



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

from everyone at

# THE OBSERVER NEWS

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## Skate Park 'Best Trick' contest to be held Jan. 3 in Apollo Beach, Riverview

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

Rain caused the postponement of the Hillsborough County Parks 'Best Trick' contest at the Apollo Beach and Brandon Skate Parks last week. The event is now scheduled for Friday, Jan. 3. The Brandon contest will be held at noon; in Apollo Beach it will begin at 5 p.m. Skaters will perform for judges and compete for a free gift card. Participants must have a current notarized waiver on file at the skate office. The event is free, as are both parks. The Brandon Skate Park is located at 5720 Providence Rd. in Riverview. The Apollo Beach Skate Park is located at 664 Golf & Sea Blvd. For information, call Jack Reeder at 813-671-7635.

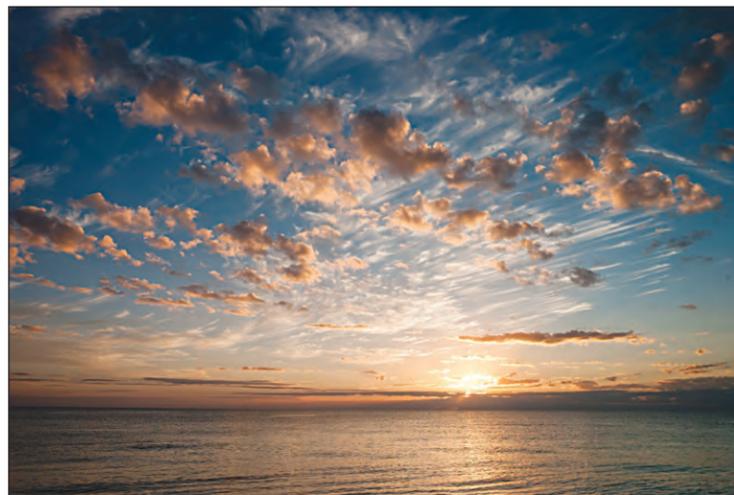
## Holidays span the transition between

# OLD & NEW

Thanksgiving is for gratitude, the New Year is for hope for better things to come.

■ By **MITCH TRAPHAGEN**  
mitch@observernews.net

**O**n Christmas Eve day, I was standing in a long line at the CVS store in Apollo Beach when suddenly a woman wrapped her arms around me and gave me a kiss on the cheek. I turned just in time to see Donna Budd, former Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Community Service Officer and the founder



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

As the sun sets on a year, the coming sunrise carries with it the hope for better days. The year will begin with resolutions and end with, for some at least, relief.

of the nonprofit Deputies Darlins, rush out the door and back in. She received a late call about a family of five that was in need on Christmas. She dropped everything to help them.

The holiday season, as it has come to be known, apparently

spans the old and the new in terms of perspective and attitude. Gratitude appears on Thanksgiving, peace, love, generosity and family are the focus at Christmas and optimism, along with a healthy dose of "good riddance," holds court on New Year's Eve. In just over a month's time, we realize we survived another year and have a fresh start before us, a new book on which the words are written only with the passing of the first few hours and days of the new year.

Donna Budd only wanted to make Christmas brighter for an area family in need, but what she accomplished was much greater than that. She served as a bridge from the old to the new, providing joy to children and relief to parents, both of which will carry into 2014, giving them reason to believe that this year will be better than the last.

No one knows with any certainty what 2014 will bring. But based on averages, we can expect approximately 50,000 new neighbors to move into Hillsborough County. We can expect political scandals and crime, births and deaths. We can expect wars and continued attempts at making peace.

Americans are somewhat mixed about their forecasts for the New Year, but the largest number falls into the optimistic camp. According to an Associated Press report, nearly 50 percent of Americans

## BUSINESS LEADERS TOLD:

# Education, infrastructure will attract high-paying jobs to area

■ By **KEVIN BRADY**  
kevin@observernews.net

**A**fter a banner year for new business development and job creation in southern and eastern Hillsborough, expect more of the same in 2014 but the county will need to up its game to attract high-tech, high-paying jobs, Brandon business leaders have been told.

In 2013, Amazon.com, the United Services Automobile Association and Bass Pro Shops, among others, all secured deals to set up shop in south and eastern Hillsborough.

South County and Brandon is primed for even more new business development in the next 12 months, said Ron Pierce, a former president of the Brandon Chamber of Commerce.

"If you look from a development standpoint, eastern and southern Hillsborough is not built out, unlike other parts of the county, which gives us a huge advantage not only with space but our transportation infrastructure," Pierce said.

Financial incentives from local government have also played a part in hooking new firms, Pierce said.

"Our elected officials are committed to drawing these businesses here and if you look at what the county is offering these companies it makes us very competitive," Pierce said.

A huge shot in the arm for the local economy was the report in October last year that Amazon.com, the world's largest Internet retailer, plans an 80-acre facility in Ruskin. The \$200 million distribu-

▶ Continued on page 5

# Summerfield renovations to be completed soon

■ By **PENNY FLETCHER**  
penny@observernews.net

**R**esidents of the 7,000-person Summerfield community have to wait an extra two months past the expected completion date for their newly remodeled clubhouse and weight and cardio rooms but they're told it will be worth the wait.

When the project began in August, it was expected that residents would be lifting weights and using new cardio equipment and a newly-installed wi-fi room by November, but now it looks like mid January, said Abi James.

