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PHOTO BY KEVIN BRADY

Roy Lewis III, president of Riverview's Lewis Environmental Services, designed the $4.5-million restoration project.

$4.5-million wetland restoration project for Gibsonton

By KEVIN BRADY
kevin@riverviewcurrent.com

Almost a decade in the making, a massive wetland restoration program is about to get underway in Gibsonton. The $4.5-million project includes restoring mangroves at two plots along U.S. Highway 41 and is expected to take about a year to complete.

Work on 10 acres of mangroves restoration and new oyster reefs, part one of the project, starts next month at Giant's Camp, a stone's throw from the Alafia River Bridge on U.S. Highway 41. Part two, a similar project just north of the Giant's Camp on U.S. 41, will begin in the fall.

Construction manager John Landon doesn't foresee any problems for drivers in the area.

"We don't anticipate any impacts on U.S. 41," Landon said. "You will probably see work at the site from the road for a couple of months but after that the dredge goes in and I don't think you will even be able to see that from the road once it starts."

Mosiac, the world's largest phosphate company, is footing the bill for the project as part of a compensation package the firm agreed with the federal government after a dike at its Riverview plant broke and contaminated local waters in 2004.

"When something like that happens you have a responsibility as a company to develop environmental projects," said David Townsend, an assistant vice president at Mosaic.

Heavy rains from Hurricane Frances that year broke the back of the company's dike, sending 60,000 gallons of contaminated water into Archie Creek, which flows in to Tampa Bay, killing vegetation and fish.

Mosaic has since spent $30 million to improve water-storage capacity at the Riverview fertilizer plant. "We can now handle up to 80 inches of rain," Townsend said.

One of the largest agro-chemical companies in the world with mines in Central Florida and North Carolina, Mosaic provides fertilizer to farmers in 40 countries. Most of the fertilizer used in the U.S. comes from Florida phosphate mines, much of it mined by Mosaic in Polk County.

Work at Giant's Camp starts July 13 and is expected to be completed in early 2014.

The project includes digging a 1,500-foot long, 50-foot wide channel through the mangrove habitat, breathing new life into the mangroves, which are currently cut off from any real tidal flow. A marina, built in the 1950s but since abandoned, all but cut the mangroves from any tidal flow.

Tidal flows are the lungs of mangroves; without it the plants grow in on each other eventually leading to a 'mangrove heart attack' where mangroves die and

▶ Continued on page 6

HCC, Good Samaritan Mission, target diseases through better diet

■ BY PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

A recent partnership between the South County campus of Hillsborough Community College and the Good Samaritan Mission in Wimauma is helping area residents get healthy.

In just one semester, approximately 300 pounds of fresh produce grown at the college has been donated to the mission.

Good Samaritan's Executive Director Bill Cruz said that's helping many families ward off disease.

"I was very surprised when I looked at the major causes of deaths of Latinos because hunger wasn't on it," Cruz said in a recent interview. "Instead, we saw diseases impacted by obesity, like heart disease and diabetes."

Since most of the people he and his wife Theresa and their staff at the mission serve are Hispanic farm workers, he knew there had to be a way they could impact the health of that population by changing what they made available to them to eat.

Looking at the donated food bags the mission was providing, Cruz realized they were

▶ Continued on page 7

PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

Dr. Allen Witt and Karen Boosinger of the South County campus of Hillsborough Community College examine the vegetables that are ready for picking in the school's hydroponic garden. A new partnership between the college and the Good Samaritan Mission in Wimauma is ensuring that hundreds of area residents are eating healthier food than they have in the past.

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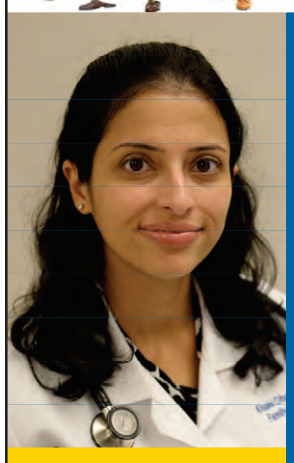
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SCC Church rocks on with kids for Vacation Bible School

■ By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net

The laughter and dancing of children is not something associated with the normal routine of a large retirement community but the Sun City Center United Methodist Church is no ordinary church, and the boundaries for the parishioners have long surpassed those of the community.

A case in point was the church's Vacation Bible School, held on June 17-21 in the Creason Children's Center at the church complex on Del Webb Blvd, with 84 children and 60 teen and adult volunteers in attendance. The Children's Center was transformed into a virtual kingdom with castle walls, a moat with a drawbridge, shields, trumpets and steeds. The school opened with Sing and Play Rock, where children learned songs and praise led by his royal highness, Jeff Jordan. Among the events were Chadder's Royal Theater, supporing Operation Kid to Kid Mission for children in India, epic Bible characters coming to life through performers and plenty of kid friendly snacks in the Royal Kitchen. A "Fanfare Finale in the Royal Courtyard" involved the children and their parents, along with staff and volunteers.

"At the Sun City Center United Methodist Church, we love kids," said church member Linda Whitt.

For more information about the church, visit www.sccumc.com

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

"His Royal Highness" Jeff Jordan of the Sun City Center United Methodist Church welcomed 84 children and 60 teen and adult volunteers to the opening of Vacation Bible School, held on June 17-21.

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Wed., July 3 • *10-11 a.m.* • EVERY WEDNESDAY! • **Therapeutic Tai Chi** open to the public! Our therapists have advanced training in therapeutic Tai Chi for Seniors and will provide guidance in this healthy exercise. Tai Chi has been proven to increase strength and balance!

Wed., July 10 • *2:30-4 p.m.* • **Diabetes Support Group.** Join Susan L Parker- Heitel, RN, Certified Diabetic Educator from Nurse on Call Home Health Care as she facilitates our support group "Everyday Basics of Diabetic Care".

Thurs., July 11 • *2:30-4 p.m.* • **Mental Wellness Support Group.** Facilitated by Edmond Dubreuil MSW, RCSWI mental health professional. Supported by South Shore Coalition on Mental Health & Aging and the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center

Mon., July 15 • *1:30-3:30 p.m.* • **Parkinson's Support Group of Sun City Center.** Sponsored by The Men's Club of SCC. Facilitated by Eden Feldman, MSW, Director of Outreach at the USF Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders Center. Through the summer months, we will have "Sharing is Caring". Come with questions, leave with answers. If you have Parkinson's or are caring for someone with this disease, be sure to attend this support group! FREE Valet Parking.

Tues., July 16 • *2:30-3:30 p.m.* • **Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group.** Bring your loved one for a well-deserved break. Facilitated by Aging Care Advocates. You will receive information while your loved one is cared for in our Secured Memory Care. **RSVP no less than 3 days prior to 813-246-4120.** alzheimer's association

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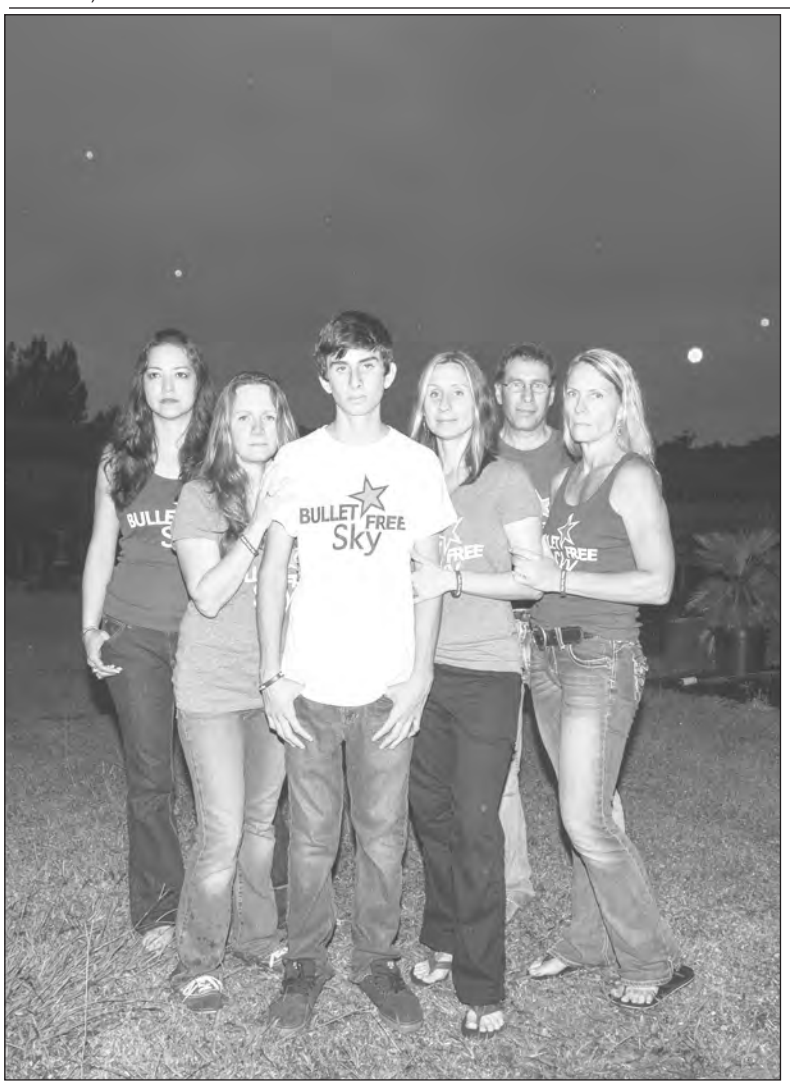

PHOTO BY PAMELA VASQUEZ

Not a victim, a survivor and then some: 14-year-old Diego Duran surrounded by his mother and the board of directors of the organization she founded named Bullet Free Sky. From left are Kat Lapersonerie, Pamela Vasquez, Sandy Duran, Mitch Traphagen, and Kim Skidmore.

On July 3, a fundraiser to celebrate independence, for our nation and from fear

Celebratory gunfire is 100 percent preventable — there is no doubt about that. In this case, there is something that we can do. We can stop this. On July 3 at the Firehouse Cultural Center, you can help.

■ By MITCH TRAPHAGEN
mitch@observernews.net

Fifteen-year-old Brandon Reid was sitting in his own home as he watched the Miami Heat win the championship last week. He stood up to tell his mother the news and was shot in the head by a bullet that crashed through a sliding glass door in his home. The teenager, who is now recovering after doctors removed the bullet from the lower right side of his head, was a victim of celebratory gunfire. Someone, somewhere within a few miles of his home shot a bullet into the air and it crashed through a glass door and into the 15-year-old boy's skull.

Shooting people in the head is no way to celebrate.

That is the message that Sandy Duran of Ruskin has been trying to get out ever since her son Diego was critically wounded by celebratory gunfire while watching New Year's Eve fireworks in his own front yard in Ruskin a year and a half ago. One moment the Duran family was watching the sky light up in celebration, the next they saw their 12-year-old son fighting for his life near the doorstep of their small, peaceful home.

Diego is still recovering from that injury but his mother, Sandy, has made it her mission to prevent other families from suffering through the same needless nightmare they endured. That a 15-year-old boy was shot in the head in his own home in Miramar last week says her work is nowhere near complete. But she has faith that one day it will be.

In the wake of her son's injury, Sandy Duran formed Bullet Free Sky, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating people about the dangers of celebratory gunfire. On July 3, the organization will hold their first-ever event at the Firehouse Cultural Center in Ruskin, part celebration of the nation's independence, along with what should be our own personal freedom and independence to celebrate without fear, and part fundraiser. The event will include food, activities for children, raffles and live music from the popular duo Kelly Emerson and Gary Garbelman.

> *"With all of the news over guns lately, people assume that we are anti-gun. That is not the case. I can say that in the right hands, in the right place, firearms can and have saved lives. We do want everyone to know that we are pro-gun safety and pro-common sense."*

"The whole community is invited," Duran said. "It is a free event, it's our first fundraiser event. As a nonprofit organization, we depend on things like this to spread the message. Celebratory gunfire is 100 percent preventable — there is no doubt about that. In this case, there is something that we can do. We can stop this. This is something that effects everybody."

