends of the Library, call Jim Duffy at 813-634-1396, [www.southshorefriends.com](http://www.southshorefriends.com).

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### Scream on the Green

The next event scheduled by the Friends of Tampa Recreation is Scream on the Green, billed as midnight movie mayhem in Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park in Tampa. Friday, June 21, will be a showing of Kubrick's *The Shining*. Concessions including kettle corn, roasted

nuts, lemonade, snow cones, cotton candy and more will be available to purchase. Wicked Witches food truck will also be on site. Low back chairs, coolers and leashed dogs are allowed. Alcohol not permitted. On July 19, the movie is *Dawn of the Dead*; on August 19, it is *The Exorcist*.

## THE SAVVY SENIOR

### How to Spot and Prevent Senior Financial Fraud

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you offer some tips on protecting seniors from financial scams? My neighbor's elderly mother was recently swindled out of \$10,000 and I want to make sure my own mother is protected.

Troubled Daughter

protect your mom is to alert her to the different kind of scams out there. The easiest way to do this is by visiting the Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force website (stopfraud.gov — click on "Protect Yourself"), where you can get a rundown on the different types of scams making the rounds these days. The Better Business Bureau Scam Stopper site at bbb.org/scam-stopper is another good resource.

If your mom doesn't have access to a computer, print out the materials yourself and use them to start a conversation.

It's also a good idea to keep close tabs on your mom's social circle. Has she acquired any questionable new friends lately, or is she seeing anyone who's giving her advice, financial or otherwise?

Some other tips to protect her include reminding her to never give out her Social Security number or financial information unless she initiated the contact and knows the institution.

Also, see if your mom would be willing to let you sort her mail before she opens it so you can weed out the junk. To reduce the junk mail and/or email she gets, use the Direct Marketing Association consumer opt-out service at dmachoice.org. And to stop credit card and insurance offers, use the Consumer Credit Reporting Industry opt-out service at optoutprescreen.com or call 888-567-8688 — they will ask for your mom's Social Security number and date of birth.

Also, register your mom's home and cell phone numbers on the National Do Not Call Registry (donotcall.gov, 888-382-1222) to reduce telemarketers. And help her get a free copy of her credit report at annualcreditreport.com to make sure she isn't a victim of identity theft.

#### Report It

If you suspect your mom has gotten scammed report it to your state securities regulator's office (see nasaa.org for contact information), or your state's Adult Protective Services agency (call 800-677-1116 for contact information) that investigates reports of elderly financial abuse.

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.

Dear Troubled,



By Jim Miller

Financial scams that target the elderly continue to be a big problem in the U.S. In fact, it's estimated that some 5 million Americans over age 60 are scammed out of roughly 3 billion every year. Here are some tips that can help you spot a scam, and what you can do to protect your mom.

#### Scam Watching

Spotting a scam or a con artist is not always easy to do. They range from shady financial advisers to slick-talking telemarketers to professional caregivers and relatives who steal from the very people they're supposed to be looking after.

The most common scams targeting seniors today come in the form of free-lunch seminars selling dubious financial products, tricky/high-pressure telemarketing calls, and endless junk mail peddling free vacation packages, sweepstakes, phony charity fundraisers and more. And, of course, there's the ongoing problem of identity theft, Medicare fraud, door-to-door scams, credit card theft, and Internet and email scams.

The best way to spot a scam is to help your mom manage her finances, or at least monitor her accounts. Reviewing her financial statements each month can alert you to questionable checks, credit card charges or large withdrawals.

If, however, she doesn't want you looking at her financial records, there are other clues. For example: Is she getting a lot of junk mail for contests, free trips, and sweepstakes? Is she receiving calls from strangers offering awards or moneymaking deals? Also notice if her spending habits have changed, if she has complained about being short of money lately, or has suddenly become secretive or defensive about her finances. All these may be signs of trouble.

#### Protect Your Parent

The most effective way to help

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### Residential emergency electric bill payment assistance is now available

Hillsborough County's Family and Aging Services Department is accepting applications for its federally-funded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP assists low-income residents with payments on their delinquent electric bills.

Low-income households may qualify if they meet the following criteria:

- Have a total household gross income below 150 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Reside in Hillsborough County
- Are a U.S. Citizen, qualified alien or permanent resident of the U.S.
- Have a recent past due or final notice energy bill

Applicants will need to bring the following information with them:

- Proof of income for all household members for the last 30 days. This proof can be a pay check stub, employer letter, public assistance check, Supplementary Security Income check, unemployment check, or a pension check stub

- Proof of home energy obligation or electric bill
- Picture identification
- Proof of Hillsborough County residency, such as valid driver's license with current address, a letter from your landlord or mortgage company, voter's registration card, etc.

Locally, residents can apply at the SouthShore Community Resource Center, 201 14th Ave. SE in Ruskin, 813-671-7647. An appointment is necessary.

For more information, call 813-272-6770.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

### Kids enjoy a one-man circus in Ruskin

Performer Steve Lombardo of his "Fritz Brothers One Man Circus" brought his show to the Firehouse House Cultural Center to entertain children as part of the summer programs sponsored by the Hillsborough County Public Library system. If laughter and screams of joy loud enough to echo off the ceiling and walls of the theater in the cultural center are a child's version of a standing ovation, Lombardo was very well received indeed. As part of the show, the artist swallowed fire, juggled a variety of objects performed a number of balance defying feats, as well as often including the children to become part of the show (except for the fire eating parts of course — kids were warned not to even think of trying that at home). Library events are listed weekly in the Observer News and SCC Observer or can be found by visiting [www.hcplc.org/hcplc/events](http://www.hcplc.org/hcplc/events). For information about the Firehouse Cultural Center, visit [www.firehouseculturalcenter.org](http://www.firehouseculturalcenter.org).



## Weight loss

► Continued from page 1

recently I walked around Busch Gardens twice, just to see how far I could go."

That was a total in one walk of 7.5 miles.

When he was first able to walk, he began attending meetings at the Brandon Weight Watchers Center under the direction of Michelle Brodeur.

Now 395 pounds, Pagano said he has about 220 more to lose.

But how can someone lose so much in so little time?

That's what the 70-plus standing-room-only crowd at the Live Life Active Celebration came to hear.

Although it was a national day of celebration held by Weight Watchers groups all over the country, each group got to choose its own agenda.

The Riverview Center, led by Janet Wright, had two "success story" speakers besides Pagano, one who had lost 70 pounds and another 110; and also called in experts to give demonstrations of activities including laughter yoga, a fitness workout, someone from the Silver Sneakers program (an AARP program for people over 55), Zumba, Judo and health screenings.

Wright — a Weight Watcher herself, as are all the leaders — said she had gone through her leader's training in Chicago with someone who had lost 306 pounds.

"Anything is possible if you just

stick to the program," Wright said.

Stephen said he is doing that in every way possible. He checks the Weight Watcher "point value" (a method by which every member knows how much he or she should eat daily) of everything before he eats it; attends meetings online and in person, and is increasing his activity level.

He wears a special monitor that tracks his physical activity as well as counting his food points.

"There is no food that is off limits with the program," said Wright. "But each person has an assigned number of daily points and they must decide what they want to use them on."

Naturally, a lot of fruits, vegetables and exercise are recommended but if he wants to balance it against something else, Pagano said he can have his piece of pizza or cake when he really wants it.