"We had a couple of inspections where we were told certain things had to be brought up to code," James explained. "But we're still moving right along and residents dues will not go up."

James has been acting as interim community manager since

spring and due to her excellent work, will take the position of Community Manager Jan. 1, said Summerfield's President of the Board of Directors, Bob Abruzzese. "We are proud of the job she's doing," Abruzzese said in an interview Dec. 24.

Abruzzese said even though some code factors had to be addressed, dues would not be raised for 2014 because since the community was first started in the mid-1980s, money has been set aside annually into Capital Improvement and Reserve Funds.

"We have the money to complete each project before we start," he said.

Loans are just not part of their thinking.

Every year, more of the 7,000 residents who live in the 3,500 homes in the Summerfield com-

▶ Continued on page 23

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## Positive Talk: On your way to freedom

The keys to life are in your mind. When you choose to use those keys to unlock your potential and start the engine of discovery, you begin to travel the road of enlightenment. The enlightened man or woman can see the opportunity that is presented to all of us to have a rich and fulfilling life.

A rich and fulfilling life may not always be a safe and comfortable life; on the contrary, it may be fraught with danger and challenge. One of my favorite authors, H.G. Wells, had the following to say about breaking out of the shackles of inaction that imprison most of us: "But when a man has once broken through the paper walls of everyday circumstance, those unsubstantial walls that hold so many of us securely prisoned from the cradle to the grave, he has made a discovery. If the world does not please you, you can change it. Determine to alter it at any price, and you can change it altogether. You may change it to something sinister and angry to something appalling, but it may be you will change it to something brighter, something more agreeable, and at the worst something much more interesting. There is only one sort of man who is absolutely to

blame for his own misery, and that is the man who finds life dull and dreary. There are no circumstances in the world that determined action cannot alter, unless, perhaps, they are the walls of a prison cell, and even those will dissolve and change, I am told, into the infirmary compartment, at any rate, for the man who can fast with resolution."

If you find life dull and dreary, today is the day to plan a prison break. You can unlock your mind by getting rid of the bars you have created over the years to keep others out or keep you safe, and by so doing, you have caged yourself.

Most of the bars are built of fear. Fear is one of the strongest bars that will contain our minds and stop us from acting and trying new adventures. Fear comes with a multitude of faces, each more ugly than the first. Here are some of the more prominent fears that can keep us imprisoned.

The most prominent fear is the fear of people who are not the same as us. Maybe they have skin of a different shade or maybe they speak with an accent. Maybe the way they dress or wear their hair is unusual to us. It could be that they are of a different religion or have a strange or foreign code of conduct. Many will avoid

people who fall into any one of those categories, not because they know them to be bad people but because they are different. If you are ever to unlock your mind and experience life to the fullest, you must push yourself to know — not shun — those who are different. It is those very people from whom you will learn many of life's great lessons. Remember, you cannot tell a book by its cover or a person from surface appearance.

Probably the next most debilitating fear is the fear of being laughed at or viewed as different. I think it would be impossible to count the number of people who ended up in a prison of their own making, serving a life term. They could have been very successful and led a happy and satisfying life, had they not been afraid of looking silly, or being different.

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](http://www.hodgesvideos.com). Phone : 813-641-0816. Email: [bill@billhodges.com](mailto:bill@billhodges.com) Website: [www.billhodges.com](http://www.billhodges.com)



By William Hodges

## Feline Folks get \$5k grant to trap, spay and neuter

Feline Folks has been awarded a \$5,000 grant by the Humane Society of Tampa Bay. The group will use the grant to trap, spay and neuter the feline population in the communities of Southwest Hillsborough County.

The Feline Folks program utilizes (T/N/R) Trap/Neuter/Return followed by humane management of all community free roaming cats through the care and maintenance of colonies established in their geographic area.

Although the organization's major area of focus is Kings Point and Sun City Center, they also provide services to the entire Hillsborough County South Shore area.

Feline Folks are always in need of volunteers to help with their mission. If you are interested in learning more, contact the organization at 813-545-7611. They have many volunteer positions available, including transporting cats to Tampa for spay and neutering, feeding, trapping, and event organizing.

The group's website is [felinefolks.us](http://felinefolks.us) and the email is [info@felinefolks.us](mailto:info@felinefolks.us).

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# Spanning the transition between old and new

► Continued from page 1

believe that 2014 will be better than 2013. Less than 15 percent think it will be worse and roughly a third believe this year will be generally the same as the last.

And although years into the slow economic recovery, and despite that jobs are still a treasured asset for many American workers, only one percent of people said they hoped to ring in the New Year with their co-workers. Most people preferred the company of their spouses, family members or pets.

New Year's resolutions are always a big part of the year's book that has yet to be written. By some estimates approximately

40 percent of Americans make them, with the leading resolution being losing weight. Unfortunately, according to research by the University of Scranton, only eight percent of resolutions actually come to fruition. By tax time in April, pretty much all of them (including number 3: spend less, save more) will have gone by the wayside. And, of course, by next Thanksgiving, that whole weight loss thing will be a distant memory. By then, naturally, the world will be on the cusp of a transition from old to new, with yet another new beginning in yet another new year.

Scandals, crime, bad guys and

taxes are nearly inevitable for 2014. But so, too, are those things that help people to move forward, to maintain the belief that better days are to come. While a high-profile business person or politician may make headlines for going to (or miraculously avoiding) jail, Donna Budd and the many people like her will be offering quick hugs and kisses on the cheek while rushing out the door to make things better for someone else. People like her spend their year working on the holiday transition between the old and new, with the new offering hope.