For Duran, it is also, perhaps, some personal defiance. She knows too well the unthinkable and she knows that hiding isn't the answer.

"This is about having the freedom to celebrate," she said. "We should be able to celebrate the Fourth of July, we should be able to celebrate the New Year without fear. In this country, we shouldn't have to worry about this."

There are few places anywhere in the nation that are safe from celebratory gunfire. Not all that long ago, a young boy was hit while inside of a church in Georgia. Just this year, a young girl was killed in Baltimore. There is virtually nowhere in South Hillsborough that is safe, not even a quiet place like Sun City Center. A bullet shot into the sky can travel for up to three miles. And it can crash through a roof or a lanai without the slightest bit of warning.

In the first moments of 2012, the Duran family had no warning.

"Had we known how far a bullet can travel…just because of where we lived we just assumed it was

▶ Continued on page 17

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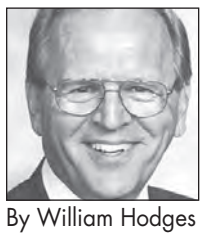
Positive Talk: Making Mary Merry



By William Hodges

I received a call from Mary in which she said things hadn't been going well for her lately. Her company has been going through downsizing, and she had been told her job would cease to exist within the next six months. The company would provide outplacement help, but they could not guarantee a new job on a par with the one she had. But that was a small problem compared to the fact that her husband has been battling a life-threatening disease for the past year. To top off matters, her only son, a minor, had been stopped in a traffic check. The officer smelled alcohol, which led to a search of the vehicle, which turned up a six-pack of beer.

Mary's opening statement to me on the telephone was, "You're the motivator. Cheer me up and motivate me." Wow! Maybe Moses parted the sea and Jesus turned water into wine, but I wasn't sure I was up to the task Mary set before me. I told her that sometimes we just hurt too much to notice the sunrise, and that it was all right for a period of time to feel bad. However, she pressed me and asked what positive steps she could take to brighten her outlook for the future.

I told her of one of my mentors—Dr. Norman Cousins—who was a leading proponent of the endorphin theory. Endorphins are a natural narcotic generated within our bodies that will deaden pain and lift our spirits. Endorphins are formed by happy thoughts and will lift us from the depths of depression to the heights of exhilaration. To help Mary build some of these endorphins in her system, I suggested the following:

1. Take the time to review a television schedule for funny movies and/or sit-coms — the more slapstick and laugh-filled the better. (Dr. Cousins particularly liked that old series *Candid Camera*, but he also had a soft spot for *The Three Stooges*.)

2. Make it a point to give everyone you meet a big smile and a positive statement, such as "I wish you a great day," "It's a beautiful morning," "You look super today," and "Good to see you." Statements of this nature will do three things. You will feel good after saying them; the listener will feel good to hear them; and the smile they elicit from the listener will be like a ray of sunshine back to you — all three of which will build endorphins.

3. Ask your friends or the librarian to recommend a funny book. Then offer to read the book aloud to the residents of a local nursing home. Hearing the words as you speak them will add to your enjoyment. The laughter from an audience will reinforce the humor, and I guarantee it will be a positive experience for you.

4. Write down every blessing you have — no matter how small or how infrequently it comes to you. Many of us spend time concentrating on what we don't have, rather than on what have or is within our grasp. Mary was overpowered by the lack of a stable job, a husband whose health was uncertain, and a son who had done something stupid. On the bright side, Mary has many marketable talents, her husband is not a quitter, and he is making strides against his disease. The son is a B+ student who has not been in trouble before, and he will probably not repeat his ill-advised actions. Recognizing that the pluses outweigh the negatives in your life will create endorphins.

Give these ideas a try; all you have to lose are the blues.

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

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Historic Preservation Challenge Grant applications due July 31

The deadline for applications for Hillsborough County's Historic Preservation Challenge Grant Program is Wednesday, July 31 at 3 p.m.

The grant program promotes historic preservation, heritage tourism, and related economic development within Hillsborough County for both incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Available grant funds will be awarded to selected applicants on a minimum of one-to-one (1:1) matching basis, not to exceed an award of more than $250,000 per applicant, per project in any County budget year. The grant is distributed on a reimbursement basis.

The 2013 Historic Preservation Challenge Grant program details are available online at: http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/index.aspx?NID=877.

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SouthShore Regional Library

Kids program/event highlights

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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.

Baby Time - Monday, July 1 at 1:35 p.m.
Tuesday, July 2 at 11:35 a.m.
Wednesday, July 3 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, July 3 at 10:05 a.m. & 10:35 a.m.
Wednesday, July 3 at 10:35 a.m.

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

Story Time - Tuesday, July 2 at 11 a.m.
Wednesday, July 3 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.

Fan-Da-Gumbo Sing-Along Concert - Tuesday, July 2 at 1 p.m. & 2:15 p.m.

For children entering grades K-5 ~ Clap, tap and snap with Julie Austin as she sings, and plays guitar, ukulele, autoharp and the jawharp. Sing, move and use sign language while participating in this entertaining musical concert. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

Sewer Time - Wednesday, July 3 at 2 p.m.

For children entering grades K-5 ~ Do disgusting things flow and crocodiles live in the sewer? Wade through this underground system with fun facts and experiments to learn about Sewer Stew.

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.

Children's shoe drive is underway

The SouthShore Chamber of Commerce is collecting pairs of new children's shoes (or a minimum $10 donation) to give to needy children during the Annual Back to School Coalition's event on Saturday, Aug. 17.

During the event, children who will be attending South County schools will receive free physicals and immunizations.

The Chamber is seeking to collect more than 100 pairs of shoes. For more information, contact the Chamber at 813-645-1366.

Bullet Free Sky holds awareness event

The 1st Annual What Goes Up Must Come Down fundraiser/awareness event will be from 3 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 3 at the Firehouse Cultural Center in Ruskin.

Co-sponsored by Bullet Free Sky and the Firehouse Cultural Center, the event is free and will feature a gun safety and awarenss presentation by Aegis Tactical, as well as live music by Kelly Emerson and Gary Garbelman.

In addition, there will be raffles, food and other activities.

All proceeds will help Bullet Free Sky continue to spread the word on the dangers of celebratory gunfire.

Bullet Free Sky was founded by Sandy Duran after her son Diego was seriously wounded a year and a half ago as a result of a bullet falling from the sky during New Year's Eve celebrations.

Wimauma resident hits 50

Wimauma resident Rusty Lee Morgan, shown here at about age 4, is about to turn 50 years old. Born in Ruskin, Rusty is the owner of Morgan's RV Repair in Wimauma.

Young sailors learn the ropes at TSS Youth Sailing

Seventeen young sailors completed the first week of sailing classes offered by TSS Youth Sailing at the Sailing Squadron in Apollo Beach.

Youth from 7 to 17 years old are learning to sail, an activity that fosters responsibility, teamwork, and awareness. Sailing adventures can change the course of a young person's life. Sailors are a diverse community, respectful of each other and the natural environment. Sailing builds bonds across generations and geography and skills and friendships that can last a lifetime.

From the first day, young sailors are sailing in small boats on Bal Harbour, having fun and learning the ropes in a safe, organized program. They are rigging, launching, sailing and landing a small sailboat singlehandedly. Advanced students are sharpening their skills for enhanced performance. All are having a great time!

Instructors are certified to teach by U.S. Sailing, the national authority. Staff are certified for CPR, First Aid and boating safety. Class size is limited for safety and personal attention.

Sailing classes are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays in July and August. Some free and discounted tuitions are available. Register at www.tssyouthsailing.org and check Facebook (TSS Youth Sailing) for photos and information.

Seminar covers the 'DOs and DON'Ts of Directing'

Have you ever thought about directing a show but you weren't sure you have what it takes?

Find out at a three-day intensive theater directing workshop titled "The DOs and DON'Ts of Directing." The directing workshop is hosted by the Performing Arts Company of SCC and the Pelican Players. Conducted by former New York director, actor, producer and writer Lew Resseguie, the workshop will be held at the Rollins Theater in Sun City Center on Tuesday, July 30, and Thursday and Friday, Aug 1 -2 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Lew has experienced every angle of show business, having directed over 35 plays & musicals, seven documentary films and countless concert productions . In addition to his acting career, Lew was the owner of several successful dinner theaters in Washington, and he served as director and producer of many of their productions. Locally, Lew is the founder and Chairman of the Board of the Performing Arts Company. He has directed every show, except one, that has been produced by the PAC at the Rollins Theater in the last 10 years.

Lew Resseguie

The "DO's and DON'T's of Directing" is geared toward actors who are interested in learning how to direct and directors with experience who want to learn more about the art of directing.

The workshop is limited to 15 participants. Applicants are asked to email an acting or director's resume to apply for the workshop to PerformingArtsCoSCC@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting resumes is Monday, July 15. Cost of "DDD" is $20. Prospective applicants will be notified if accepted. All interested adults are welcome to apply. For further details on the workshop, call 813-789-8271.

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Wetlands restoration

▶ Continued from page 1

turn into mudflats. One acre of the property, clearly visible from overhead photos, has already turned into a mudflat.

So why spend $4.5 million restoring the area?

"Mangroves are the heartbeat of Tampa Bay," said Roy Lewis III, president of Lewis Environmental Services, the Riverview company that designed the restoration project. "It's where juvenile fish hang out and mature and move into the bay. Tampa Bay has lost 40 percent of its mangroves over the last 100 years and as a direct result, commercial and recreational fishing have declined."

The restoration project will bring new life to the mangroves, securing their future for hundreds of years, Lewis said.

"When it's done there will be four tides a day flushing through the property and when the tide is ripping you will see a significant amount of fish coming through," Lewis said.

"More fish in the water would be an awesome thing, not even for my place but in general," said Lisa Cremeans, owner of the River's Edge Lounge, a quarter-mile from the Giant's Camp.

Popular with boaters and fishermen, the lounge is near a major boat ramp for the Alafia River. Cremeans believes the project will be popular with the locals. "I think they would be happy to know there would be more fishing."

Reopening the mangroves to the natural flow of the tide will also involve dredging a 1,000-foot long, 5-foot deep channel in the existing waterway, bringing a healthy flow of water into the area. Engineers will also build a bridge over the new channel once they cut through the old marina wall to reopen the mangroves.

While the tides will breathe new life into the mangroves, new oyster beds, also part of the restoration project, will help clean that water before it enters the area.

Just one oyster can filter 50 gallons of water a day, removing excess nutrients, bacteria and organic matter, improving overall water quality. Oyster reefs also serve as feeding grounds for wading birds and game fish such as snapper, grouper and snook.

Some 5,650 square feet of rock will be used in the project for oyster beds.

Support structures for the bridge will be built first, with dredging slated for later this summer. Construction of the bridge over the inlet channel comes during the final phase of construction.

The project will also see exotic, non-native plants removed from two acres along the site at Lula Road.

Mangrove restoration isn't the only local environmental project Mosaic is backing.

The company, which is seeking federal permission for new mines in Florida, last year donated $225,000 to Tampa Bay Watch, a nonprofit group dedicated to protecting and restoring the Bay area's marine and wetland ecosystem.

The donation, the largest in the group's 20-year history, is being used to build an oyster reef on Green Key, just 1.5 miles south of the Giant's Camp between Gibsonton and Apollo Beach.

KEVIN BRADY PHOTO

David Townsend, an assistant vice president at Mosaic which is paying for the $4.5-million restoration project, addresses the media at a press conference announcing the project.

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Borrow Pit wetland restoration project to start in fall

■ By KEVIN BRADY
kevin@observernews.net

The Borrow Pit Project, part two of the $4.5-million wetlands restoration project due to begin next month in Gibsonton, is slated to begin in October this year.