In that case, he knows he must weigh — or measure — his portion exactly, in order to stay on track.

Making up for lost time, Pagano said he will attend HCC classes this summer as well as in the fall.

"I'm not sure what I want to do yet," he said. "But I know I want to be in some kind of business."

To find out more about South County Weight Watcher's Center in Riverview, visit the website at <http://tinyurl.com/observernews1a>, or drop by the center at 10629 Big Bend Road (in the Sweet Bay Plaza).

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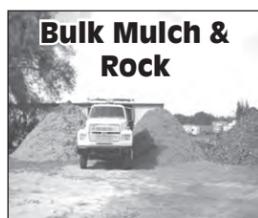


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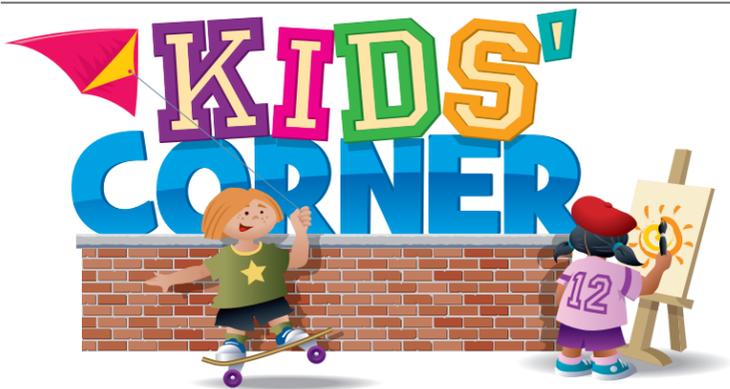
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# Jokes and Riddles

**Q:** What do you give a sick pig?

**A:** Oinkment.

**Q:** What's the easiest way to count cattle?

**A:** With a cowculator!



## What Rhymes with...

List 10 words that rhyme with "seed."

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

Some answers: bead, bread, creed, deed, feed, heed, lead, need, reed, seed, steed

## Animal Name Challenge

### Fact or Fiction?

Farms are home to many animals, some of which go by other names. A male cat, for example, can also be called a tomcat, a female cat a queen and a young cat a kitten. Here are some questions about animal names. How many can you answer correctly?

- 1) A male cow is called a bull. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 2) A young cow is called a cub. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 3) A male chicken is called a rooster. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 4) A female chicken is called a hen and her young are called chicks. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 5) Young dogs are called colts. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 6) Young ducks are called goslings. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 7) Male hogs are called boars and female hogs are called sows. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 8) Young horses are called foals. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 9) A young male horse may also be called a colt and a young female horse may be called a filly. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 10) Young rabbits may be called bunnies or kittens. **Fact or Fiction?**



Answers: 1) Fact, 2) Fiction, a young cow is called a calf, 3) Fact, 4) Fact, 5) Fiction, young dogs are called puppies and young donkeys are called colts, 6) Fiction, young ducks are called ducklings and young geese are called goslings, 7) Fact, 8) Fact, 9) Fact, 10) Fact

## Fiber from Seed



Have you ever seen a stalk of cotton? There are many seeds in cotton fibers, and until Eli Whitney came along, workers had to remove those seeds by hand, which took many hours.

Whitney invented the cotton gin to remove the seeds from cotton fibers in the late 1790s. Although the machine was a success, it did not make Whitney rich. Many farmers did not want to pay Whitney to separate their cotton and made cotton gins of their own.

Whitney invented many other things, including a way to make muskets by machine. It was his work in manufacturing where he made most of his money.

## Name That Equipment

Farmers rely on a lot of equipment to grow their crops. Fill in the blanks to name some of the equipment found on a farm.

- 1 C \_ \_ M B \_ \_ N E
- 2 T R A \_ \_ \_ O R
- 3 S \_ \_ \_ D D R \_ \_ L L
- 4 P \_ \_ O W
- 5 B A \_ \_ E R
- 6 G R \_ \_ \_ N A U \_ \_ E R
- 7 D I \_ \_ C



Answers: 1) Combine, 2) Tractor, 3) Seed Drill, 4) Plow, 5) Baler, 6) Grain Auger, 7) Disc

## COLORING PICTURE



# Amazon could bring jobs to area

► Continued from page 1

created will be considered high-paying jobs, with annual salaries over \$47,000. The catch is that Amazon will begin collecting sales tax on purchases the moment they begin operations.

“We thank Governor Scott for his commitment to creating jobs in Florida,” said Paul Misener, Amazon vice president of global public policy. “We propose to create more than 3,000 new jobs and over \$300 million in investment in Florida, while we work toward enactment of the federal Marketplace Fairness Act, which will protect states’ rights to make their own revenue policy choices.”

“I hope it’s likely that they will come to Hillsborough,” said Hillsborough County Commissioner Sandra Murman. “It’s a great location, right next to Hillsborough Community College and a great high school, right in that same area.”

For local brick and mortar retailers, the sales tax issue has been a thorn in their side since the beginning of Internet commerce. The Florida Retail Federation has long pushed for laws requiring the collection of sales tax on Internet purchases, to help the playing field for local businesses. For years, Internet retailers argued

that collecting and submitting sales taxes in a myriad of states and local tax districts would be far too burdensome, if not impossible. But just as technology has made it possible to buy nearly anything through a computer, it has also made tax collection and the payment of collected tax easier.

Legislation is currently working through Congress, the previously mentioned Marketplace Fairness Act, that will likely end in some form of sales tax collection on most Internet purchases.

The result is that if Amazon comes to Florida and begins to collect sales tax on purchases as early as next year, consumers are not likely to lose something that will already, or will soon be, lost anyway.

For some retailers, despite a more level playing field with the collection of sales taxes, they could also see increased competition as Amazon has shown a desire to move into same day delivery of merchandise,

including everything from books and clothing to groceries. Having large, local facilities in major metropolitan areas such as Tampa will help to make that possible.

When contacted for comment about possible future competition from Amazon, Brian West of Publix replied that the online

retailer’s deal with the state is not a Publix specific issue.

As part of the deal, both the county and state will provide incentives in the form of property tax relief and, to a lesser degree,

in the employment rolls for a set number of years.

“The incentive program is really geared towards luring people in,” Commissioner Murman said.

“In Hillsborough, we do have an accountability system built in. We can be sure that our tax dollars are actually being used as promised.”

From the county’s standpoint, an Amazon facility in Hillsborough is an enormous win. Even with an unemployment rate in excess of seven percent, 1,000 jobs will have a large regional impact, not only for those seeking work but also through a broad ripple effect. Everything from housing to infrastructure in education and transportation

*There are so many residents that live here [in South County] and they have to drive somewhere else to go to work. We are really trying to make our whole community economically attractive to employers.*

— Commissioner Murman



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

The possible site for the Amazon.com distribution center would be the South Shore Corporate Park, near I-75, State Road 674 and Hillsborough Community College.

could see changes that would otherwise not be possible in the foreseeable future.

“We are developing worker training programs where we can build training programs for specific employers,” Commissioner Murman said. “If we have a gap in the skilled workers that they need, then we’ll get to work training workers to be able to fill those jobs.”

This week, the Board of County Commissioners will discuss granting employment incentives for the deal. Next month the board will decide on property tax breaks for the potential Ruskin location.

“We are in competition with a few other places but there seems to be more serious negotiations for Hillsborough,” Commissioner Murman said. “This is a great opportunity to get things started and really develop the community and the commercial marketplace.”