But the best hope of all lies within ourselves, as aptly summed up by Helen Keller: "Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties."

Or for the rest of us the words of actress and writer Catherine O'Hara may best apply: "I know I'm lazy. But I made myself a New Year's resolution that I would write myself something really special. Which means I have 'til December, right?"

# Observations: Gazing into the abyss

When it comes right down to it, life is a funny phenomenon. It is now officially 2014 and we still don't have flying cars. Seriously now, assuming you were alive in 1976 as I was (a teenager), think back and consider: if someone in 1976 had told you that there would not be flying cars in 2014 (2014!) would you have believed them? I would not have.

Despite that, I think we are lucky to be here right now. This is where the funny part of life comes in: is it just a mere luck of the draw that we weren't born during the Dark Ages? Surely they could not even imagine a future 800 or more years hence, they couldn't think about flying cars. They couldn't even know what a car was — they were too busy simply trying to survive and tomorrow was a big enough challenge, let alone 2014.

They had none of the comfort that we now take for granted. In comparison to us, they had nothing at all — well, except for rampant invasions, the collapse of urbanization society, almost certain death at a relatively young age, and having to contend with the occasional barbarian horde.

So what will 800 years from now be like? Will people look back at us as being in some dark age and feel sorry for us, and be glad that they weren't born during such an uncivilized, violent

and ignorant time? Or will it be a hellish nightmare consisting of resource shortages and interstellar warfare?

I prefer to think optimistically about the future, and with good reason. Thus far in world history, every single time humans have faced a seemingly insurmountable barrier we've not only overcome, we've emerged just a little bit better

than we were before. I have full confidence that will continue for centuries to come. And I don't begrudge my descendants for the cool stuff they'll get to have that we haven't even imagined yet. I sure hope they have flying cars, though. Or better yet, transporter beams.

We have so many challenges ahead of us. People should not be starving to death in 2014. Wars should be increasingly uncommon as we learn new ways to connect, communicate and care for each other. No one should lose their home and life savings because of an illness. No one willing and able to work should be forced to do without life's basic necessities (food, shelter, clothing, education, medical care, etc.). By now, after so many centuries of coming up with new and ever more lethal ways of killing each other, I would have expected that to have stopped by now. We are better than that. I know we are. Some people just seem to have trouble keeping up.

I freely admit that I am a capitalist pig but I also am acutely aware that in order to survive, capitalism needs to find its heart. And soon.

Friedrich Nietzsche once said that if you gaze long enough into the abyss, the abyss would gaze back into you.

The future is an abyss. I'm not sure what the future would think gazing into me, perhaps seeing me

► Continued on page 14



### Observations

By Mitch Traphagen  
mitch@observernews.net

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Hillsborough County — A new report has just been released which identifies the 6 most common and costly mistakes that homebuyers make before buying a home.

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## Southshore Regional Library Kids program/event highlights

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

### Teen Game Zone - Thursday, Jan. 2 at 5:30 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.

### Block Party! - Saturday, Jan. 4 at 10:30 a.m.

For children ages 5-10 ~ Kids use Lego building blocks to have a fun, interactive and creative time. The library provides the Legos; kids provide the imagination! Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library

### PeeWee Artists: Let's Create! - Monday, Jan. 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Pee Wee Artists, 3-5 years with adult, will join our art instructor and have a fun morning creating an art project to take home. Limit 18. Registration required at either the Information Desk or by calling 813-273-3652.

### Baby Time - Monday, Jan. 6 at 1:35 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 11:35 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 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.

### Super Science Workshop - Monday, Jan. 6 at 3 p.m.

For children ages 5-10 ~ Join us for an interactive, hands-on afternoon and experiment as we turn the Library into a science lab! This special science workshop features Mad Science presenting experiments on ROCKETS! Limit 25 kids. There are limited spots for this program. Pre-registration is required. Ask at the Reference Desk or call 813-273-3652. This is a school early-release Monday. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

### Toddler Time - Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 10:05 and 10:35 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 10:35 a.m.

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

### Story Time - Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 10:35 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.

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.



## Kick off the New Year with exciting programs in Hillsborough's parks

### Lettuce Lake Park: Park Ranger Nature Educational Programs

Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. and noon. \$5 per child with one accompanying adult; \$2 per vehicle park entry fee. Cash only. 6920 E. Fletcher Ave. in Tampa (meet inside Visitor Center). For more information, call 813-987-6204 or register by emailing date, time and ages of those attending to KyleD@HillsboroughCounty.org. Walk ups are also welcome.

- Jan. 4 & 5 - Lettuce Lake's connection to Spain, Cuba and Paleo Indians.
- Jan. 12 - Learn to dehydrate apples, bananas and beef jerky.
- Jan. 18 & 19 - Maple trees and maple syrup in Florida
- Jan. 25 & 26 - Come make drums and music.

### Senior Bing Joe at Gardenville Park

Monday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 6219 Symmes Rd. in Gibsonton. Enjoy a morning of games and fun with food and prizes donated by Village Inn. For more information, call the Gardenville Recreation Center at 813-672-1120.

### Bright House Stars Senior Talent Auditions at Brandon Community Center

Wednesday, Jan. 22, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 502 East Sadie St. in Brandon. Solo and duet talent acts age 55 and up are invited to audition on a first-come, first-served basis with ten finalists chosen for a talent show. Performers must bring their own instruments, and a piano will be available. For more information, contact Mary Bradley at 813-635-8179.