The five-acre property is east of U.S. Highway 41, beside the CSX railroad tracks and the Delaney Canal.

Dirt from the property was "borrowed" early in the last century.

"They used it either for the railroad tracks or for the highway, we are not sure which one," said Roy Lewis III, president of Lewis Environmental Services. The Riverview company, has been working with Mosaic on the Borrow Pit and Giant's Camp restoration projects for eight years, ever since federal officials mandated the phosphate company work on some form of environmental compensation after polluted water spilled from its plant in 2004.

"In both projects we are restoring hydrology (the circulation of water) to the area and creating fish and mangrove habitats," said Laura Flynn, an engineer with Lewis Environmental.

The project will leave the property with a tidal creek and pond.

Restoring a natural flow of water to the area will allow nature to work, said Lewis.

"We are not in the business of planting mangroves," Lewis said. "We are letting Mother Nature do her own restoration work here."

Having seen the process work successfully in other projects around the world, Lewis is confident it will work at the Borrow Pit.

"It's a proven methodology," he said.

The property, which has been altered by ditching, excavation and dumping over the years, is currently dominated by Brazilian Peppers. One of most aggressive and wide-spread of the invasive non-indigenous exotic pest plants in Florida, the Brazilian Pepper tree produces a dense canopy that shades out all other plants and provides a very poor habitat for native species.

"This species invades aquatic as well as terrestrial habitats, greatly reducing the quality of native biotic communities in the state," according to the University of Florida's Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants.

Step one at the Borrow Pit will be removing the Brazilian Peppers, something Mosaic has been doing in the area for several years. Once those are removed, and a tidal flow restored, the mangroves will have a chance to flourish.

In addition, the project will also include:

- Excavating a tidal creek connecting to the Delaney Creek Pop-Off Canal which borders the property to the north
- Creating a 1-acre shallow tidal pond
- Grading the wetland area to support natural mangrove colonization

Work on the borrow pit project is expected to conclude by June, 2014.

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MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Weekend skies open up for SuperMoon

Despite occasional heavy cloud cover and thunderstorms over the weekend, the night sky opened up over the Tampa Bay area to provide a glimpse of the closest, brightest moon all year. The so-called SuperMoon is an event that occurs when the unusually close proximity of the Moon's elliptical orbit coincides with a full moon, a combination that occurs roughly once every 14 months. And a full and bright moon it was over the weekend, lighting up even darkened streets and fields. The next opportunity to see the moon so close and bright will be in August of 2014. To catch a major SuperMoon, make plans to stick around until December 6, 2052 when the Moon will be at its closest point in many decades. Above, the moon on Saturday night as shot from my doorstep in Ruskin.

Good Samaritan, HCC

▶ Continued from page 1

contributing to the problem.

"They were filled with starchy canned foods," he said. But it was the kind of food they were used to, mostly beans and rice and potato-based meals. "Somehow, we wanted to help the people to eat healthier."

Right around the same time that Cruz was thinking about changing what food was made available to people who take classes and worship at the mission, a group at Hillsborough Community College was checking out local charities so it could decide who would be the recipient of produce grown in its hydroponic garden.

The garden had been started as a joint project between the literature and science classes, by students of professor of English Karen Boosinger, who also acts as advisor to the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and science professor James MacNeil.

Hydroponics is a way of gardening, growing plants in towers of water without soil.

After touring several area facilities that distribute food to the needy, students chose Good Samaritan Mission as the recipient of the vegetables that would be grown.

"But we knew it would only be a one-time project unless we got a grant to sustain it," Boosinger said. "My students took the project and ran with it."

Two members of Phi Theta Kappa, Karen Lewendowski and Nicole Schuyler, took the lead in the project, and Lewendowski wrote the grant.

According to Lewendowski, the U.S. Department of Agriculture funded the Florida Department of Agriculture for grants, and they were supposed to be awarded $5,000.

"But because of the point system they used and the number of grants that were approved, we actually received $3,450," she said. Then the college matched those funds.

After getting the approval of the recipient from campus president Allen Witt, the college approached the mission, Boosinger said.

"It was a God thing," said Cruz. "It came right when we were wondering how we could get the people to eat better."

Because they would now be getting fresh vegetables, cold storage was needed, and a walk-in cooler was donated by the Sun City Center Interfaith Council.

The first vegetables began to come in May, when the college held an official "lettuce cutting" which was explained as "a gardening version of a business's ribbon cutting."

MacNeil said he has been tending the garden himself since school let out.

"On average, I've been taking the mission about four 40-pound banana boxes a week," MacNeil said. Since some vegetables are counted in pounds and others in gallons or bushels, MacNeil said it was hard to get an exact figure of what has been donated but it is already around 300 pounds, most of which has been in various kinds of lettuces, Swiss chard, pole beans, and cilantro. Tomatoes are now starting to produce as well.

"We were fortunate to have John Lawson of Hydroharvest Farms in Ruskin as a consultant," MacNeil said.

The advantage to hydroponics is that small spaces can produce a lot of plants and the college's garden is growing well. It currently has 36 towers with 18 pots on a tower, and everything is green and full.

MacNeil said he is looking forward to the time when the Phi Theta Kappa students return to class. "I have been looking after it (the garden) myself with a small stipend from the school. It's a lot of work."

MacNeil said what's planted from now on will be decided by how well things grow and what the mission needs.

M&M Printing and The Observer News office will be closed Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day

New Dentist joins SCC Practice

Bryan R. Thatcher, DMD

The office of
Dr. Gerald Isbell & Dr. T. Gregory Jacobs
proudly introduce

Dr. Bryan R. Thatcher

Dr. Thatcher grew up in Valrico and now resides in Apollo Beach. He graduated from the University of Florida College of Dentistry, then attended the prestigious residency at the UF College of Dentistry in Seminole, FL, earning a Certificate of Advanced Education in General Dentistry. He looks forward to practicing all phases of general dentistry.

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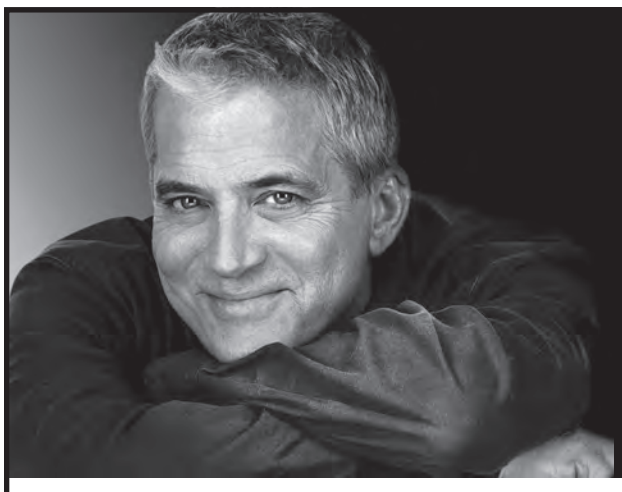

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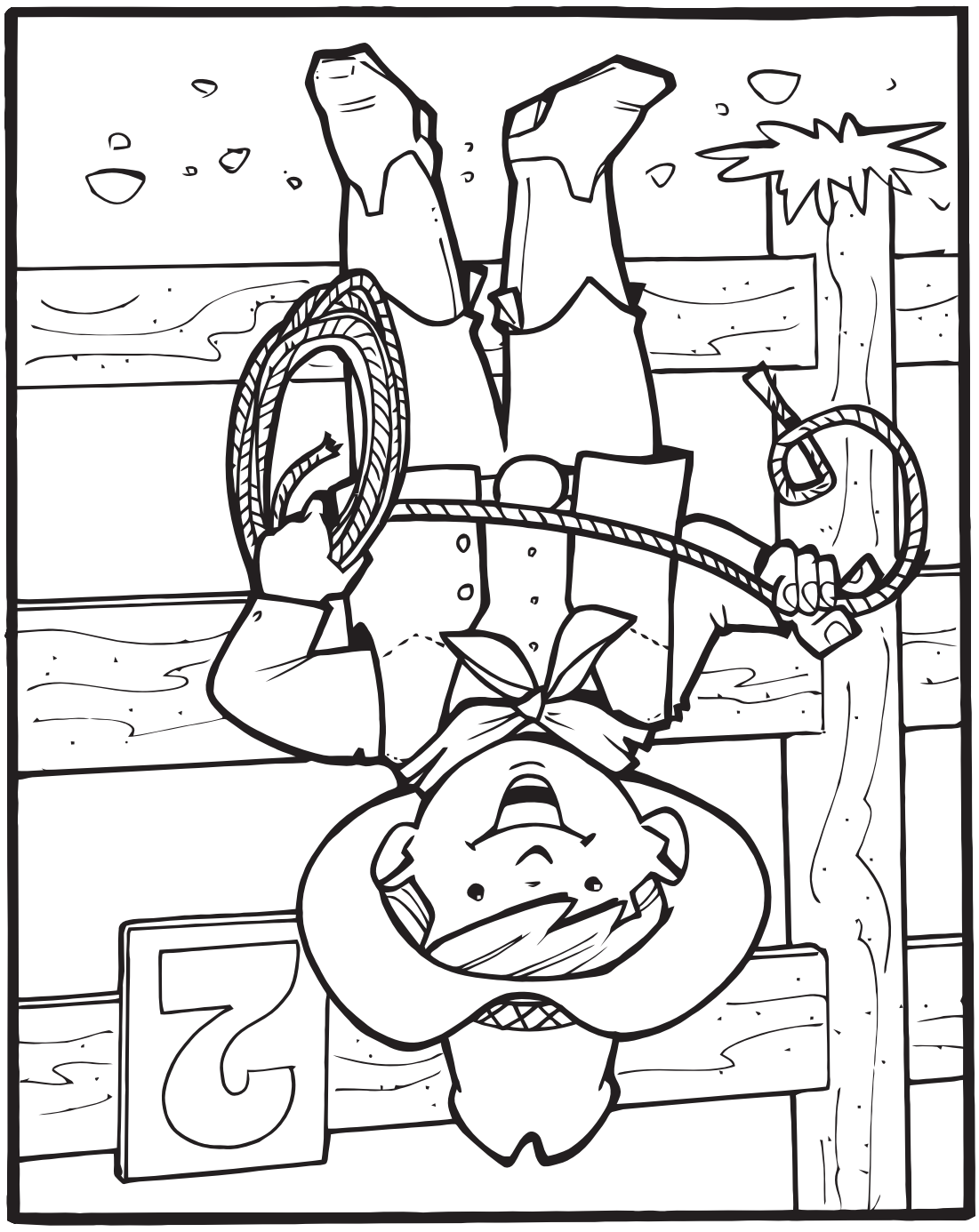


COLORING PICTURE

Answers: 1) Calf Roping, 2) Bronc Riding, 3) Barrel Racing, 4) Breakaway Roping, 5) Goat Tying, 6) Team Roping, 7) Steer Wrestling

1 C_ _LF RO_ _IN_

2 BR_ _NC R_ _D_ _NG

3 BA_ _ _EL RA_ _IN_

4 BR_ _ _KAWAY RO_ _I_ _G

5 G_ _ _T TYIN_

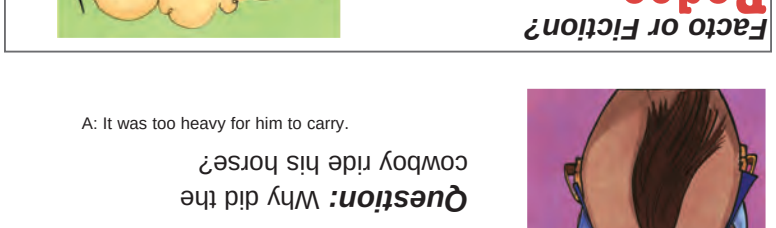
6 T_ _ _M R_ _PING

7 ST_ _ _R WR_ _ST_ _ING

Name That Event

Rodeos have several events to compete in. Fill in the blanks to name some of the events found at a rodeo.