There are so many residents that live here [in South County] and they have to drive somewhere else to go to work. We are really trying to make our whole community economically attractive to employers. I’m just thrilled that this could be happening here.”

## Crazy for Patsy Cline show June 29

If you like the music of the legendary Patsy Cline, then the Rollins Theater in Sun City Center is the place to be on Saturday, June 29 at 2:30 or 7 p.m. Barbara Van Eycken will present her tribute to the queen of country music as the P.A.C. Lite Summer Variety Series continues at the Rollins Theater in Sun City Center.

The public is invited to attend all shows at the Rollins.

Over 50 years after the death of legendary Patsy Cline, this musical tribute is an ode to the brash, pioneering queen of country music, one of the greatest innovators of the cross-over from country to pop music. The show documents the singer’s earlier years from obscure honky tonk to country western super stardom to her untimely death at age 30.

Tickets for Barbara Van Eycken’s Patsy Cline Tribute Show are \$10 and are available at the SCC Atrium Kiosk, open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. ~ noon. Tickets may also be ordered with credit card by calling 813-220-7913. The Rollins Theater is located at 970 Cherry Hills Drive, Sun City Center.

For further information, directions to the theater and details on all shows in the series visit the P.A.C. website at [www.PerformingArtsCompany-SCC.org](http://www.PerformingArtsCompany-SCC.org).



Barbara Van Eycken brings the songs of Patsy Cline to life in a tribute to the pioneering queen of country music as the “P.A.C. Lite Summer Variety Series” continues at the Rollins Theater.

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## SouthShore Regional Library Adult program/event highlights

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### Mouse and Keyboard - Thursday, June 20 at 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. Registration in person required when Library opens at 12 p.m.

### Book Discussion: "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein - Thursday, June 20 at 2 p.m.

Nearing the end of his life, Enzo, a dog with a philosopher's soul, tries to bring together the family, pulled apart by a three-year custody battle between daughter, Zoe's maternal grandparents, and her father Denny, a race car driver.

### Planting a Vegetable Garden: Get Prepared! - Friday, June 21 at 4:30 p.m.

Join local naturalist Diana Kyle as she presents an entertaining and educational program on how and when to grow vegetables at home. This program is part of the Viva Florida 500 celebration, a statewide initiative led by the Florida Department of State to highlight the 500 years of historic people, places and events in Florida since the arrival of Juan Ponce de León in 1513. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

### Adult Writing Group - Monday, June 24 at 1 p.m.

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

### Internet: Introduction and Google - Tuesday, June 25 at 12:15 p.m.

Introduction to the Internet and related terminology. Learn how to use Google to find information and tips for evaluating what you find. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended. Registration is available one hour prior to the beginning of the program.

### Introduction to Genealogy - Tuesday, June 25 at 3:30 p.m.

Learn about the types of records that are available for genealogical research and where to find them using the library's resources in this beginners class.

### eBooks for Kindle and Kindle Apps - Wednesday, June 26 at 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. Presented by the Tampa Bay Library Consortium Limit: 20.

### Family Center on Deafness Telephone Distribution - Wednesday, June 26 at 1 p.m.

Presented by Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI). FTRI provides free specialized equipment and training to qualified Florida residents who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired. The equipment enables them to place and receive phone calls.

### Mah Jongg Club - Wednesday, June 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of the popular table game, Mah Jongg. Participants are asked to bring their own Mah Jongg set or card. Limited to 28 players. Register in advance at the Information Desk or call 813-273-3652.

### SouthShore Needle People - Wednesday, June 26 at 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 questions!

### Windows 7: Introduction and Computer Basics - Thursday, June 27 at 12:15 p.m.

Learn the parts of a window, how to navigate in the Windows environment, and file management. Learn about the parts and basic terminology of computers. Also covers basic purchasing considerations. Registration is available when the Library opens at 12 p.m.

Membership with the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library helps provide the funding for free programs offered at the Library. If you would be interested in becoming a Member of the Friends of the Library, call Jim Duffy at 813-634-1396, www.southshorefriends.com.

## 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. Music by Bryan from 5 to 8 p.m. Special price for summer: 2 fish dinners, either fried or baked, for \$14.

**Monday, June 24** - Blue Plate Special for all Elks and their guests, \$7 per person. Menu: Center Cut Pork Chops with all the trimmings, including dessert. Only 50 tickets available.

**Thursday, July 4** - Build your own Burger Special for all Elks and their guests, \$5 per person. Music by Bill Searles. Details to follow. Celebrate the 4th with your Lodge.

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# Campers green up Apollo Beach, and cross a big milestone



Young people at YMCA Camp Cristina in Riverview helped the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission cross a significant milestone last week in Apollo Beach. The young campers were involved in the planting of more than one million plugs of marsh grass for habitat restoration. According to Kevin Baxter of the FWC, approximately 50 to 60 children took part in the planting at a marsh near Dickman Drive, between Apollo Beach Elementary School and the TECO Manatee Viewing Center. "One million marsh plugs represents an outstanding level of achievement in the health and restoration of Tampa Bay," said Peter Clark, president of Tampa Bay Watch. "Our community is truly fortunate to have such a wide variety of organizations all working together to ensure critical environments are protected and restored for future generations." Rae Waddell, director of the Florida Youth Conservation Center said, "This activity is an example of the network's efforts to encourage and empower kids to participate in traditional outdoor recreation and conservation stewardship activities. On a hot pre-summer day in a steamy marsh in Apollo Beach, several dozen kids certainly were empowered, making a difference in their community that could last for generations to come.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

## My wildlife yard

■ By DIANE STRAUSER ALVAREZ, Master Naturalist and Camp Bayou Supporter

Our yards are the living areas for insects and birds and all kinds of wildlife. I can look out any window or sit on my back porch and see things moving: lizards, squirrels, insects, butterflies, birds—sometimes even foxes, raccoons, possums, gopher tortoises, snakes, and rabbits. At night while walking the dogs, we see owls, bats, fireflies, and hear small mammals moving in the brush. We leave mushrooms, fungus, ants, spiders, wasps—all kinds of life to feed other kinds of life. I do protect myself from mosquitoes and red ants, but all the other creatures have no interest in me.

One weekend afternoon, my husband and I watched a pileated woodpecker pair pecking and picking insects out of the leaf litter and the brush pile in our backyard. There was enough food for them to work steadily for several hours. What a pleasure it was to watch them. I have several brush piles in the two acres. In areas of undisturbed soil, the native vines such as smilax, Virginia creeper, Muscadine grape, Carolina Jessamine, and corky-stemmed passion vine are growing over brush piles and fences. I regularly see birds, snakes, rabbits, and butterflies using the brush piles.

We have fence rows that join our neighbors on both sides. An IFAS article, "Fences: Let 'em Grow" by William M. Giuliano, says: "Fencerows are essential for at least 15-20 vertebrate species and preferred habitats for more than 74 more. The type of vegetation and the width of a fencerow will affect what species use it." According to him, large areas of agricultural lands used to allow these fencerows to grow, but today because of weed wackers and herbicides, "most fences in agricultural



lands are "clean," devoid of any vegetation," which contributes to declining wildlife in Florida.