## Fact or Fiction? Circus Challenge

Circuses have many acts from lion tamers to acrobats. Here are some questions about circuses and circus acts. How many can you answer correctly?



- 1) Some circuses take place in a tent known as the small top. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 2) Most of the action in a circus takes place in a ring. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 3) Only one act can perform at a time in a circus. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 4) The ringmaster oversees all of the action in a circus. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 5) The ringmaster wears baggy jeans and a brightly-colored T-shirt. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 6) Trapeze artists perform some of the most high-flying acts in a circus. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 7) Tightrope walkers use big cats in their acts. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 8) Most circuses have clowns. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 9) A circus clown might ride a one-wheeled bike called a tricycle. *Fact or Fiction?*
- 10) Some circuses also have dancers and fire breathers. *Fact or Fiction?*

Answers: 1) Fiction, a circus tent is called the big top, 2) Fact, 3) Fiction, more than one act often performs at a time, 4) Fact, 5) Fiction, the ringmaster wears a top hat with a brightly colored topcoat and tails, 6) Fact, 7) Fiction, tightrope walkers usually do not perform with animals, especially big cats like lions and tigers, 8) Fact, 9) Fiction, a one-wheeled bike is called a unicycle, 10) Fact



## Jokes and Riddles

Q: What circus performer can see in the dark?

A: An acrobat.

Q: How do you stop a circus?

A: Go for the juggler!



## Name That Animal

Some circus acts have animals in them. Fill in the blanks to name some of the animals found at a circus.

- 1) L \_ \_ \_ N S ★
- 2) T I \_ \_ E R \_
- ★ 3) D \_ \_ G \_
- ★ 4) E \_ \_ E P H \_ \_ N \_ \_ S
- ★ 5) S \_ \_ A L I \_ \_ \_ S
- 6) \_ \_ \_ I M P S
- ★ 7) H \_ \_ \_ S E S

Answers: 1) Lions, 2) Tigers, 3) Dogs, 4) Elephants, 5) Sea Lions, 6) Chimps, 7) Horses

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# Bringing business to SouthShore

► Continued from page 1

tion center is expected to employ around 1,000 people and cover at least 1 million square feet.

Sweetening the pot for the Internet giant, the Hillsborough County Commissioners approved more than \$900,000 in tax breaks for the company, waiving half of Amazon's property tax bill for the first seven years. Hillsborough beat out Polk County, which had also been offering tax breaks in an attempt to draw Amazon to Lakeland. Amazon is now planning a much smaller facility in Polk County employing around 100 people, the *Lakeland Ledger* reported last month.

But it's not just the tax breaks that are drawing companies to the area, said County Commissioner Mark Sharpe.

"We have been successful in bringing large companies because we have a very good workforce, Florida is also one of the largest states in the union so it's a large market and the state is just a great place to live," said Sharpe who spoke to Brandon business leaders last month about attracting high-tech companies to the area.

Covidien is the latest company expanding to South County. The medical device manufacturing firm plans to open an office in Riverview later this year with the 62,000 square foot facility creating 165 new jobs, according to Gov. Rick Scott's office.

Another company hooked on Hillsborough is The United Services Automobile Association. The company is planning a 420,000-square-foot office in Brandon near U.S. Highway 301 and the Selmon Expressway.

Most recently, TopGolf announced plans to break ground on

a 65,000-square-foot building near the intersection of I-75 and the Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway early in 2014. The sports bar and restaurant is expected to create more than 100 fulltime jobs and open in the fall of 2014.

TopGolf chief development officer Randy Starr cited the area's "fast-growing and thriving community" as one of the reasons for opening its first Florida facility in Brandon.

Once it's up and swinging, TopGolf will rub shoulders with Bass Pro Shop. The iconic outdoor sporting goods store recently purchased 18 acres in the same area near the Westfield Brandon Mall.

In addition to tax breaks, the county voted earlier this year to pay \$6 million to improve roads in the area, a key factor in attracting Bass Pro Shops and TopGolf to Brandon, according to Hillsborough County Commissioner Ken Hagan.

"This world-class sports and entertainment experience will be joining its neighbor, Bass Pro, as

part of an overall regional entertainment destination venue to be located in the Brandon area of unincorporated Hillsborough County," Hagan said at the time.

But with many of the new jobs in the low-paying service sector, attracting high-tech, high-paying jobs will only happen if business and political leaders "kick it into high gear," Sharpe said.

"We've been resting on some of our natural advantages but we are going to have to get very serious about quality education in kindergarten through 12th grade as well as universities," Sharpe said.

An aggressive focus on STEM programs (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and graphic arts will sow the seeds of a high-wage, high-tech economy, Sharpe said.

"We are on a roll and will continue to bring great companies here but we need to change from an economy which is still service provider to a high-tech, high-wage and to do that we need the governor, state legislature and local officials to make this our top priority."



TopGolf plans a 65,000-square-foot center in Brandon. The driving range, restaurant and sports bar is slated to open in the fall.

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CAROL MACALISTER PHOTO

**The Showmen's Circus is coming!**

The 30th annual Showmen's Circus will take place on Saturday, Jan. 11 under the big top at the International Independent Showmen's Association, 6915 Riverview Dr. in Gibsonton. Performances will be at 1, 4 and 7 p.m.