What Rhymes with...



List 10 words that rhyme with "rope."

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

Some answers: cope, hope, lope, mope, nope, pope, scope, soap, slope, taupe

7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____

10. _____

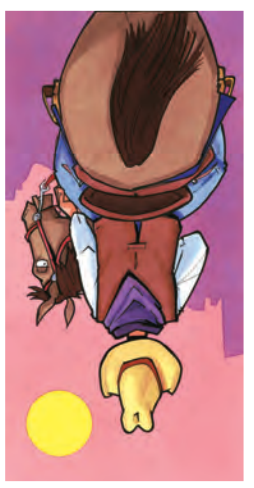
Jokes and Riddles

Question: What's the hardest thing about learning to ride a horse?

A: The ground!

Question: Why did the cowboy ride his horse?

A: It was too heavy for him to carry.



Facto or Fiction?

Rodeo Challenge

Rodeos are exciting and usually keep people watching from start to finish. Here are some questions about rodeos. How many can you answer correctly?

1) "Rodeo" comes from the Spanish word meaning "round up."

Fact or Fiction?

2) Most rodeos allow only men over the age of 50 to compete.

Fact or Fiction?

3) All rodeos are held outside.

Fact or Fiction?

4) Some rodeos are so big they are shown on TV.

Fact or Fiction?

5) Some rodeos crown a rodeo queen.

Fact or Fiction?

6) Most rodeos start off with the "Grand Entry," or introduction of competitors, officials, sponsors, the queen and her court, and more

Fact or Fiction?

7) During the Grand Entry, the American anthem, "America the Beautiful," is usually performed.

Fact or Fiction?

8) Rodeo competitions are divided into two groups: timed and rough stock.

Fact or Fiction?

9) Some rodeos have competitions for kids.

Fact or Fiction?

10) Some rodeos have live music at intermission.

Fact or Fiction?

Answers: 1) Fact, 2) Fiction, most rodeos are open to men and women of all ages, 3) Fiction, some are held indoors in an air-conditioned arena, 4) Fact, 5) Fact, 6) Fact, 7) Fiction, the American anthem is "The Star-Spangled Banner," 8) Fact, 9) Fact, 10) Fact

You, me and business:
No limit to networking opportunities

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

In January 2011, the Chamber started having weekly free networking luncheons in the banquet room. Local business owners and representatives grab a sandwich from Subway or bring a salad from home and spend an hour meeting and getting to know other business people. The purpose is to develop relationships with other businesses and to swap referrals.

We named the group the Exchange because we exchange business cards, we exchange referrals, and we exchange networking tips and announcements of what's going on in the area.

There is also an Educational Moment which includes a handout with a different business networking strategy each week, applicable to all business sizes.

But probably what sets us apart from other groups is our infamous Question of the Week. It could be anything from "name one thing on your bucket list" to "what's the craziest thing you've ever done?" By having The Question, we really get to know other business people and develop relationships with them. Often our attendees spend more time answering The Question than they do talking about their business. And the answers will have you holding your stomach in laughter.

The Exchange is open to non-Chamber members – still free! Whether you are business-to-business or business-to-consumer, your company will grow with consistent and continual networking with other local businesses. Once you develop that professional relationship with other business people, they will be more likely to refer you to their existing customers. We invite you to join us every Wednesday at 11:45 here at the Chamber for The Exchange!

And that got me thinking about all of the other networking opportunities out there. In addition to the Exchange, there's also the Slow Speed Networking at 7:30 a.m. every Friday morning at SunTowers Retirement in Sun City Center. (It's also free!)

On Wednesday mornings, there's the Southshore Business Alliance which meets at The Alley off of Big Bend Road at 7:30 a.m.

If you want exclusivity to your industry, there are several Business Networking International (BNI) groups that meet in the South Shore area. There are dues and membership fees, but you would be the only kind of business in the group getting referrals from other members.

All three South Shore chambers of commerce hold monthly networking coffees, luncheons and business after hours events, so there's no excuse for you not to be out there meeting other people.

Networking is the single most important thing you can do to build business relationships and grow your business. And if it's for free, all the better! If making time to network isn't in your strategic plan, you're missing a key component of a successful business.

This year is almost half over! Have you been networking properly? Why not pull up your calendar and mark off some time to have lunch with us on a Wednesday or have coffee with others? It's amazing what it will do for your business. Not to mention, it's fun!

Local therapist gains new certifications

Constance M. Larkin

Constance M. Larkin, formerly of Connie's Classic Touch, recently became certified to perform Cupping Therapy through Ace Cupping Therapy, taught by Stacie Nevelus of Sarasota, FL.

The intense course included pain management, body shaping and facial uplifting. Treatments are cumulative and should be scheduled twice a week for four weeks for best results.

Cupping therapy is the method of using glass or plastic cups to create localized pressure by a vacuum. The Chinese have been doing this dating back 3,500 years and it is still used today by many alternative medicine practitioners. The suction from the cups can penetrate deep into tissues, causing tissues to release harmful toxins. It triggers the lymphatic system, clears the blood vessels, and stretches and activates the skin.

In addition, Connie is now Certified as a Manual Lymphatic Drainage Therapist (CMLDT), after completing an in-depth, 48 hour CEU course with the MLD Institute International in Fort Lauderdale. She was trained in the Vodder Style and also trained in measuring accurately for compression garments, bandaging, remedial exercising, patient instruction and charting results to assist physicians in their treatment of edema.

To schedule an appointment with Constance M Larkin (MA0025101) for Massage Therapy, Cupping Massage Therapy or Manual Lymphatic Drainage Therapy, call 813-641-7400.

RUSKIN VFW POST #6287

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

Thursday, June 27 - Bar Bingo 6 p.m.
Friday, June 28 - Fish & Chips 4:30 - 7 p.m. Music by You 2 Can 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 29 - Steak dinner 5-6:30 p.m. Music by Chuck Cobb 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 30 - Music by Chuck Cobb 6:30 p.m.
Monday, July 1 - Crew Games 6 p.m.
Fridays - Saturdays - Sundays: New Member Drive - 6:30-7:30 p.m. $1 draft, $1.50 beer, wine and well drinks.

Observations: The sausage grinder

Observations
By Mitch Traphagen
mitch@observernews.net

Edward Snowden is the 30-year-old computer contractor for a company working with the NSA who exposed some of the agency's capabilities and actions involving the potential privacy of not only every American, but also quite likely, every person on earth with a cell phone and Internet access.

For Snowden, it really doesn't matter what any of us think about him or what he did. It doesn't matter if the clarity of historical hindsight eventually labels him a hero or a traitor, it doesn't matter if our elected officials are posturing or ignoring it. For Mr. Snowden, the result is the same: having just celebrated his 30th birthday, his life as he knows it is over. With his actions, he turned a corner, walked through a door and down a one-way street. In this case, as in the cases of so many much smaller things people do in their lives, there is no way to turn a sausage grinder backwards and make a pig pop out.

I didn't make it to my nephew's wedding last weekend. He is one of six nephews, the first to marry, and I missed the wedding that was held on Saturday in northern Minnesota. I told myself that I had too much going on, that the travel was too expensive for the short time I'd have and that it was only fair that I missed it because it is unlikely that I would make the trip for the future weddings of my other nephews. And now the day after, I see photos posted by siblings on Facebook, I see my brother, a good man whom I love, respect and admire, and I realized just how much I have missed — and it was far more than a wedding. His pride and happiness jumps through the photographs. I wasn't there when my nephews grew up, I wasn't there last Saturday — missing the wedding was just more of the same and I can't turn the sausage grinder backwards now.

I am acutely aware that time is running out for much of what I had once thought I would do. I won't have children, it's too late for that. With each passing day, the likelihood that I'll write the long-dreamed-about book dims. I can't take the money I spent equipping a sailboat for the ocean and put it into a 401K. I can't see Kellen and his lovely now-wife Erika get married. Chances are that I won't be able to travel at the last minute to see my brother when he becomes a grandfather. And he will be one heck of a great grandfather.

Perhaps it was seeing my Dad die at a young age that threw me off course — but then thinking that I realize that sounds like an excuse and that is the hallmark of my generation (and certainly a hallmark of mine): finding something, anything to blame for my own failures. I had this idea to go sailing. I did, without regard to a career or having children. I had this idea to live on a boat in Florida. I did, without regard for my family and all that would happen in my absence. In the end, I basically went my own way on a meandering course with the false belief that I could and would find the right star to steer towards someday. Now I'm worried that I missed that someday. Or have I?

Thanks to Facebook, I see people I graduated from high school with are beginning to wind down careers and are just starting to enjoy grandchildren. I doubt any of them have ever stood on the deck of their own boat and watched the mountains of the Dominican Republic rise from the ocean with the sunrise or been invited into a ramshackle hovel by a financially impoverished but rich in heart and soul family in Havana for coffee. I have been blessed in this job to have the honor and privilege to meet so many amazing people in Sun City Center, Ruskin, Gibsonton, Apollo Beach and Riverview. But my former classmates have the present and their futures appear reasonably clear, while I have memories. Sometimes it feels like having the present is better than having the past, but those are memories that I wouldn't trade.

Dr. Satya Gullapalli in Sun City Center is the best doctor I have ever known. Last week she suggested I take an entire day to do nothing but think about where I am at, and what has changed in the past months and years. "If things aren't better, perhaps it is time to move on and do something different," she said.

She was referring primarily to my physical health and general stress level but it seems an apt consideration for life. I've made mistakes and now, in hindsight, I'm wondering if I traded the future for the ever-fleeting present.

Edward Snowden's life, as he once knew it, is over. He will never be able to do the things he may have thought about only last month, nor will he be able to do the things that he hasn't yet taken the time to consider. I can't make a public judgment as to whether or not he is a hero or a traitor but I can, in a very small way, relate to the fear that is almost certainly now engulfing him. Some things can't be undone. Lately, I've been furiously cranking the sausage grinder backwards hoping a pig would pop out. It won't. Trying to make something like that happen is just wasting time. There is simply nowhere to live in the past.

"It's never too late," people like to say. Yes, sometimes it is too late. And when that becomes clear, where do you go from there? Unless you are Edward Snowden, all you can do is look towards tomorrow and if things aren't better, perhaps it's time to move on to something else. Tomorrow is wide open.

Tomorrow can be almost anything we want it to be and the only thing stopping most of us, myself included, are our own fears. Despite age, past mistakes, disabilities, finances, fear, or whatever that can hold back dreams, the story of tomorrow hasn't been written yet. How it will read is entirely up to you. Regardless of anything else, it can still be one hell of a great story.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Some things can't be undone and sometimes it really is too late. But if life is like a stairway, whether it leads up or down really depends on your perspective.

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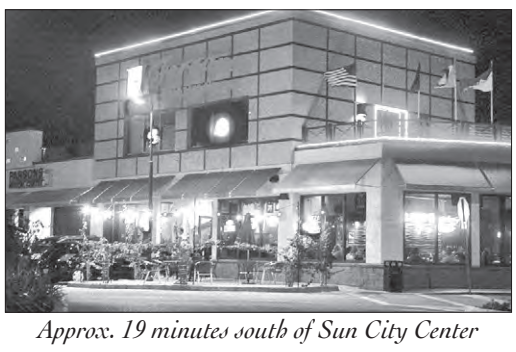

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June Hendley of Kings Point in Sun City Center has an emotional reunion with Susan O'Sullivan while on a trip to England earlier this month.

A life saved: appreciated and remembered

■ BY PENNY FLETCHER
penny@observernews.net

An emotional reunion between two women earlier this month has left an impact on both that each says they'll never forget.

June Hendley and Susan Mann O'Sullivan have talked on the phone, emailed and Skyped, but they hadn't seen each other in person since Susan was four years old.

Meeting with Susan was one of the most important things on June's agenda during her recent trip back to England.