We're letting natural stuff grow on the side of the privacy fence. The other side is a sweet viburnum hedge, an exotic that hairstreak butterflies like (planted by the former neighbor). I do not mow too close to the hedge, leaving a bahia grass border there. Wildlife corridors along fences and between yards will improve the ecology of Florida. Even leaving a fringe of grass around a tree in our yard can be beneficial—to the tree and to the environment.

This column is sponsored by Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center located in Ruskin at 4140 24th Street SE, 3 miles south of S.R. 674 off exit 240 W. on I-75. Email: [campbayou@gmail.com](mailto:campbayou@gmail.com) or call (813) 641-8545 for more information.

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## JSA Medical Group Sun City Center Activity Center EVENTS CALENDAR



JSA Medical Group - Sun City Center Activity Center is open to the community & offers a variety of **FREE** community & patient events including Yoga, Tai Chi, health lectures, parties, line dancing & more! (\*Classes are subject to change)

### JUNE UPCOMING EVENTS \*REGISTER NOW! (813) 419-5020

Thu 20:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)* <b>TAI CHI</b>	9:30 to 10:30 am 2:30 to 3:30 pm	Some classes have limited space, call for availability
Fri 21:	<b>SALSA DANCING</b> <b>SLOW FLOW YOGA</b> GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 to 11 am 1:30 to 2:30 pm 3 to 4:15 pm	
Mon 24:	<b>RUMBA DANCE</b> <b>SLOW FLOW YOGA</b> GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	11 am to Noon 1:30 to 2:30 pm 3 to 4:15 pm	Dominoes are always available to play at the SCC Activity Center!
Tue 25:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	11 am to Noon	Please check your insurance coverage for SILVERSNEAKERS class participation eligibility.
Wed 26:	<b>LINE DANCING*</b> : Beginners or Advanced (Classes Limited to 30 ppl) <b>SOCIAL BRIDGE</b>	11 am to Noon; 12:15 to 1:15 pm 1:30 to 4 pm	
Thu 27:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)* <b>TAI CHI</b>	9:30 to 10:30 am 2:30 to 3:30 pm	
Fri 28:	<b>SALSA DANCING</b> <b>SLOW FLOW YOGA</b> GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 to 11 am 1:30 to 2:30 pm 3 to 4:15 pm	<b>*MSROM: Muscular Strength &amp; Range of Movement Classes</b>

### JULY UPCOMING EVENTS \*REGISTER NOW!

Mon 01:	<b>SLOW FLOW YOGA</b> <b>GENTLE CHAIR YOGA</b>	1:30 to 2:30 pm 3 to 4:15 pm	Visit us online for the monthly schedule of classes and events: <a href="http://JSAMedicalGroup.com">JSAMedicalGroup.com</a> Click "Events"
Tue 02:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	11 am to Noon	
Wed 03:	<b>LINE DANCING*</b> : Beginners or Advanced (Classes Limited to 30 ppl)	11 am to Noon; 12:15 to 1:15 pm	
Thu 04:	<b>HAPPY 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY!</b>	<b>Closed</b>	
Fri 05:	<b>SALSA DANCING</b> <b>SLOW FLOW YOGA</b> GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 to 11 am 1:30 to 2:30 pm 3 to 4:15 pm	



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**□ Swollen Ankles:**  
Swelling, increasing at the end of the day or when traveling. (90% venous etiology). Failure of vein valves is a much more common cause of swollen feet and ankles than cardiac and renal issues. Diuretics (‘water pills’) do not fix the cause of the problem. Vein treatment can.

**□ Cramps or Restlessness:**  
Night cramps, ‘Charley horses’, nocturnal muscle cramping. (90% venous etiology). Medications and minerals might mask the problem but vein treatment will fix it. Night-time restlessness is often caused by venous failure – you need an ultrasound.

**□ Skin Changes:**  
Red/brown discoloration, ulceration, eczema, itching & burning. When vein valves fail, the capillaries below are under pressure and leak fluid, protein and blood cells. The skin becomes sickened and discolored. Treatment will stop this progressive deterioration of your legs.

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# Riverview man facing 80 charges in hoarding case

Homes needed for cats found in ‘deplorable’ conditions

■ By Kevin Brady  
kevin@observernews.net

Homes are urgently needed for a family of 82 cats found living in a Riverview trailer park earlier this month.

An anonymous complaint brought Hillsborough County Animal Services to the home at 10602 3rd St. in Riverview earlier this month where the cats were found living in “deplorable conditions.” The trailer has since been condemned.

The trailer’s owner, Eric Holmes, is facing two misdemeanor animal cruelty charges and 82 misdemeanor improper confinement charges, according to Pam Perry, Hillsborough County Animal Services investigations manager.

Riverview’s Ian Hallett, director of Animal Services, where the cats are being held, knows all about such cases.

“In hoarding cases the person often cares very much for the animals unlike giant animal warehouses or dog fighting but you can quickly go from two cats to 80 in just a couple of years. They are just unable to seek help or recognize when they have too many animals,” Hallett said.

All of the cats were brought to Animal Services in Brandon where they were treated by county veterinarians. Most of the animals were in good health but two of the cats were in so much pain they had to be humanely euthanized, officials said. An additional five cats tested positive for feline leukemia and had to be euthanized.

Despite the conditions of the trailer the kittens were in surprisingly good condition, according to Hallett.

“They have been bathed and cleaned up and they do not have the usual upper respiratory infections.

Despite the publicity surrounding the case, no one has called to adopt any of the cats yet,” said Hallett who has worked in animal services for eight years.

“They are a little shy right now but once you take them out of the cages and pet them they start purring and roll over. It’s hard for them to come out of their shells in the shelter but once they go to a home they will become social.”

Animal Services impounded 21,926 animals between Feb. 1, 2012 and Jan. 31 this year, according to county records. Of those, 10,635 were cats while 9,967 were dogs. Of those, more than 8,300 were adopted. The



**These cats are among the 82 rescued from a Riverview trailer that now need homes.**

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

agency also responded to 25,055 calls during that time, with 10,857 violations cited.

Signs of animal neglect which are also worthy of reporting include:

- Abandonment of an animal
- Clearly visible wounds, protruding bones, skin issues
- Lack of veterinary medical care

• Lack of clean water, wholesome food, and proper shelter from the elements

Tips and information are followed up by trained investigators who determine the course of action to correct a problem and/or seek accountability. Civil citations and fines may be issued, or criminal charges may be filed for prosecution by the State Attorney’s Office. Persons convicted of animal cruelty face a fine from \$5,000 to \$10,000, up to five years in jail, or both.

To report animal neglect and cruelty or adopt an animal, contact Hillsborough County Animal Services at 813-744-5660 or email [info@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:info@hillsboroughcounty.org).