This year's show will prove to be the biggest ever, presenting circus acts from around the world including trapeze artists, jugglers, acrobats, performing horses, performing dogs, contortionists, hula hoop artists, aerial ballerinas, zany clowns, more performing exotic animals and everyone's favorite, the signature of the circus, the exciting performance of the elephants.

The show will be accompanied by a real, old-time, 15-piece circus band conducted by Col. Schumbam. Upon entering the circus grounds, you can browse models of circuses from around the country, sideshows, and unusual sights and sounds.

Before entering the big top there will be a midway of fun for everyone. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Free children's tickets are available at local merchants. Advance tickets are available at the Showmen's Club on Riverview Drive or *The Observer News* in Ruskin. Circus proceeds benefit local charities.

**'Should we worry?' about childhood obesity is topic of hospital seminar**

Brandon Regional Hospital Pediatric Center will host a seminar on Wednesday, Jan. 22 entitled, "The Childhood Obesity Epidemic: Should We Worry?" conducted by John Monaco, MD, Pediatric Intensivist, and Medical Director of [www.allstride.com](http://www.allstride.com). He is the author of *Too Small to Be Big* and *Slim and Fit Kids: Raising Healthy Children in a Fast Food World*.

The seminar will start at 6 p.m. in the Oakfield Medical Plaza, Classroom B (across the street from Brandon Regional Hospital).

- Topics to be covered include:
- The medical facts on obesity
  - Prevention: the key to solving the problem
  - Five things you can do today to keep your family healthy

- Nutrition and healthy eating habits
- Weight loss/metabolic surgery in adults

This seminar will also include an interactive group discussion. This event is planned for the entire family and a child life specialist will be there to coordinate activities and discussion with the children.

Seating is limited. For more information and to register for this program call 813-653-1065 or visit [BrandonRegionalHospital.com](http://BrandonRegionalHospital.com).

This seminar is the first in a possible series of family health seminars aimed at helping parents and young children understand the physical and mental challenges of obesity, and how to live healthy lives through lifestyle changes.

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# Say goodbye to the bulbs

The production of some of America's most loved light bulbs ended with the New Year.

■ By **MITCH TRAPHAGEN**  
mitch@observernews.net

With the New Year, the light bulbs that Americans love the most are headed for extinction. Beginning on Jan. 1, 2014, the production of most 40- and 60-watt incandescent bulbs will cease. They are following in the disappearing footsteps of most 75- and 100-watt incandescent



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

This 40-watt bulb will soon become extinct under legislation signed in 2007, calling for more efficient light bulbs in homes across America.

bulbs that ceased production in 2013.

Although the light bulbs produce a soft and pleasing light, which has made them the favorites of many households for decades, they are also enormous wasters of energy, losing far more energy to heat than to light. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, only 10 percent of the energy they consume is used to make light; 90 percent of the energy is dispersed as heat.

The bulbs were banned in 2007 legislation entitled the Energy Independence and Security Act and was signed by President George W. Bush. At the time, seven years appeared to be a long ways off and relatively few people took notice. Current polling shows that even today, the majority of Americans are not aware their favorite light bulbs will soon be going away forever. And there is a reason for that. Congress, after first attempting to overturn the

law, has taken steps to prevent the Department of Energy from spending money on the enforcement of it. Light bulb manufacturers, however, are expected to comply and cease production as planned.

The light bulbs, of course, won't disappear immediately. There is no law against stores selling them, and they will remain on the shelves for as long as the existing stock remains.

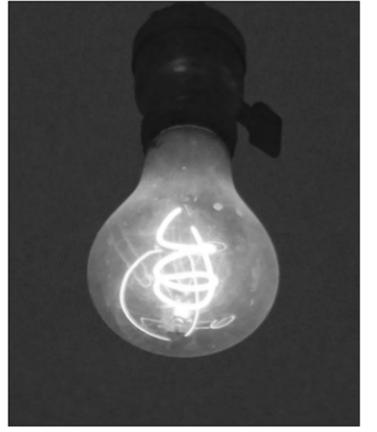
For the most part, however, technology has filled in the gap, although at an initially higher cost. Energy-efficient CFL lights were first considered to be the best replacements; however, new LED lights are rapidly gaining a foothold in energy-conscious households. Although more expensive than traditional light bulbs, LED bulbs last much longer and are many times more efficient. LED lights also light up instantly and produce what many people consider to be a more pleasing light. Additionally, the manufacture of highly efficient incandescent bulbs will continue, as will incandescent specialty bulbs and three-way bulbs.

A high-efficiency incandescent

uses approximately 28 percent less energy, while an LED light uses 85 percent less. According to the EPA, approximately 12 percent of an average home's electrical bill is from lighting. While an LED light should pay for itself in energy savings in two or less years, they are designed to last for up to 20 years. Extrapolated out nationally, that energy savings is expected to be significant.

According to the EPA, with the new bulbs consumers should shift their attention away from watts and towards lumens. Watts, the EPA says, are better measurements for heat, not light. A current 40-watt bulb is approximately 450 lumens and a 60-watt bulb is approximately 800 lumens. All light bulb packaging should contain the lumen rating.

Incandescent bulbs have a long history. Although there is considerable disagreement as to their true origin, American inventor Thomas Edison is the most widely known among the 22 different inventors associated with the light bulb. Edison perfected the vacuum process and incandescent material that made the bulbs viable.