June, who lives in the Kings Point development of Sun City Center, moved to the United States 22 years ago from England.

A nurse specializing in midwifery, June has delivered countless babies, most of whom she never saw again.

But one day in 1973, a tiny girl was brought to the hospital ward where she worked.

"She was about four weeks old, and she was being tubed because she couldn't swallow or suck," June said. "She had failure to thrive. My nursing colleagues tried everything they knew. I guess because I was a little older, more experienced, and had had children already, I just had a feeling what I should do."

Everyone else had pretty much given up because no matter what they tried, the child continued to worsen.

"They all just put the nipple in her mouth and said she wouldn't eat," she said.

So June began by giving the baby lots of love and attention. Holding her and talking to her. Then she tried feeding her but when that didn't work, she devised a way to get the formula down.

"I knew something had to be done or she wouldn't survive. I put my thumb under her throat and massaged her throat," she said, demonstrating how that would force someone to swallow.

Once she had her eating some, June taught the baby's mother, Beryl, to do it.

"She had other children. Older kids. But she hadn't thought to do that."

When Beryl took her daughter home, June continued to check up on her and the family became friends.

June moved to the States in 1991, but never lost contact with Susan's family and as Susan grew older, she began to talk with June herself.

Now Susan is almost 40 and has an 11-year-old daughter named Sinead. She teaches hair dressing at a college, June said.

In an email interview with Susan, she described the recent meeting as "incredibly emotional."

"I couldn't believe I was meeting her. She saved my life," Susan said. "June emigrated when I was really young and although we have talked on the phone and emailed and Skyped it was absolutely amazing to meet her in the flesh. The day was an emotional roller coaster. There were tears of joy when we met and tears of sadness when we had to leave. Now I'm saving up for a visit to Florida so we can spend more time together."

For now though, they continue almost daily contact by computer.

Blackpool Tower is a landmark in a resort area of England near the Irish Sea.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

A church under the Big Top

For two days last week, the First Baptist Church of Ruskin became the church under the Big Top as the entire complex was tented and sprayed for termites. A church alone would seem to be a challenge but the tenting also included the offices and other connected buildings, a feat that was handled by Haskell Termite and Pest Control of Tampa. Wednesday services at the church were cancelled last week with a sign telling parishioners, "No services on Wednesday due to something bugging us." Services resumed on Sunday.

How do you even begin tenting a large church? With a big tent, of course, delivered by a big crane.

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

Romeo

Romeo is a gray tabby kitten who was recently brought to C.A.R.E. with his three siblings, Juliet, Tippy 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. BornJanuary 2, 2013.

Benson

Benson is an adorable little man who was found with severely matted fur and lots of burs. Under all of that mess was a gentle and sweet dog who is just happy to hang out in the office with our volunteers. Benson is affectionate with people and seems fine with the company of other dogs. He also appears housebroken. Benson is ready to start the next phase of his life. He will make some lucky person a wonderful companion. Benson is neutered and current on his shots. Born June 2, 2001.

PHOTOS MARLENE GREENBERG

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

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SATURDAY
Chef's Special for Dinner
Live Entertainment
7 to 11 p.m.

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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
4:30-8:30 p.m.

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JSA Medical Group Sun City Center Activity Center EVENTS CALENDAR

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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 27:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	9:30 to 10:30 am
	TAI CHI	2:30 to 3:30 pm
Fri 28:	SALSA DANCING	10 to 11 am
	SLOW FLOW YOGA	1:30 to 2:30 pm
	GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	3 to 4:15 pm

JULY UPCOMING EVENTS *REGISTER NOW!

Mon 01:	SLOW FLOW YOGA	1:30 to 2:30 pm
	GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	3 to 4:15 pm
Tue 02:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	11 am to Noon
Wed 03:	LINE DANCING*: Beginners or	11 am to Noon;
	Advanced *(Classes Limited to 30 ppl)*	12:15 to 1:15 pm
Thu 04:	HAPPY 4th OF JULY!	Closed
Fri 05:	SALSA DANCING	10 to 11 am
	SLOW FLOW YOGA	1:30 to 2:30 pm
	GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	3 to 4:15 pm
Mon 08:	CHA CHA DANCING	11 am to Noon
	SLOW FLOW YOGA	1:30 to 2:30 pm
	GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	3 to 4:15 pm
Tue 09:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	11 am to Noon
Wed 10:	LINE DANCING*: Beginners or	11 am to Noon;
	Advanced *(Classes Limited to 30 ppl)*	12:15 to 1:15 pm
Thu 11:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	9:30 to 10:30 am
	TAI CHI	2:30 to 3:30 pm
Fri 12:	SALSA DANCING	10 to 11 am
	SLOW FLOW YOGA	1:30 to 2:30 pm
	GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	3 to 4:15 pm

Some classes have limited space, call for availability

Dominoes are always available to play at the SCC Activity Center!

Please check your insurance coverage for **SILVERSNEAKERS** class participation eligibility.

***MSROM: Muscular Strength & Range of Movement Classes**

Visit us online for the monthly schedule of classes and events: **JSAMedicalGroup.com Click "Events"**

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Before / After

❑ **Pain:**
'Heavy', aching, or tired legs; painful calves....legs that feel 'older' than they should. You need an ultrasound evaluation. ***Remember - most vein problems are hidden.***

❑ **Blue Feet: ('corona phlebectasia')**
Blue veins at the foot and ankle indicate something is wrong – usually a failed greater saphenous vein. Get an ultrasound now. We will prevent further deterioration of your legs.

❑ **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.

❑ **Surface Veins: Spider (red), Reticular (blue) and Varicose Veins:**
Mountcastle Vein Centers offer 'in office' 20 minute treatments to resolve these problems. Most treatments are medical and paid by insurance. We also offer VeinGogh, "State of the Art" radio-frequency technology, to deal with fine spider veins. Remarkable cosmetic results!!

❑ **Have you checked one or more boxes?** Call Mountcastle Vein Centers - Call our office for a free, screening appointment **(813) 634-1333**

❑ **Insurance**: We are 'In-Network' providers with Medicare (and accept Medicare with Medicaid), Humana, BC/BS, United Health, Cigna, Aetna, Tricare and are the VA Preferred Provider

S. Hillsborough Elks Lodge receives award

On June 14, South Hillsborough Elks Lodge 2672 received a Recognition Award from the James A Haley Veterans Hospital. The award read as follows: "In recognition for your community service to the active duty service members and veterans at the James A. Haley VA Hospital." On every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, veterans are treated to a dinner, entertainment and given personal items which have been donated by members of the Lodge. In addition, this past year, through a $2000 grant received from the Elks National Foundation, the Lodge provided a $10 gift certificate to each veteran. From left are PER Chuck Stieb and PER Grace Bibisi, ENF Chairman, with Kimberly Peatee, Recreation Therapist, and veterans from James A Haley VA Hospital

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TIP: To check road wear on your tires, use a penny. Just insert the coin — head first — into the most severely worn part of the tire. If the tread is not sufficient to touch the top of Lincoln's head, it's probably time to replace your tires.

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SouthShore Regional Library classes

Adult program/event highlights

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

■ **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

■ **Mouse and Keyboard - Tuesday, July 2 at 12:30 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.

■ **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.

■ **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!

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.southshore-friends.com.

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Slick and shining '34 Ford named Cruiser of the Month.

Shortly after Roy and Tomi Kessler of Riverview bought a neat but unfinished 1934 Ford coupe, Roy visited a Roamin' Oldies Car Club cruise-in. There, he drew inspiration from several completed cars like his, and promised himself that one day soon he would take home the award for Cruiser of the Month.

Two years later, he did just that at the June cruise-in. By then the car had brilliant Viper Red paint with ghost skulls on the trunk lid by Chris Quesada and a new two-tone brown interior with Cadillac El Dorado power bucket seats. Roy also chromed out the engine, installed Vintage air conditioning and Cobra 17x9 wheels; and did all the other work needed to build a great show car. Along the way, he says, he got a lot of help from friend Mick Wright.

The Roamin' Oldies Car Club hosts a cruise-in from 6 to 9 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at the Apollo Beach Winn-Dixie Plaza on US 41, with a rain date the following Thursday. There is no charge for spectators or participants.

About 100 of the area's finest antique and collectible cars take part, accompanied by classic oldies music played by DJ Joey Ferrante. The event is sponsored by Thompson's Auto Parts. For information, call Chet at 813-842-1511.

Ruskin Branch Library

1 Dickman Drive SE • Ruskin 33573

Adult Computer Classes for the Technologically Challenged

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.

eBooks and eReaders: Introduction • Friday, June 29 at 3 p.m.

Have a new eReader or interested in getting one? Learn which devices can download the library's free eBooks and how to load eBooks onto various types of eReaders. Discover the library's large selection of eBooks in various formats

Computer Tutor • Wednesday, July 3 at 5:30 p.m.

Tutoring in Microsoft software, email, and the Internet. Seating limit: 18.

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.

Thursday, July 4 - Build your own Burger Special for all Elks and their guests at 5:30 p.m., $5 per person. Music by Bill Searles from 4 to 7 p.m. Celebrate the 4th with your Lodge.

Monday, July 8 - Blue Plate Special for all Elks and their guests at 5 p.m. Menu: 1/2 Baked Chicken with all the trimmings, $7 person, only 50 tickets available.

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

THE SAVVY SENIOR

What to Consider Before Joining a Clinical Trial

Dear Savvy Senior

What can you tell me about clinical trials and how to go about finding one? My wife has a chronic condition and we're interested in trying anything that may be able to help her.

Looking For Help

By Jim Miller

Dear Looking,

Each year, hundreds of thousands of Americans participate in clinical trials in hopes of gaining access to the latest, and possibly greatest, but not yet on the market treatments for all types of illnesses. But you need to be aware that clinical trials can vary greatly in what they're designed to do, so be careful to choose one that can actually benefit your wife. Here's what you should know along with some tips for locating one.

Clinical Trials

A clinical trial is the scientific term for a test or research study of a drug, device or medical procedure using people. These trials — sponsored by drug companies, doctors, hospitals and the federal government — are conducted to learn whether a new treatment is safe and if it works. But keep in mind that these new treatments are also unproven, so there may be risks too.

Also be aware that all clinical trials have certain eligibility criteria (age, gender, health status, etc.) that your wife must meet in order to be accepted. And before taking part in a trial, she'll be asked to sign an informed consent agreement. She can also leave a study at any time.

Things to Know

Before deciding to participate in a trial, you and your wife need to first discuss it with her doctor. Then, schedule an appointment with the study's medical team and ask lots of questions. Here are some to get you started.

■ What's the purpose of the study and can it improve your wife's condition? You may be surprised to know that many drug or procedural trials are not designed to find a cure or improve a patient's health, but only to provide scientific data.

■ What are the risks? Some treatments can have side effects that are unpleasant, serious and even life threatening.

■ What kinds of tests and treatments does the study involve, and how often and where they are performed?

■ Is the experimental treatment in the study being compared with a standard treatment or a placebo? Keep in mind that if your wife gets the placebo, she'll be getting no treatment at all.

■ Who's paying for the study? Will you have any costs, and if so, will your insurance plan or Medicare cover the rest? Sponsors of trials generally pay most of the costs, but not always.

■ What if something goes wrong during or after the trial and your wife needs extra medical care? Who pays?

■ If the treatment works, can your wife keep using it after the study?

Find a Trial

Every year, there are more than 100,000 clinical trials conducted in the U.S. You can find them at condition-focused organizations like the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association, or by asking her doctor who may be monitoring trials in his or her specialty.

Or, use the National Institutes of Heath's website at clinicaltrials.gov. This site contains a comprehensive database of federally and privately supported clinical studies in the U.S. and abroad on a wide range of diseases and conditions, including information about each trial's purpose, who may participate, locations, and phone numbers for more details.