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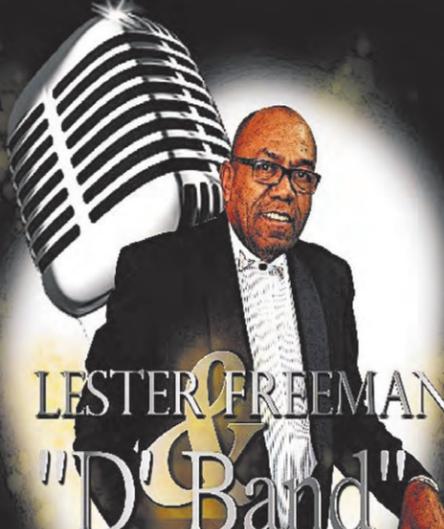
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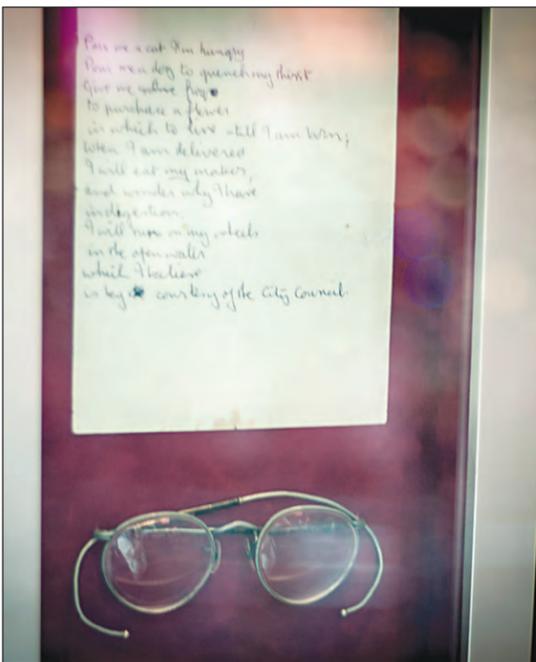
## Gone Fishin’ Social in Palmetto

On Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Palmetto Historical Park and Manatee County Agricultural Museum will be holding a “Gone Fishin’ Summer Social.”

Sure to be a “reel” fun day, this social will feature fishy activities and crafts including fish printing and “Fishing for a Prize.” The North River Kiwanis Club will hold a mini fishing clinic for kids, First Baptist Church of Palmetto will be running their train, and an exhibit of antique fishing tackle will be on display. So don’t “flounder” around looking for something fun to do – “take the bait” and come to the Social at 515 10th Ave. West, Palmetto.

All activities are free. Snack It to Me will be on site with lunch and snack items available for purchase and Alex’s Lemonade Stand will be raising funds to help fight childhood cancer. For more information, call 941-721-2034.

# Gone Too Soon display at Hard Rock



**John Lennon's glasses and a unique denim shirt he wore during his lost weekend in Los Angeles in 1974 are among the dozens of rarely seen items in the exhibit that runs through Friday.**

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

► Continued from page 2

"I think my favorite piece of wardrobe is a denim and plaid shirt that John Lennon wore in 1974. It was during his lost weekend in Los Angeles when he and Yoko were split. He wore it when he was tossed out of the Troubadour for being a drunken belligerent with Harry Nilsson. It was a weird time for John."

The weekend included a bar brawl after heckling the Smothers Brothers as they performed at the legendary Los Angeles venue, as well as an incident with a waitress, and her now-legendary words after Lennon reportedly stuck a recently purchased feminine product to his forehead.

"Just search the web on John Lennon and Troubadour and photos of him in that shirt will come up," Nolan added. Today it is part of the exhibit, a small slice of life from a legend.

The exhibit is by no means a walk down memory lane reserved for older generations. According to Nolan, Hard Rock continues to seek out new talent, and some of the exhibits are the result of the relationships they forged.

"It is really gratifying when we get involved with a new band very early in their career," Nolan said. "Hard Rock got involved with Mumford and Son very early on and now they are one of the biggest bands in the world. We started Hard Rock Records for this very reason, that's where the fun is. We say that music is in our DNA and in this company that is actually true. This company doesn't exist without rock 'n roll."

The one-of-a-kind exhibit will be appearing at the hotel, located off I-4 near the intersection of Hillsborough Avenue and Orient

Road in Tampa, through Friday. There is no charge to view the displays that include numerous costumes worn by superstars, hand-written notes, instruments and more.

"Hard Rock has been around for 42 years and we have relationships with artists that go back decades," Nolan said. "What's cool about this job is that this stuff never becomes background noise. I never become jaded. This stuff still blows my mind as much as it did when I first started."

The magic of music is the ability it has to transport the listener to another place and time. Memories flood back when listening to a favorite song and such songs never get old. The exhibit offers something tangible to go with those memories. As people lined

up to view the displays, they alternated between being elated and turning somber, depending upon what they were seeing. Music is a balm for the soul. Through Friday night at the Hard Rock in Tampa, it is also a feast for the eyes and the mind. It seems that with a little help from things such as instruments, clothing and even a pair of round glasses, memories can play back like favorite songs on an iPod.

*The Hard Rock Hotel is located at 5223 North Orient Road in Tampa. It is one of 179 Hard Rock locations in 57 countries. The company's 77,000-piece collection of memorabilia is currently traveling the world in three separate exhibits.*



**Nolan stops to talk with two visitors from Iowa who enjoyed seeing the display of Buddy Holly guitarist Tommy Allsup's wallet. The wallet was recovered from the wreckage of the plane crash that claimed Holly's life.**

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## 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](http://www.CareShelter.org) or call (813) 645-2273.



PHOTOS MARLENE GREENBERG

### Romeo

Romeo is a gray tabby kitten who was recently brought to C.A.R.E. with his three siblings, Juliet, Tip-py and Grayson. Romeo is a lover like his namesake and is playful and friendly. He loves to play with the other kittens at the shelter. He would like most of all to come to live at a forever home of his own. Go see this handsome guy and give him that home. Romeo will be spayed, microchipped, and brought current on his shots.

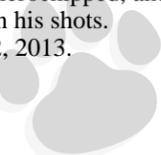
DOB: January 2, 2013.



### Tilly

Tilly is an adorable Carolina Dog mix with the cutest ears. She had a home since she was just a few weeks old but, unfortunately, her family can no longer care for her. This is due to no fault of her own. Tilly is a fun gal with a big personality. She zips around the yard playing chase with the other dogs. She is incredibly fast! When it is time to settle down, Tilly is just as happy to snuggle. Tilly has also been around dogs and kids her whole life. Tilly is spayed and current on her shots.

DOB: April 2, 20 '12



**PET TIP:** Whether in fear or in play, a child's running and screaming elicit arousal behavior in dogs, and encourage the dogs to chase and bite. If the kids want to run and scream, put the dog away.

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**Excel I: Introduction • Thursday, June 20 at 3 p.m.**

Layout, entering data, inserting rows and columns, and other techniques. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

**Excel II: Formatting • Thursday, June 20 at 3:45 p.m.**

Learn different formats for expressing numbers in a spreadsheet. Excel I is recommended.

**Excel III: Performing Calculations • Friday, June 21 at 3 p.m.**

Learn about functions and formulas and how to use them in calculations. Excel II is recommended.

**Craigslist: Introduction • Tuesday, June 25 at 3 p.m.**

Learn how to become a member, browse, search, and buy items on Craigslist. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

**Craigslist: Listing & Selling • Tuesday, June 25 at 3:45 p.m.**

Learn how to create a listing and sell items on Craigslist. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended.

**Computer Tutor • Wednesday, June 26 at 5:30 p.m.**

Tutoring in Microsoft software, email and the internet.

**Managing Media • Thursday, June 27 at 3 p.m.**

Learn about saving files using cloud storage and USB devices. Learn how to transfer and download digital content.

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## 100 Women Who Care: new group is launched

Organizers of 100 Women Who Care are seeking to gather a group of one hundred or more women in the South Shore area for the purpose of helping those in need in the community. Together, 100 or more women in the local community can make a difference and improve lives.