CITY OF LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA PHOTO

The world's longest running incandescent light bulb has been lit almost continuously for more than a century. The four-watt bulb is glowing in a fire station in Livermore, California.

To some extent, Edison did the job too well from a business standpoint, producing very long-lasting light bulbs. While most incandescent light bulbs will be headed towards extinction, the Centennial Light, a four-watt bulb manufactured approximately between the late 1890s and 1901 by the Shelby Electric Company, is still burning today in a Livermore, California fire station. It is considered the longest lasting light bulb in history. The bulb has only rarely (and carefully) been turned off in at least a century.

The law signed in 2007 required that common household light bulbs be at least 27 percent more efficient than existing incandescent bulbs by 2014. Seven years later, that reality took hold with the New Year. But don't worry, the second part of the law, which requires that bulbs be 60 to 70 percent more efficient, won't go into effect until 2020 (which will likely mean the end of today's high-efficiency incandescent). Six years seems like a long time away.

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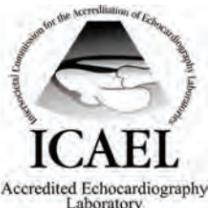
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## BBB Warning: *Smart phone apps may share your information*

Smart phone apps can make life easier, putting dozens of useful tools in the palm of your hand. But the Better Business Bureau is warning consumers to make sure the apps they download don't take more information than they need to do the job.

In a recent settlement by the Federal Trade Commission, the agency found that a flashlight app's privacy policy had been deceiving users into sharing their geographic location and device information with advertising networks and other third parties. "Brightest Flashlight Free," developed by Goldenshores Technologies, LLC, is one of the most popular apps on Android mobile devices and has been downloaded more than 10 million times.

However, according to the FTC, the company's privacy policy told consumers that any information collected by the app would be used by the company, and listed some

categories of information that it might collect, including geographic location. The privacy policy failed, however, to mention that this private information would be released to third parties. The complaint also involved the company collecting information as soon as users opened the app, even before accepting or refusing the terms of the privacy policy.

Goldenshores Technologies has agreed to settle the FTC charges. The settlement goes on to prohibit the company from misrepresenting how users' information is collected and shared and how much control users have over the way the information is shared. It also requires defendants to obtain consumers' affirmative express consent before collecting, using and sharing information.

It's not always easy to tell if an app is going to collect your information or how it will use it. BBB is urging smart phone users to:

- Research companies and apps before downloading, including industry publications and user reviews;

- Read the full privacy policy (and, on Android phones, the "Permissions" screen);

- Opt out of location sharing when prompted;

- Periodically check all privacy settings on your smart phone and keep them set as high as you can without altering the functions of your apps (some apps, like maps and compasses, need geo-location information in order to work properly);

- Update your apps when a new version comes out (your phone should alert you); often app updates fix "bugs" from earlier versions;

- Delete apps you no longer use from your phone.

For information on apps for children, check out BBB's Children's Advertising Review Unit.

For more tips you can trust, visit [bbb.org](http://bbb.org).

## Apollo Beach Woman's Club meets Jan. 8

The Apollo Beach Woman's Club will hold its next monthly meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Little Harbor, 611 Destiny Dr. in Ruskin. Membership is open to all women in Apollo Beach and surrounding communities.

Luncheon reservations (\$16) must be made by Friday, Jan. 3 by contacting Deanna Anest at 813-938-3541 or email [hooker06@hotmail.com](mailto:hooker06@hotmail.com).

Seel Lundy reminds members to bring books to be sold at the January meeting. Proceeds (\$1 per book) go to the scholarship fund.

ABWC was founded in 1959 by a group of women who wished to contribute to the community by providing college scholarships to Apollo Beach area high school graduates. Longevity Awards will be presented to members at the Jan. 8 meeting. Among those honored will be Sonya Davidson, bake sale and Sunshine chair, who has been an active member for 35 years.

A wine tasting evening is planned for Friday, Jan. 31 from 7-9 p.m. at Apollo Bistro, 6520 Riches Way in Apollo Beach. "Around the World with Wine," presented by Hugh Moore of PRP Wines International, is open to the community. Tickets are \$10 per person, with the money going to the scholarship fund. For tickets or information, contact Louise Smith at 813-641-8202. Wine will be available for both tasting and purchasing.

To join the Apollo Beach Woman's Club (\$20 annually) or learn more about the organization, contact Judy Peck, 2nd VP of Membership, at 813-746-1072 or visit [www.apollobeachwomensclub.com](http://www.apollobeachwomensclub.com).

## Tampa - St. Pete - Clearwater lead state in job creation

The Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) led all Florida metro areas in over-the-year job creation, with a gain of more than 39,300 new jobs. The MSA also experienced a 1.9 percentage point decline last month in the unemployment rate over the last year, down to 6.2 percent from 8.1 percent in November 2012.

The Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA led the metro areas in gains in:

- Professional and business services (+12,000 jobs).
- Education and health services (+9,700 jobs).
- Trade, transportation and utilities (+7,100 jobs).
- Construction (+6,400 jobs).

The Tampa Bay MSA was first among the state metro areas in online job demand in November 2013 with 44,525 openings. The metro area was also first in the state in demand for STEM occupations with 12,288 openings in November. STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and these jobs are considered high wage and high skill.

The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey for the fourth

quarter of 2013 indicates that Tampa Bay area employers expect to continue hiring at an active pace. Twenty-one percent of the companies interviewed plan to hire more employees. The net hiring outlook is increased considerably from the previous year.