If, however, you don't have Internet access or could use some help finding the right trial, use the Center for Information and Study on Clinical Research Participation (ciscrp.org). This is a nonprofit organization that will take your wife's information over the phone and do a thorough clinical trials search for you, and mail or email you the results in a few days. Call 877-633-4376 for assistance.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of The Savvy Senior *book.*

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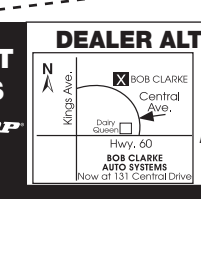

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Fish Tales:
Fishing improves after rains

By Jonie Maschek
Member: Florida Outdoor Writers Association

I hope you had your cell out to snap some pictures of the large, bright, brilliant, full moon this past week.

Some say it was so bright it was like the lights of Las Vegas.

Many cruised the waters under the moonlight with an eye on the weather.

Fishing is great under a full moon. Since we have had a few choppy waters, and some rain, many watched the weather reports and fished safe .

The good side of rain is that it increases the water level and makes for better fishing.

Fishing has remained steady this week, with a good redfish bite. Many were caught and released, because the vast majority of those caught were giants and too large for legal keep. But those catching these game fish had a workout and one of their best fishing days. Reds are restricted with one per person per day; legal not less than 18 in or more than 27 in.

After a downfall of rain, you will find hungry fish in our waters. Reports came in about schools of hungry silver trout. Legal is l2 inches and to my knowledge four per person per day. Average size is two pounds. Many call this fish Florida summer trout. You must set the hook just right to land them. Their mouths are soft and your hook will slip out easily. They will strike at artificial lures but love live shrimp.

It seems black drum love hot weather. Our waters are teeming with schools of them. The food value is not great. Large drum have been known to have worms in their flesh.

Sheepshead are always around. Many are caught in canals, rivers and in the bay. A boney mouth, white meat, lean fish, they are called sheepshead because of their rows of teeth like that of a sheep. They have very sharp fins; be careful when cleaning. Legal is not less than 12 in. with l5 per person per day.

Plenty of flounder catches were made on boats anchoring ashore at Williams Park.

If there is an incoming tide, that is a good time to fish and the fish will be feeding. If you have a full phase moon, that is a good time for night fishing. If the water is moving, it will be great fishing.

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Volunteers wanted for derelict crab trap removal

Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteer boaters for Saturday, July 13 to participate in a crab trap removal effort of six locations: Belleair Bluffs, Upper Tampa Bay, Alafia River, Cockroach Bay, Boca Ciega Bay and Demen's Landing.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has mandated a temporary closure for the harvest of blue crabs from traps in all waters of Broward through Pasco counties, including the waters of Tampa Bay.

Volunteer boaters interested in participating in the event should register on tampabaywatch.org or call 727-867-8166, ext, 233.

FWC is requiring regional closed seasons for the blue crab fishery to help facilitate efforts to identify and retrieve lost and abandoned blue crab traps in state waters of Florida. The local closure is from July 10-19 and extends out to three miles offshore and applies to both commercial and recreational free standing traps. Blue crab traps attached to private property (i.e., docks) are excluded from the closure.

All commercial and recreational traps left in state waters during the ten day closure will be considered derelict and can be removed. It is important to note that even though the fishery will be closed, not just anybody can remove a trap. Anyone interested in being involved must be a part of an organized effort that has been authorized by FWC.

For more information on Tampa Bay Watch's local effort, contact Serra Herndon at sherndon@tampabaywatch.org or 727-867-8166, ext. 227.

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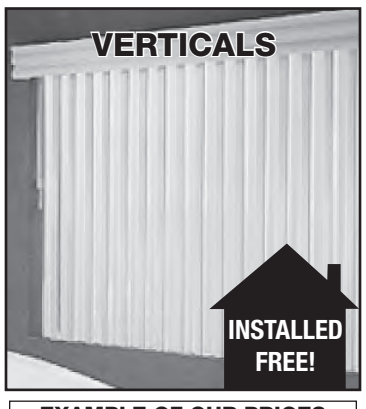

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Saturday, June 29..... 5 p.m. Wings, fries and slaw
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Sunday ..... Feather Your Nest game canceled until Fall. $1 draft beer all day.

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

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Sandy Duran at her home in Ruskin. "I have forgiveness in my heart [for the person who shot her son]. If I met that person, I would ask him to join us, to spread the word as an experience of his own."

Bullet Free Sky fundraiser

▶ Continued from page 3

a very safe place," she said. "We live on acres of land. This came to our very front door. We weren't aware just how much this has happened right here in Florida, right here in the United States. The idea of not being at war with one another and having bullets falling from the sky and injuring and killing innocent people is just something we had to do something about, especially when it happened to our son."

For Duran, the passing of time has changed her thoughts towards the shooter. The person who shot Diego has never been identified.

"In the very beginning, someone asked if I would forgive that person my response then was very sincere and that I wasn't ready," she said. "But now I stand in a different place. To get our word out, we started by educating ourselves. We took courses to get certified to handle firearms. I've read a lot and have done research. I've learned that judging is actually a wall, it is an obstacle. So I've learned to be non-judgmental. Some people do this [celebratory gunfire] as a family tradition. They are good people but they just don't think that the bullet can travel so far. In my mind, I know that if I met that person I would invite that person to join us, to spread the word, as an experience of his own. I would ask him to help us. I have forgiveness in my heart and I've learned to be non-judgmental."

> *Some people do this [celebratory gunfire] as a family tradition. They are good people but they just don't think that the bullet can travel so far.*

In the process, she even went so far as to join the National Rifle Association as part of her research.

"With all of the news over guns lately, people assume right away that we are anti-gun," she said. "That is not the case. I can say that in the right hands, in the right place, firearms can and have saved lives. We do want everyone to know that we are pro-gun safety and pro-common sense."

Diego, now 14, is a mature and polite teenager who shows little signs of trauma from what he has been through. Indeed, despite undergoing medical tests as late as last week, there is a palpable calm and peace about him. Throughout the experience, even during critical moments, his response has been unchanged. "I'm good," he says.

On July 3, a celebration will be held in Ruskin. A celebration of life and independence. In the case of celebratory gunfire, there is something all of us can to to solve the problem. Sandy Duran is on a mission to make that happen.

"It runs from 3 to 8 p.m.," she said. "We'll have activities from the Firehouse Cultural Center. We'll have raffles from local businesses, a bounce house for the kids, food and barbecue and we're really excited to have a live performance from Kelly Emerson and Gary Garbelman, who have been kind enough to offer their talent and time to perform from 6 to 8 p.m. There will also be gun safety demonstrations."

A bullet that comes out of the sky has the power to injure, kill and change lives. Sandy Duran now sees the silver lining in the clouds that are in that sky. She knows in her heart that the needless damage can be stopped.

"First of all, it was very tragic, what happened to Diego," she said. "And then it was a great miracle, just to have our son still alive, still with us after having survived getting hit by a bullet, going through his brain. And now, it is a big responsibility that I seek for myself that we just have to do something about this. The Fourth of July is a celebration, just put your guns away. Hundreds and thousands of other people are out celebrating, too, just like you are. This is 100 percent preventable."

The Firehouse Cultural Center is located at 101 1st Avenue NE in Ruskin. For more information visit www.bulletfreesky.com.

Full disclosure: I am a member of the board of directors of Bullet Free Sky. On July 3 from 3 to 8 p.m., please join me at the Firehouse Cultural Center to celebrate our nation's independence with Diego, Sandy and so many others dedicated to the mission of keeping people safe from an unnecessary danger. For this problem, there is something you can do — all you have to do is show up. I hope to meet you there.

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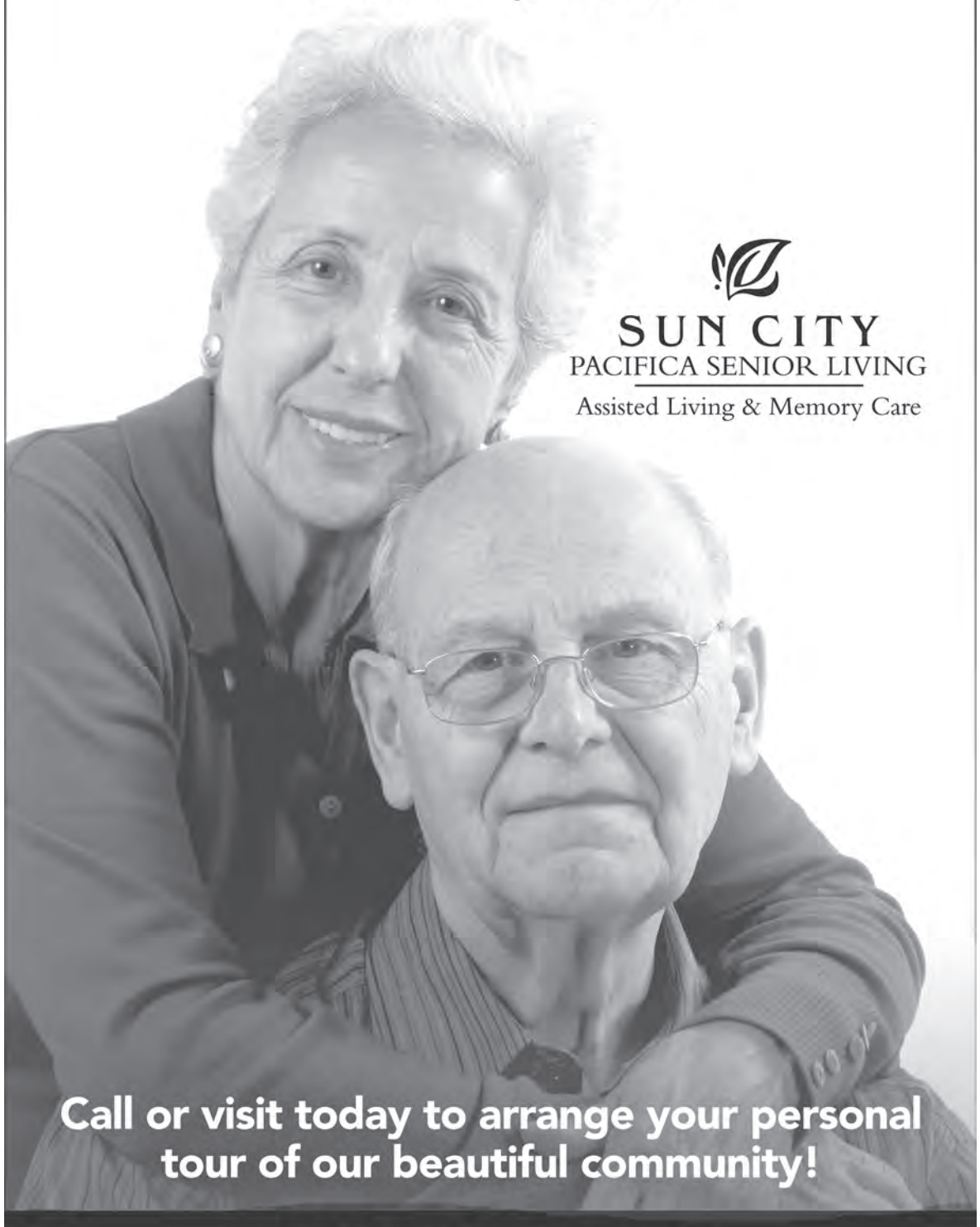

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Area Obituaries

James L. Ayotte

James L. Ayotte, 78, of Sun City Center, FL passed away June 18, 2013. He was born June 6, 1935 and raised in Watersmeet, MI. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany.

Jim was a 25-year employee at Eagle Tool of Iron Mountain, MI. Former owners of the Plaza Motel, Jim and Judy, his wife of 55 years, raised their three children in Racine, WI, Ewen, MI and Iron Mountain, MI. He was a former Mason, and member of the Iron Mountain Elks Lodge.