The initial meeting is from 7 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the Mira Bay Clubhouse, 107 Manns Harbor Dr. in Apollo Beach.

Patterned after a similar group in Michigan, this concept has been very effective in other communities around the United States. This is how it can work in the Tampa Bay community:

- 100 or more women to commit to the group, which means attending four, one-hour meetings a year, pledging \$100 per meeting (\$400 per year).

- At each meeting, any member wishing to request donations for a local charity/program/nonprofit will place her name into a basket.

- Three names will be drawn from the basket.

- These three members will have the opportunity to present a five-minute explanation of the local organization or agency they nominated.

- There is an opportunity for questions.

- A vote is taken and the winner is announced.

- Each of the 100 women writes a check directly to the winning agency.

- The meeting ends and the winning charity receives \$10,000 or more.

That is powerful! It can make a tremendous impact on local charities and neighbors in need.

In June, 100 Women Who Care donated \$3,800 to the Firehouse Cultural Center in Ruskin (*The Observer News*, June 13, 2013 issue).

For more information, email [100WCSouthShore@gmail.com](mailto:100WCSouthShore@gmail.com) or call Amber Watt at 813-956-7839 or Ann Rand - 813-641-3817. There is also a page on Facebook: 100 Women Who Care - Tampa Bay.

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Area Obituaries

John P. Bailiff

John P. Bailiff, of Sun City Center, FL passed away on June 15, 2013.

He was born on June 14, 1935 in Chester, PA. He is survived by his wife Corinne; children David, Devin, Darren Bailiff and Donna Bisconti; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all of New Jersey. He is also survived by step-children David from Texas, Roy from Arizona and Wayne Smith from Colorado; three step-grandchildren and one step-great-grandson.

John retired from Chevron Oil Co. in Philadelphia after 33 years service. He served in the United States Army in Korea. He resided in Cherry Hill, NJ before moving to FL in 1992.

John enjoyed playing golf, stained glass, organ, bridge, poker, wood carving and his favorite was lawn bowling. He served as club president in 2011. He served as a volunteer on the Sun City Center Security Patrol and with Samaritan Services, and was a member of the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, where he served four years as Deacon.

A memorial service will be held at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Sun City Center on Tuesday, June 25 at noon. A private burial will be held at the National Cemetery at Sarasota.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to LifePath Hospice, 3725 Upper Creek Drive, Ruskin, FL 33573 or Sun City Center Emergency Squad.

eight-somes and extended family, children and five grandchildren at Caloosa as well as his nightly workout with fellow gym enthusiasts at the SCC Community Club.

James is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Norma and Maurice Roukous of Sun City Center; his sister and brother-in-law, Gertrude and Ron Butler of El Paso, Texas; sister-in-law Dorothy Clark of Atlanta; daughter Brenda Wheeler of Sun City Center; daughter and son-in-law Debbie and Randy Hood of Richardson, Texas; son Greg Boyd; daughter and son-in-law Cathy and Dr. David Giles of Fort Worth, Texas; five grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

The viewing will be held Thursday, July 11, 2013 from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. at the Sun City Center Funeral Home, 1851 Rickenbacker Dr., Sun City Center, Florida.

The memorial service will be held Friday, July 12 at 11 a.m., in the Royal Palm Room, Little Harbor Resort, Ruskin, followed by a Military Honors burial at Sarasota National Cemetery promptly at 2:30 p.m. Following the burial, a Celebration of Life will be held at the Royal Palm Room, Little Harbor Resort, from 5 p.m. until 7: p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests a contribution be made to the Wounded Veteran charity of your choice. Arrangements by Sun City Center Funeral Home.

Linda Shields

Linda Shields of Kings Point, SCC, passed away May 15 at LifeCare Hospice after a brief hospital stay.

She was predeceased by sisters and a brother. She is survived by husband Robert W.; daughter Laura Bulla of Carrollton, Texas; goddaughter Amy Litke of West Hartford, Conn.; and godson Gordon Heavern of Boulder Colorado. She is also survived by nieces and nephews. She was a member of Eastern Star, Buffalo, NY

Linda was buried in the family plot at Acacia Park Cemetery in North Tonawanda, NY



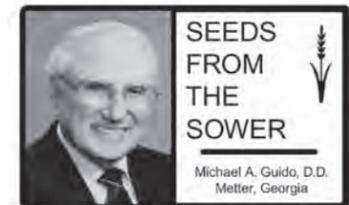
LTC. James R. Boyd

With his family by his side, James R. Boyd, 79, of Sun City Center, Florida died June 6, 2013 at his home. Born February 16, 1934 in Meadville, Pennsylvania, to Gerald W. and Gertrude Kearney Boyd, James attended high school in Ironton, Ohio, and returned for reunions.

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force at the age of 17 and served with the 187th Airborne under Colonel Westmoreland in Korea, 1951-1952. Leaving the U.S. Air Force, he attended North Georgia College in Dahlonega, Georgia, graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate and was then commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Having married Mary Carol King in 1954, he and their young family moved from one U.S. Army training school to another until he earned his aviation wings.

Flying the fixed-wing Caribou (C-V2), he served in Viet Nam in 1963, primarily supporting Special Forces Units. As the 'Airmobile' concept took form, he flew the Huey helicopter during his second tour in Viet Nam with the 190th Assault Helicopter Company from 1967 - 1968, during the TET Offensive. His valor awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star and numerous Air Medals with V for valor. He completed his military career at Fort Hood, Texas, retiring in 1981. James earned his master's degree while in Texas and went to work as a Director for BDM, a military contractor, after retirement, helping test and ready the Abrams M1 Tank. Preceded in death by his wife, James moved to the Tampa Area in 1998 and worked with the Beck Corporation. Discovering Sun City Center, he purchased his home here in 2000.

An avid golfer, James enjoyed spending time with his golf buddies,



One of the world's greatest speakers from ancient Greece was Demosthenes. He was born with a severe speech defect. To overcome his problem he would practice speaking with small pebbles in his mouth. He overcame his difficulty. The Apostle Paul said of himself the following: "I did not come with eloquence," my "bodily presence is weak and (my) speech contemptible," and "though my condition put you to the test you did not scorn or despise me." Yet he was and is recognized as one of the greatest missionaries, theologians and teachers who ever lived.

Handicapped? Have problems? Lacking in skills and talents? Need to improve on the gifts God has given you? Jesus said, "My grace is all you need, for my power is strongest when you are weak."

When we look at ourselves and feel inadequate, we need to turn our thoughts to God and realize that we are His handiwork. He has important work for each of us to do. But we must give our all to Him and let Him work His miracles through us. Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org.

Questions about the Catholic Church?

Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Sun City Center offers an outreach ministry called "Come and See," a kind of Catholic Open House held the third Friday of each month from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Conesa Center. The next session will be Friday, June 2.

This is an opportunity for non-Catholics to learn more about the Catholic faith. The format is one of informal questions and answers, discussions about faith, the Church and its traditions. All are invited to come as often as needed.

If you or someone in your circle of family and friends have an interest in, have some unanswered questions or perhaps misconceptions about the Catholic Church, or are looking for a spiritual home, please "come and see."

All inquiries are welcome and there is no cost or obligation. For more information, contact Marilyn Vahovich at 813-634-6900.

Summer book club

More Than Sisters, the women's group at South Bay Church in Riverview, will be hosting a twice-monthly book club instead of their regular weekly meetings throughout the summer.