In November, Florida's 24 Regional Workforce Boards reported more than 42,100 Floridians were placed in jobs. An individual who receives employment and training assistance through a One-Stop Career Center and finds a job within 180 days is deemed a placement and may be reported by a regional workforce board. Of these individuals, 12,091 previously received Reemployment Assistance. In 2012, more than 426,000 Floridians were placed in jobs, with 111,173 former claimants finding employment.

Florida's unemployment rate decreased to 6.4 percent in November 2013, down from 6.7 percent in October 2013. The statewide unemployment rate has remained below the national average of 7.0 percent since March 2013. Florida has created 446,300 private sector jobs since December 2010.

## Some mind-body therapies may reduce effects of functional bowel disorders, UF experts find

Although some health care providers may overlook alternative therapies when treating functional bowel disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome, University of Florida faculty members have found evidence that hypnosis and cognitive behavioral therapy may benefit patients suffering from these diseases.

Led by researchers Oliver Grundmann of the UF College of Pharmacy and Saunjo "Sunny" Yoon of the UF College of Nursing, the study was published in the *European Journal of Integrative Medicine*, which highlighted it as the "Editors Choice" in its August issue.

The researchers reviewed 19 recent clinical trials to examine the potential benefits of using four common mind-body therapies — yoga, hypnotherapy, cognitive behavioral therapy and biofeedback — in the treatment of functional bowel disorders. In particular, the researchers found indications there were some benefits to hypnotherapy and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Functional bowel disorders occur when the stomach and bowels aren't working properly and are typically accompanied by stomach pain, bloating and other intestinal symptoms. Treatments typically target these symptoms.

For about five years, Yoon and Grundmann have been studying and publishing material on complementary and alternative medicine, which includes treatments with dietary supplements, acupuncture and yoga.

Because functional bowel disorders are chronic conditions that come and go over time, patients sometimes develop negative attitudes that can affect treatments. Cognitive behavioral therapy is used in an attempt to help patients feel more positive. In one study the researchers examined, cognitive behavioral therapy worked as well as antidepressant medications.

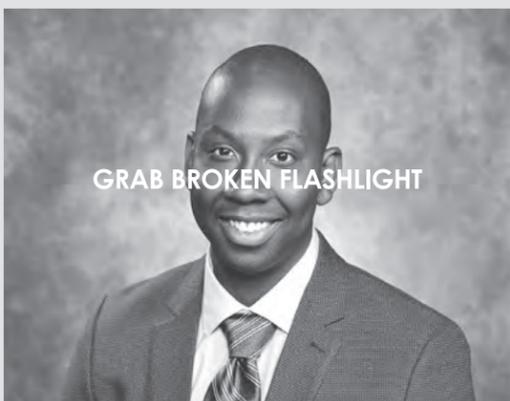
Hypnosis, on the other hand, is used in an attempt to reduce pain. Some of the studies the researchers reviewed showed that hypnotherapy worked as well as medication to reduce pain in patients.

But although the results were promising, they were not conclusive, Yoon said.

"A lot of times we get contradictory results from the clinical trials, so it can be confusing for the readers or the clinicians when they read it," Yoon said. "Our article can give them a better picture or better view about currently available clinical trials and the results of the trials."

Yoon said doctors should not exclude complementary therapies when treating functional bowel disorders.

"We just need to have an open mind to the therapies that are not familiar in Western countries," Yoon said.



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# Fish Tales: Fishermen's Resolutions for the New Year

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- Watch the weather, always fish together.
  - Sunburns come quick, but sunscreen does the trick.
  - Make a fishing plan at home — you may get lost if you roam.
  - Check the registration number on your boat — if the law can't read it, you won't stay afloat.
  - Is your anchor in good shape? If not, watch out for Fate.
  - Check your lines, look for frays, a new one could save the day.
  - Take time to clean out your tacklebox, what you'll find may give you a shock.
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  - Do you trailer a boat? Make a complete check, before you put it afloat.
  - Is your battery good? Does it operate as it should?
  - Resolve to check your motors or engines. Keep them running; breakdown will be lots of funding.
  - Take along enough bait, a trip to shore will be a long wait.
  - Your eyes will need protection, Polarized sunglasses are a good selection.
  - We wish you a happy, healthy, great fishing year.



By Jonie Maschek  
Member: Florida Outdoor Writers Association

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**CAR:**  
2011 Buick Lucerne with only 11,300 miles. This car is LOADED!! Owner paid \$38,584.00 for this car new!!!

**ANTIQUES:**  
Lots of smalls, Depression glass, Gone with the wind type lamps, Military items, Advertising tins, Art glass, Cookie jar collection (McCoy), Carnival glass, Haviland, Crocks, Old marbles, Sterling, Coffee grinder, Old dolls, Jewelry, Old watches, Marble top tables, Round front china (oak),

Flat front china (oak), Oak 4 drawer dresser, Noritake china, Old Gilbert clock, Grandfather clock (Ridgeway), CookKoo Clock, Oak washstand, Desk, and Lots of craft items

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*This will be a good auction and everything must go because executrix lives out of state and says SELL EVERYTHING!!!*

**TERMS:**  
**Real Estate Terms:** \$10,000 down day of auction, balance in 30 days or upon delivery of the deed. Funds are cash, guaranteed check or transferred funds. There will be a 10% buyer premium added to the final bid to determine market price. This deposit is non refundable once seller accepts the bid.  
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COMMENTARY

# It's time to rethink the meaning of 'jobs'

By **PENNY FLETCHER**  
penny@observernews.net

A lot of people made resolutions to change their behavior in the New Year.