After relocating to Sun City Center in 2002, he was president of the Acadia HOA and Kings Point Garden Club. He served as director of the Kings Point Federation Board and he was an honorary member of the COA gifts and grants committee.

Jim was an avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting and fishing with his dog Whitey, and his trips to Biloxi with his wife and friends. He is survived by wife Judy; brother Ben (Georgia), Racine, WI; daughter Tracy (Greg), Ocoee, FL; sons James (Tammy) of Bellaire Bluffs, FL and Benjamin (Laura) of Colorado Springs, CO; grandsons Jacob (Amy), Christopher (Kari), Jed (Brittany), Blaine, Carter, Griffin, and Hayden; great-granddaughters Quinn and Kinley; and great-grandsons Nicholas and Kyle.

He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to LifePath Hospice 3723 Upper Creek Drive, Ruskin, FL 33573.

Louis F. Drouin, Jr.

Louis Frederick Drouin Junior, age 77, born December 18, 1935, passed away peacefully in his home with his family June 19, 2013.

He was beloved by his wife Dorothy (Dolly), daughter Deborah, son Louis Drouin III, son-in-law Charles, daughter-in-law Tracie, grandsons Eric and Marc, and great-granddaughter Krystyn. He will be missed by all who knew him.

He graduated from Tufts University in 1957 and then served in his country's National Guard for six years. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on August 10 at Calvary Lutheran Church on US 41 in Apollo Beach. Contributions to any hospice organization in lieu of flowers is requested.

Edward A. Gargiulo

March 2, 1914 - June 17, 2013

On June 17, 2013 Dr. Edward A. Gargiulo went to be with his beloved predeceased wife Marie on what would have been their 74th wedding anniversary. He peacefully passed away at his home in Sun City Center, FL.

Dr. Gargiulo leaves behind a close family of four sons: Bill (Suzanne) and Robert of Bradenton, FL, Bruce (Gail) of Atlantic Beach, FL, and Bryant (Eileen) of Tucker, GA.; grandsons Christopher (Susanne) of Dragor, Denmark, Michael of Columbia, SC and Joseph of Tucker, GA; and great-granddaughters Sienna and Sumie of Dragor, Denmark.

Dr. Gargiulo served in the U.S. Navy as a dental officer for 24 years before retiring as a full captain. He was a highly decorated veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict. He then went on to serve for 20 years as Chairman of the Department of Oral Surgery and Director of Post Graduate Dental Education at the State University of New York at Buffalo, NY.

Dr. Gargiulo had a deep Catholic faith that was an important part of his life and character. He exhibited his faith by always being ready and willing to help anyone and everyone who came into his long 99 years of serving the Lord. He served in multiple leadership positions as the Grand Knight of the Third Degree and as the Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

His celebration of life funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m on Saturday, June 29 at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Sun City Center. Jacksonville, FL 32256. Interment will be at Skyway Memorial Cemetery in Palmetto.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite 300,

Sala L. Halm

Sala L. Halm, 83, of Sun City Center, Fla passed away June 18, 2013. He served in the U.S. Army as a captain and transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring with the rank of major. Sala was an Eagle Scout and a member of Corning-Painted Post Masonic Lodge # 0168, American Legion, MOAA, MOWW, Board of Retired Officers Corporation at Freedom Plaza, and Treasurer for the Woodworkers Club at Freedom Plaza. He served for many years as the coordinator of the Sun City Center Salvation Army Red Kettle Program and was a member of the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Gwen and by brother Michael Halm.

Survivors include his loving wife Helen Cranmer Halm; children Elaine (Michael) Skidmore, Richard (Ida) Halm, Marilou (Richard) Colgan and Steven (Kathleen) Halm; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brothers Robert (Linda) Halm and Richard Halm; and sisters Patricia Bullock, Janet Halm and Shirlee Clark.

A Celebration of his Life will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 28, 2013 at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West, Sun City Center, Fla.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, Salvation Army or LifePath Hospice. Arrangements by Sun City Center Funeral Home.

Elizabeth A. Robbins

On Monday, June 17, Elizabeth Anthony Robbins, 89, of Sun City Center, passed away peacefully at her home from complications of congestive heart failure and leukemia.

Elizabeth ("Toni") was born October 17, 1923 in New Bedford, MA. She graduated from high school in Newton, MA in 1941, and attended LaSalle Jr. College. She married Spencer E. Robbins, a naval officer, on November 29, 1942.

As a Navy wife and mother, she lived in many locations across the country, as well as overseas in Japan and Turkey. She and Spencer raised five sons during their more than 60 years of marriage. She and Spencer lived in Apollo Beach for 11 years and moved to Kings Point, Sun City Center in December 2002. Spencer passed away suddenly in 2003.

Toni is survived by their sons Thomas (Nancy), Spencer II (Marlene), Stephen (Laura), Jeffrey (Sue), and Douglas (Jill); 15 grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren. She was predeceased by sisters Anne and Ruth.

A memorial service for Toni Robbins was held Wednesday, June 26 at Redeemer Lutheran Church, followed by entombment at the Garden of Memories Mausoleum in Tampa.

Donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1462 Oakfield Drive, Brandon, FL 33511; 813-685-0670.

Wanda C. Wierciak

Wanda C. Wierciak, 95, of Sun City Center, Fla., passed away June 10, 2013. She was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Ted J. Wierciak, in August, 2011.

Survivors include son Rick (Marsha) West; daughter Donna (Mike) Kelly; grandchildren Jim (Allison) Kelly and Alison (Shaun) Westfall; and great-grandchildren Kaity, Hannah, Max and Grady Kelly, and Carson Westfall.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Monday July 1, 2013 at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West, Sun City Center, Fla.

In lieu of flowers, memorials for Wanda may be made in honor of Wanda's great-grandson Carson Westfall to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Greater Cincinnati Chapter, 4420 Carver Woods Dr., Blue Ash, Ohio 45242; or to LifePath Hospice, Sun City Center Hospice House, 3723 Upper Creek Dr., Ruskin, Florida 33573. Arrangements by Sun City Center Funeral Home.

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Holy Communion First & Third Sunday • Bible Class Thursday 10 a.m.

Unity COMMUNITY OF JOY
Spirituality Rather Than "Religion"
Henry Gibson Social Hall, Beth Israel Synagogue
1115 Del Webb E. • Sun City Center, FL
www.unitycommunityofjoy.com
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
813-298-7745

First Baptist Church of Gibsonton
"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19
Traditional Worship Service
Old-Time Gospel Hymns
Nursery Available
* Interpreter for the Deaf
*Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
*Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M.
Mid-Week (Wed.) 7:00 P.M.
9912 Indiana St. • Hwy 41 & Estelle Avenue
Gibsonton, FL 33534
Malcolm S. Clements, Pastor
813-677-1301
3059 042408

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

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

UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ United Church of Christ
1501 La Jolla AVE, Sun City Center, FL 33573-5329
A Caring Church United in God's Love Serving Others
Rev. Dr. Jean M. Simpson
Worship Services ~ 8:30 and 10 AM
(813) 634-1304 ~ www.uccsuncity.org

Welcome to the:
South Hillsborough Church of Christ
EVERETT TATE, MINISTER
1611 First St. SW • Ruskin, FL • 645-7607
—NON-INSTRUMENTAL—
SERVICES: Sunday ..... 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday ..... 7:00 p.m.

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

Wimauma Church of God
Loving God Loving Others Serving All
Pastor Tom Durrance
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Youth Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Service ..... 7:00 p.m.
5504 S.R. 674, Wimauma, FL 33598 • 813-634-4776

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center
1210 Del Webb Blvd West • 634-2539
http://www.sccumc.com
Come Grow Belong Serve
The United Methodist Church
Pages of Life
Bookstore 633-8595
FREE Nursery Provided
WORSHIP SERVICES:
SUNDAY
8:15 a.m. ..... Sanctuary (Communion Service)
9:15 a.m. .... New Life Enrichment Center (Contemporary)
10:55 a.m. ..... Sanctuary (Traditional with Choir & Bells)
11:00 a.m. ..... Hispanic Worship
4:00 p.m. ..... Hispanic Worship
Senior Pastor: Dr. Warren Langer
Assistant Pastor: Rev. Robert Chaple

Area Places of Worship

Southside Baptist Church

"A Warm, Loving & Friendly Church"

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

Join us on Sunday to come home to the warmth of our church family

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4208 U.S. Hwy. 41 S • Sun City, FL 33586 • 813-645-4085

Getting to Know You (Donuts/Coffee) ..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 9:30 am.
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Service ..... 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Morning Prayer ..... 10:00 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

INVITES YOU TO SERVICES AT OUR NEW LOCATION

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10:30 a.m. SUNDAYS

NO CREED...BUT CHRIST
NO BOOK...BUT THE BIBLE

Minister - DR. DAVID CAMPBELL

CELEBRATING our 75th ANNIVERSARY

First Baptist Church of Ruskin

820 College Ave. W. • Ruskin, FL 33570
645-6439

www.fbcruskin.org • *A Resource for Families*

Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ..... 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Service ..... 7:00 p.m.
Awana ..... 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Barry Rumsey

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL K-2 Through 12th Grade

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

RUSKIN
705 9th St. S.E. /633-3970
9:00 AM-Contemporary
Sunday School—Youth Bible Study
Fellowship hour after the service

Fr. Lee Miller
Priest

SUN CITY CENTER
1015 Del Webb Blvd. E /633-3970
8:00 AM-Rite I — 11:00 AM-Rite II & Choir
Fellowship hour after both services

Morning Prayer & Healing Srvc.
10 AM every Wednesday
Sun City Center

A CARING CHRISTIAN FAMILY—WIGGLY CHILDREN WELCOME

First Church of Christ, Scientist

204 2nd St. N.W. • Ruskin, FL 33570
(813) 645-6102

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

All Are Welcome

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Sunday Services
Traditional Service 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Service 11:00 a.m.

Prayers with anointing for healing and wholeness during worship the second Sunday of every month.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mark E. Salmon

*Meet friends in Fellowship Hall after **each** Service. Refreshments served.*

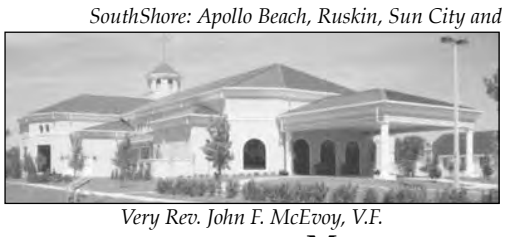
A Stephen Ministry Church

1239 Del Webb Blvd. West
Sun City Center, FL 33573
Church is Handicap accessible

Phone: 813-634-1252
For information visit:
www.standrewatscc.org

Saint Anne Catholic Church

SouthShore: Apollo Beach, Ruskin, Sun City and S. Gibsonton



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

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

MASSES

Vigil Mass..... Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass..... 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Contemporary)
Monday thru Friday ..... 8:00 a.m.
Holy Days ..... Contact Parish Office for Schedule
Español ..... Domingo - 12:30 p.m.; Jueves 7:00 p.m.
Confession..... Thursday 6:15 p.m.; Saturday 3:45 p.m.

Shoes are in the spotlight at Christian Women's Connection lunch

Christian Women's Connection will hold its July luncheon and program at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 11 at Club Renaissance, 2121 S. Pebble Beach Blvd. in SCC,

Inspirational speaker Marie Smith will share "Meet Miss Goodie Two Shoes," who discovered that sometimes being good just isn't good enough.

The program will be SHOES, SHOES, SHOES! A fashion show of *your* shoes! Prizes will be awarded for Best Value, Most Outrageous, Most Personally Creative, Most Colors.

The menu is penne pasta primavera with grilled chicken plus beverage and dessert. Also available is an alternate meal of tossed salad with grilled chicken. If you desire this option, be sure to order it when you make your reservation. The cost is $17 inclusive, and reservations are required. Call Pat Butler at 813-938-4320 or Tara Flood at 813-383-7540 or e-mail aunt.butler@gmail.com. Reservations or cancellations must be made before noon on Monday, July 8.