The book to be discussed is *Bad Girls of the Bible* by Liz Curtis Higgs.

The Club will meet at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on June 11 and 25; July 10 and 24; and wrap up on August 13.

This discussion group is open to all area women, however, space is limited so register soon at info@southbay.cc or call the church office for more information at 813-677-0721.

South Bay Church is located at 13498 U.S. Highway 301 South, Riverview. Visit their website at www.SouthBay.cc.

Shop early at Christmas in July Bazaar in Lithia

Nearly 50 vendors will sell everything from handmade gifts to home decor at the Saturday, July 27 Christmas in July Bazaar at Grace United Methodist Church at FishHawk.

The event is from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, located at 5708 Lithia Pinecrest Rd., Lithia.

Items for sale include jewelry, crosses, pet supplies, honey, homemade jelly, birdhouses, handmade soaps and purses.

Most of the vendors will be inside the air-conditioned church, so guests can shop in comfort. There is no entrance fee, and free door prizes will be given away.

The bazaar is a fundraiser for Grace United Methodist Women (UMW). Nationally, United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for women whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice.

All women are invited to attend Grace UMW meetings, which are the fourth Sunday of every month at the church. The meetings start at noon, and a free lunch is served.

For more information about the bazaar and Grace UMW, visit www.mygraceumc.com or call 813-661-8858.

Area Places of Worship

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

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 Wednesday Service..... 5:00 p.m.  
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 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.

### New Beginnings Fellowship youth group holds spaghetti dinner

The youth group of New Beginnings Fellowship is attempting to raise funds for Youth Camp. They will hold a spaghetti dinner on Monday, June 24 from 4-8 p.m. at Maranatha Church of God, located at 612 1st St. SE Ruskin.

The dinner, which will cost \$6, will be eat in or carry out.

To reserve a dinner, contact Olon Miller at 813-732-8924, Joyce Carswell at 813-629-0113 or Melissa Sullivan at 813-458-4610.

Special thanks to Pastor Don Tanner and the Maranatha family for allowing the youth to use their social hall for this event.

### New rabbi comes to Beth Israel Synagogue in Sun City Center

Beth Israel, the Jewish congregation of Sun City Center, has announced the appointment of Rabbi Carla Freedman as its spiritual leader. Rabbi Freedman, the first full-time rabbi to serve Beth Israel, will begin her appointment on Monday, July 1.

Rabbi Freedman was born and grew up in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She has a rich, lifelong, history of Jewish involvement and was the first Canadian woman to be ordained a rabbi at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. In her own words, she has continued since that date to "convey the richness, joy and depth of meaning of Jewish life so as to encourage Jews to become more engaged with their heritage and religion." She states that she considers it a remarkable privilege to walk with people, individually and as families, through the challenges that life can present, and these opportunities have afforded her some of the most satisfying experiences of her rabbinate.



Rabbi Carla Freedman

Rabbi Carla spent a weekend at Beth Israel early in February, and the congregation was impressed with her knowledge, spirituality, and the ease with which she related to its members. This begins a very exciting chapter in the life of Beth Israel and the community.



### VBS at South Bay Church

Round up the kids for Vacation Bible School at South Bay Church in Riverview. The SonWest Roundup will be held Aug. 5 - 9, finishing with a hoe-down and family fun night on Friday.

VBS is open to children who will be entering kindergarten in the fall through the 5th grade. The fun starts at 6:30 p.m. Register in the church lobby or in the children's area.

Students will have a great time singing songs, watching skits, creating crafts and playing games. But most important, they'll discover Jesus provides what they truly need in every challenge of life.

For more information call the church at 813-677-0721 or visit www.southbay.cc. South Bay Church is located at 13498 U.S. Highway 301 South in Riverview.

### The '500 Girls Mural Project' is Saturday

In celebration of the Viva Florida 500 anniversary, noted artist and educator Paula Allen has launched the 500 Girls Mural Project.

The project will involve area girls in the creation of a community mural depicting women who have made a significant difference in Florida history. Among those featured will be Senator Helen Gordon, who founded The Centre for Women in 1977.

The art project is for girls ages 5-12, who must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$5 per girl; those who don't have a child themselves may sponsor a child by



PHOTO VERN ELARTH

### Trinity Baptist supports Meals on Wheels

Melba and George Strawn prepare to deliver their Meals on Wheels. Trinity Baptist Church supports the Meals on Wheels program run by Samaritan Services by delivering the meals during the month of June. This program brings a hot meal, prepared by South Bay Hospital, to many individuals in Sun City Center and Kings Point throughout the year. For more information on the church, call 813-634-4228.

contacting The Centre for Girls, part of The Centre for Women, at 813-231-3404.

The 500 Girls Mural Project will take place this Saturday, June 22,

from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

As an added bonus, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Cheerleaders will be there to help the girls create their masterpieces for the mural.

The Centre for Women/Girls is located at 105 W. Sligh Ave. in Tampa. For more information, go to www.thecentre.org or call 813-251-8437.



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## Take a guided canoe tour at Camp Bayou



Lee Conrad takes a break during the canoe tour on National Trails Day, June 1, at Camp Bayou.

If a trail walk in the Florida heat does not sound appealing, how about a morning guided canoe trip for the price of a standard canoe rental?

Camp Bayou will offer Saturday guided canoe tours once a month on the following dates: July 27, Aug. 24 and Sept. 21, starting at 9 a.m. and lasting approximately 90 minutes. Cost is \$25 per canoe which seats up to three. Have your own canoe or kayak? A donation of \$5 is requested to be part of the guided tour. Reservations required: contact 813-641-8545 or email [campbayou@gmail.com](mailto:campbayou@gmail.com) for more information.

Camp Bayou does not offer its own summer camp but it is a destination field trip for many area summer programs. There are still days available to schedule a trip to Camp Bayou. Fall school reservations are now available as well.

Camp Bayou's Annual Back to School - Back to Nature event is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 3 from 9 a.m. - noon. As always, admission is free. Kids visit various nature tables to learn something new then get a free school supply item. Some new organizations will join the event this year including UF/IFAS - Gulf Coast Research and Education Center from Balm; and Sensing Nature, Inc. representing Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network.

Camp Bayou is looking for donations of new school supply items-notebooks, backpacks, etc. — or money to purchase them. Contact Camp Bayou at 813-641-8545 or email [campbayou@gmail.com](mailto:campbayou@gmail.com) to arrange a pick up or drop off appointment, or mail your check to

BOLD, P.O. Box 507, Ruskin, FL 33570. Reservations for the Back to School event can be made at the link on the homepage: [www.campbayou.org](http://www.campbayou.org).

The Camp Bayou Photo Contest is back with prizes in addition to the award ribbons. There is no fee to enter. Photos must be taken at Camp Bayou. Submit a mounted 8x10 and include contact information. For an entry form, visit the homepage or stop in at Camp Bayou during regular operating hours. Winners will be announced at Fall Open House, Oct. 26, 2013.

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

The Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center is a public-private partnership between Bayou Outdoor Learning and Discovery, Inc. (BOLD), Ruskin Community Development Foundation, Inc. (RCDF) and Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation and Conservation. Camp Bayou is located 3 miles south of SR674 at the end of 24th St SE in Ruskin. More information is on the web at <http://www.campbayou.org> or call 813-641-8545.