Pastor Rance Goad, left, and Rev. Toby Gbeh.

Liberian pastor speaks at Friendship Baptist

At the Sunday, July 7 morning service at 10 a.m., Rev. Toby Gbeh will deliver the message at Friendship Baptist Church. Gbeh is the Acting President of the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary and founder of the Quality Foundation School in Liberia.

All are welcome to come and hear his important message. Friendship Baptist is located at 1511 El Rancho Dr. in Sun City Center. Rance Goad is the Pastor.

Prince of Peace raises new flags

On Friday, June 14, Prince of Peace Catholic Church celebrated Flag Day with the blessing and raising of its new American flag. Members of the honor guard from the Knights of Columbus Assembly 2533 led a procession to the recently installed flag poles located at the southeast corner of the campus. Father Augustine Mailadayil, parochial vicar of Prince of Peace Catholic Church, presided over the ceremony.

Phil Provenzano & the Jazz Xperience return to the United Methodist Church

Phil Provenzano & the Jazz Xperience return to the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center at 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 30 for a special afternoon concert.

Phil's ensemble is a main-stream, straight-ahead jazz combo that was originally formed to perpetuate the West Coast jazz sounds of musicians like Gerry Mulligan and Chet Baker.

Since its inception 20 years ago, the group has grown to include other mainstream jazz styles including their own unique sound. The Xperience has performed all over the Bay area and has had the privilege of performing with such jazz greats as Ted Farlow, Herb Ellis, Nick Brignola, John La Porta, Phil Urso, Manfredo Fest, Billy Cobbham, Ira Sullivan, Richie Cole, and John Allred.

Phil and his band have garnered quite a following in the South Shore area, so concert-goers are encouraged to arrive early for a good seat. A donation of just $5 is requested at the door on the afternoon of the concert.

For additional information about this and other concerts and recitals at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, contact Jeff Jordan, Director of Worship Arts, at 813-634-2539. To learn more about the United Methodist Church of Sun City center, visit its website at www.sccumc.com.

The United Methodist Church is located at 1210 Del Webb Blvd. West in SCC.

Lord's Lighthouse receives grant from Community Foundation of SCC

In May 2013, the Lord's Lighthouse Ministry, a not-for-profit organization in Ruskin, received a $20,000 grant endowed by the Community Foundation of Greater Sun City Center, and designated for an ongoing feeding program named HUNGER RELIEF.

Hunger Relief is a project that fulfills the basic mission of the Lord's Lighthouse Ministry, which is to assist the below-the-poverty-line and homeless population in south Hillsborough County, by providing healthy and nourishing food to the needy, in particular low or no-income families.

Through its food pantry, the Lord's Lighthouse serves a food bag to more than 250 families every week. In addition, the mission provides clothing, electric appliances and furniture to the poor and needy.

Moreover, the Lord's Lighthouse offers assistance in filing applications for Food Stamps, Social Security benefits, Medicare and legal help through the state's ACCESS program of Children and Families Department.

The Community Foundation in Sun City Center has assisted the Lord's Lighthouse in the past by helping fund several projects targeting diverse health and educational areas of need in the Ruskin-Wimauma area.

The Lord's Lighthouse is located at 815 College Ave. E., Ruskin, 33570. For more information about the Ministry, visit its website at lordslighthouse.org, call the mission's office at 813- 641-7100, or contact Pastor Bill Cruz Sr. and Dora Cruz at 813- 321-9723.

Local Catholics participate in National Fortnight for Freedom

Starting last Friday, June 21 and continuing to July 4, Catholics across the country are participating in the Fortnight for Freedom, a two-week period of prayer and action meant to bring attention to the many current challenges to religious liberty. These challenges include: the August 1, 2013 deadline for religious organizations to comply with the HHS mandate, Supreme Court rulings that could attempt to redefine marriage in June, and religious liberty concerns in areas such as immigration and humanitarian services.

Parishioners of Prince of Peace Catholic Church are taking part in the Fortnight for Freedom by praying a special prayer for the protection of religious liberty throughout the two-week period. A special Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, July 4 at 10 a.m. at Prince of Peace to bring the period of prayer and action to a close. Prince of Peace Catholic Church is located at 702 Valley Forge Blvd. in Sun City Center.

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500.....Real Estate
550.....Manufac. Housing
600.....Rentals
650.....Professional Services
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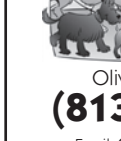

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MERCHANDISE 300

310 GARAGE/YARD SALE

Homewood Residents yard sale. 3910 Galen Court, SCC. Friday 9am-2pm. Lots of misc. Proceeds to benefit the residents.

Yard sale. 6/29. 145 21st St. NW, Ruskin. 8am-1pm. Furniture, lamps, dishes, exercise equipment, bar stools, lots of misc.

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

Garage sale. 310 Caloosa Palms Ct.., Sun City Center. Friday June 28, 8am-noon. A variety of nice things.

310 GARAGE/YARD SALE

Calvary's Angel Attic Thrift Store
CLOSED
Building a bigger & better store to serve you.
Watch us grow!
No donations accepted until we are in our new building
813-641-7790
Ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church

Saturday, June 29, 8am-1pm. 2325 Lyndhurst Dr (off Del Webb) SCC. Rugs, office chair, drapes, Graco Pac-n-play, clothing, misc. household.

Multi family garage sale. Clothes, furniture, tools, etc. June 28 & 29. 8am-1pm. 372 & 379 Club Manor Dr., SCC.

312 ESTATE SALES

Anne's Estate Sales
1106 Beach Blvd.
SCC
Friday & Saturday
7 am - noon
• Park on Side of Sale Only •
(813) 758-7952 (813) 758-7954

Furniture: Sofa, drop-leaf table w/ chairs, twin bedroom suite, corner curio, bedroom chest, twin bed, sofa sleeper, entertainment center, recliner, platform rocker, entry table, floor lamps, dinette table w/chairs, computer desk w/chair. **Misc**: Tools, jewelry, cup & saucer collection. Household, kitchen & misc.
www.AnnesEstateSales.blogspot.com

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DENNEY'S ESTATE SALES
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Sun City Center
Fri. & Sat., June 28-29
7 a.m to 1 p.m.
813-625-4240 or 813-601-0983

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PLEASE PARK ON SIDE OF SALE

www.denneysestatesales.com

BEVERLY'S ESTATE SALES
Sun City Center
June 28 & 29
7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
1504 Ft. Duquesna Dr.
(off Pebble Beach N.)
Please park on side of sale only.

Dining table, 6 chairs, barstools, maple tea cart, wine rack brown wicker couch & loveseat, coffee & end tables, 2 short & 1 tall bookcase, TV cabinet, entry table & mirror, sofa table, recliner, formal couch, 2 glass-top end tables. Rattan etagere, glass-top table, 6 chairs, lg. mirror, king mattress & headboard, 4 pc. bedroom suite, Henry Link bedroom suite, twin mattress, 3 pc. desk, bookcases, 3 pc. TV & curio cabinets, patio chairs, women's clothing, rugs, lamps, linens, kitchen, pictures, vacuums, file cabinets.

508-0307 or 633-1173

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360 GOLF CARTS

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REAL ESTATE 500

511 HOUSES FOR SALE

902 Birdie Way, Apollo Beach. $199,500. 2289sf. Large home with very open floor plan. 2 large sliders open onto golf course. Split bedroom with huge closet on master side. Fenced back yard with screened lanai. Home features bamboo flooring & new porcelain tile. Owner transferred, this is not a short sale. S.L. Real Estate Service, LLC Mandra Stewart, broker 813-741-3678

Home For Sale ByOwner
4321 Old Hwy 41, Sun City. 3br/1.5ba, 1300sf home. Private lot 75x100. Pet fenced area. CHA, aerator well, septic (no county water bills). Washer/ dryer hookup. Asking $69.900. No owner financing. Call evenings & weekends 813-545-5314 for viewing. Property is sold AS IS for owners convenience.

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NEW ON THE MARKET - COVINGTON PARK!! This charming 3/2/2 home is ready and waiting for a new owner. An open and inviting floor plan with a screened lanai, patio and fenced yard make it a great place for family and entertaining. **$149,900**

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RUSKIN WATERFRONT! Check out this custom 3/2/2 home with covered boat lift on a canal leading directly to the bay. Screened lanai and beautiful landscaping grace this well-taken-care-of home with water views from almost every room! **$283,000**

511 HOUSES FOR SALE

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RE/MAX South Shore Realty
Roberta Rowe, Realtor
Cell: 813-215-7127

SIERRA in Greenbriar, new listing, 2BR/2BA, 1700 sq. ft.....**$144,900**
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NEW RENTALS

1BR/1.5BA in KP, 3 to choose from, furn or unfurn.....**from $650 per month**
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Apollo Beach luxury Key West-style waterfront home. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms plus a den that boasts granite throughout, 42" wood cabinets, wood floors, tray ceilings, balconies from every room. Owner transferred. *Best buy in Apollo Beach.* **$235,000**.

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1br/1ba mobile home $200 weekly $200 deposit. Also 3br/1ba house. Close to shopping. Access to water & fishing. Nancy 813-677-0141, 813-967-3868

One bedroom RV on private property. References. $125 weekly plus deposit. includes utilities. 813-363-6001

For rent. 2 bedroom mobile home near shopping center in Gibsonton. 813-601-1542 or 813- 850-7886

630 M H RENTALS

For Rent: Clean Mobile Homes With A/C. 813-677-1086

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Office/ Apartment
3 offices, 1.5 ba, kitchen. Shell Point West Road frontage. Good for CPA, attorney, insurance sales, Etc. Live and work at same place. $900 monthly, yr lease, plus deposit, water, electric. 813-649-1599

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Community Payback event is huge success

■ By KEVIN KERBOW

On May 18 Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing held their First Annual Community Payback Event. To say that it was a success would be a vast understatement. The event was attended by 300+ residents of Sun City Center. With free food, entertainment, bouncy house for the children, shaved ice to ease the heat, and several thousands of dollars in prizes given away it is no wonder that there was such a great turnout.

Several residents remarked "No one has ever done anything like this for us and we are grateful."

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing would like to thank all who took part and made this an event to remember.

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing has been serving the community faithfully for many successful years and this is due not only to their ability to respond quickly, efficiently and affordably to whatever the need may be but to their wonderful customers who continue to refer their friends and neighbors who are in need of plumbing services.

Owners Randy and Dee Crofton stated "This was just one of the many ways that we try to do our part to make Sun City Center better…day in and day out!"

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing offers a full complement of services. Large or small, no matter the issue — they can handle it all including clogged drains, broken toilet handles or full home re-pipes to remove copper and polybutylene.They do it all!

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing offers 24/7 emergency services in the event that the unexpected happens. Howie's also offers camera inspections of your drain lines using state-of -the-art fiber optic cameras. At the completion of each inspection you will be provided with a copy of your inspection so you can rest assured that your problem is being handled appropriately. These inspections could potentially save you thousands in costly and unnecessary repairs. On top of repiping homes, camera inspections, 24/7 emergency services, Howie's also offers backflow testing and repair at the best price in town!

"What truly defines a man is not what he takes in but what he gives out, riches to me are those who don't have much but give often in ways they can, not those who have more than enough but hesitate to gives out little of it."

~Blaze Olamiday

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing has a beautiful showroom at 139 S. Pebble Beach, SCC Suite 202. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. The Showroom is stocked with fixtures from companies like Moen, Delta, and many others. Stop by today and enjoy their friendly office staff and some coffee and refreshments while they talk with you about your next home project.

Please make sure to visit SunCityCenterPlumbing.com or click LIKE on Facebook for all the latest happenings. They can be reached by phone 24/7 at 813-633-8923 or fax at 813-633-8930.

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