## Fish Tales: Tarpon are teeming in local waters

Top highlight in fishing this week is the teeming of the tarpon.

Tarpon is one of the champion game fish of the world. They have a fighting heart and will keep you busy for hours. As for their food value, only a shipwrecked starving sailor would eat them. With average weight 68 pounds, a catch of a 350 pounder has been recorded. They are extremely prolific, one female may contain more than 12 million eggs.

A tarpon is bluish on their back, shading to brilliant silver on sides, occasionally with traces of yellow about the fins. If caught in clear gulf waters, they are much brighter than those caught in rivers. When

they strike, they often jump as high as to clear a cabin cruiser. Tarpon will leap six or twelve times before you can land him. They are a trophy fish and should be caught and released. Keep just long enough to snap a good photo, and with the photo a taxidermist can mount a trophy fish. You must have a special permit to fish for tarpon.



By Jonie Maschek  
Member: Florida Outdoor Writers Association

If you cruise after dark, it is a new moon phase in the month of June, and tarpon soaring in the air, in the moonlight is a sight to see.

With several days of slight choppy water and a few showers anglers say that they have watched the weather reports and fished.

A favorite catch this week was redfish. A fish still restricted to one per person per day of not less than 18

inches or more than 27 inches.

Sheepshead bite in any kind of weather, and many were caught this week in the river and gulf waters. Legal is 12 inches, not more than 15 per day.

Flounder catches were caught by those with patience. Legal limit is not less than 12 inches with not more than 10 per harvest, per day.

Fresh water lakes, and upper rivers, have proven to have great catches of pan fish, large mouth tarpon and fresh water catfish.

I was asked by a child this week, "Does a fish feel pain?" A biologist says "No, their nervous system is too poorly put together. The fish might feel a slight discomfort as a hook is pulled from his mouth."

Be ever mindful of our weather, don't fish alone, catch only what you can eat or give to a friend.

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# You, me and business:

## SCC Chamber offers business opportunities

Is this a typical work day for you? You get in a little early and grab a cup of coffee. You look over your calendar and to-do list to make sure there's nothing surprising on there. Check your emails and respond to one or two, and settle in to run a report or schedule some sales calls.

At some point during the day, a thought works its way into the back of your mind: wow! It's a really slow day. The phones aren't ringing enough and customers aren't sticking their fingers into your better mousetrap. Business is off now that summer's here and you have payroll to make next week. The electric bill is due and the economy is in the garbage, and you might have to cancel your cleaning service and...

Without thinking about it, you begin to browse the SCC Chamber website and flip through photos of recent Chamber events: "I haven't been to the Exchange networking events on Wednesday in months... Square 1 Home Inspections had a great turnout at the ribbon cutting... Bobbi Rowe won another

door prize at last month's membership luncheon...hey, the business card exchange is next week at Tricolor Flooring in Ruskin... you've been wanting to do business with them for months.

What do these people know that I don't know?

So you take a pen and jot down a reminder for the evening networking event. Then you look at your calendar and realize you don't have any appointments scheduled for the third

Thursday of the month and jot another note to RSVP for the membership luncheon. Now your mind starts to shift into a higher gear!

"What else can I do to meet other business people and promote my product line and services? Maybe I need to hold a Grand Re-opening! Or put a banner ad on the Chamber website! Oh, and I need to reserve a booth for the fall expo...I hope all the good ones aren't taken..."

Flash forward a month. You went to the free Wednesday networking lunches and the monthly membership luncheon. You handed out a number of cards at the business

card exchange and even provided a door prize. Your Rolodex is full of other business cards you collected from all the great companies you met and you followed up with them to see if you could be of benefit to them. Several of them were interested in how you could save them money and with the unique features of your services! And one thing you didn't expect - you were asked to serve on a volunteer committee that will give you lots of exposure and put you in contact with some great prospective customers!

So you arrive to work a little early and pour yourself a cup of coffee. You look at your calendar and it's jam packed with appointments. You scan your emails and there's one from another business who needs you to call them right away! You're smiling, because you're excited about all of the opportunity that's out there!

Do you take advantage of all the Chamber offers you and your business? Give it a try. You'll be surprised how much fun it is to meet other business owners and learn new marketing techniques. You get a great meal at the luncheon and maybe even win one of the door prizes! This is how business is done. It's all here for you. So pick up your pen and your calendar and let's get to work!



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

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## Friends of Tampa Recreation awards 260 children with summer camp scholarships

The Friends of Tampa Recreation, Inc. has awarded 260 children scholarships to attend summer camp. This is a 68% increase in funding for the program from 2012.

"Every child deserves to go to summer camp - to make new friends, to learn new skills and to be mentored by a caring adult," said Kitty Lyons, executive director of the Friends of Tampa Recreation, Inc. "This year the demand for financial assistance was so much higher than it was last year. It's part of our mission to provide assistance to those who need it most and to ensure the city's recreational programs are accessible to everyone regardless of their ability to pay."

Since the Summer Camp Scholarship Program began in 2010, 730 children have received scholarships to attend camp. According to Lyons, the Friends of Recreation Inc.'s Summer Camp Scholarship program is available for children ages

5-14 who are enrolled with the City of Tampa's Parks and Recreation programs, and who have qualified for the National School Lunch Program. The program funds the first child at 100 percent and each sibling up to 75 percent.

In addition to children ages 5-14, Friends also supports the Teen Program offered at multiple recreation centers.

Founded in 1988, the Friends of Tampa Recreation, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising funds to support the city's recreational programs and special events. In addition to the Summer Camp Scholarship Program, the Friends of Tampa Recreation, Inc. partners with the City to raise funds for and produce Friday Extra Concert Series, Tampa's Downtown on Ice, Screen on the Green, Mayor's River O'Green Fest, Tampa's Tree Lighting Ceremony, and Santa Fest and the Downtown Holiday Parade.

## Second statewide Human Trafficking Summit set for October

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and the Interagency Workgroup on Human Trafficking have scheduled the second statewide Human Trafficking Summit for October 3, 2013 at the University of South Florida in Tampa and launched the event's website: <http://www.djj.state.fl.us/humantraffickingsummit>.

Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary Wansley Walters said, "Collaboration and communication among authorities, organizations that serve at-risk populations and the community is the key to combating human trafficking. Despite the earnest efforts of state and local leaders, as well as the Florida Legislature, to protect Florida residents and visitors from human traffickers, Florida remains one of the most attractive destinations and transit points in the eyes of these predators. The summit is a physical representation of the state's unified stance against this atrocious activity and our commitment to end it."

This year's summit will focus on labor and sex trafficking of both children and adults and will offer a wide array of breakout session and training opportunities. Profession-specific sessions tailored to professions, such as law enforcement, the legal community, service providers, the medical community, educators and other first responders are planned.

The website will provide information and registration details for attendees. If you are aware of any individual who is being abused or exploited, call the Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-962-2873.

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

Multi family garage sale. Saturday, June 22, 8am-? 403 13th St. SW, Ruskin. Antiques, household goods, furniture & much more.

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Garage sale. 727 Bel Air Ave., SCC. Saturday, June 22, 8am-noon. A little bit of everything.

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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HEART & VASCULAR CENTER SERVICES, PLEASE CALL 813.653.1065 OR VISIT [BRANDONREGIONALHOSPITAL.COM/HEART](http://BRANDONREGIONALHOSPITAL.COM/HEART).

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