According to a *New York Times* poll, the top four New Year's resolutions during the last ten years have averaged out to be quit smoking, lose weight, quit drinking and spend more time with family. But every year, quitting smoking wins the number one spot hands down.



Personally, I think it's time we concentrated on something even more basic than our health and weight, because without it we can't buy the food that's making us fat or get the medical care to make us (or keep us) well.

That something is jobs, and I don't mean Steve Jobs, I mean the way we make the living that provides our daily bread.

The turn of every century has brought huge changes to the earth and its inhabitants.

When the 1700s turned to the 1800s, the first Continental Congress had just met, forming the Thirteen Colonies that in 1776, with the signing of the Declaration of Independence, made the United States a separate nation.

Samuel Morse invented the telegraph in 1794. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1875.

Big changes lay ahead as the 1700s moved into the Industrial Revolution of the 1800s. Although it is said that revolution began in the late 1700s, major changes in agriculture, manufacturing, mining, and transportation came about in the period between the 18th and 19th centuries.

The 20th century saw the telephone, television, and the beginnings of the electronic revolution that has carried over into the new Millennium of the 21st century.

Progress has certainly changed the way we live our lives.

Unfortunately, it has changed the way we do business to the point where world-wide unemployment has reached record highs and the current economy can no longer sustain our way of life.

The large factories and manufacturing companies that supplied paychecks that bought houses and cars and kept families fed have been left behind as things like "telecommuting" and "robotics" have made it possible for machines to do the work of men and women.

Greed has played a major role, too, as factories were sent overseas from the United States so their owners could hire cheaper labor and less taxation.

As of October 2012, the national unemployment figures showed a 7.4 percent average unemployment rate (with some states as high as 9 percent and two listed as between zero and 3 percent). This, of course, did not count those unemployed whose benefits have run out.

The "under-employed," however, make up the scariest figure. These are the part-time workers and people whose pay is too low to live on. In a population reported at 315 million, there were 155 million more listed as "under-employed."

Okay, so what are we supposed to do? Raising a granddaughter who is currently 16, I see kids graduate with no chance of finding a job in the field they hope to enter; and on the opposite end of that stick, A-plus college grads are flipping burgers for minimum wage.

Things are changing fast, and we have to think ahead to survive.

But there is something we can each do individually, and something we can do as a society that can bring us back up where we belong. It won't be easy, and it won't be fast, but it certainly isn't all gloom and doom.

In our grandparents' — or possibly great-grandparents' — day, there were individual entrepreneurs who made (or did) everything others needed.

Before the factories and manufacturing, there were butchers and bakers and candlestick makers... remember that old rhyme?

There were blacksmiths who shoed the horses people used for transportation; small whistlestop restaurants that specialized in taking care of people passing through; and people with spare rooms rented them out, they didn't look to acquire more things to put in them.

This past year I've done many stories on people who have completely reinvented themselves by taking something they enjoyed doing — a hobby, maybe — and turning it into a self-employed business.

There's the woman who likes horses who now runs a stable. And another who made a small tearoom out of her home. And speaking of tea, there was a three-session demonstration at the SouthShore Library just recently where a woman who had learned "everything there is to know about tea" gave classes on the benefits of various kinds of teas from all over the world, which she also imports and sells.

Then there's the man who was laid off from work who made ice cream in his home and gradually invented so many flavors he had to open a shop.

I know it can be done because I've done it myself and continue to do it everyday.

The important word is "reinvent."

For many years I worked for a big company. In fact, it was that company that sent me to a seminar where we studied the book, *Who Moved My Cheese?*

If you haven't read it yet, I'd suggest you do. It's about how four mice reacted when their source of food (income) was removed.

Do you sit and hope for it to return?

Do you wait until you're half starved to look for more cheese?

Two mice, Sniff and Scurry, didn't sit around long enough to find out. Sniff could smell a change coming and found new cheese before he lost his old cheese. Scurry waited until change was in the air but he rushed around and found new cheese in time.

It was at that very seminar I made up my mind to become a Sniff and started an editing business on the side.

I love writing for *The Observer News* and *The Current* — but I'm not an "employee." I'm a free-

► Continued on page 13

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• **“Six by Six Exhibition” Entry Forms**

2014 Call for All Artists Entries for the “Six by Six Exhibition,” Small Art/Big Ideas non-juried show. Entry forms for artists in any medium is welcome within the size restriction of six inches by six inches. Entry forms are due no later than Jan. 15, 2014. Entry forms are available at the SouthShore Regional Library Information Desk or by calling 813-273-3652. Questions? Contact Laurie Burhop, Art Coordinator.

• **Art Applications for Crawford Gallery**

Applications are available for painters, mixed media, and photography artists at SouthShore Regional Library Information Desk or by calling 813-273-3652. Application deadline is Jan. 13, 2014. Questions? Ask for Laurie Burhop, Art Coordinator.

• **Introduction to Kindle Fire - Thursday, Jan. 2 at 12:30 p.m.**

An introduction to the Kindle Fire, including the registration of an Amazon account, WiFi, and other basic functions and settings. Limit: 20.

• **Master Gardener: Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring - Thursday, Jan. 2 at 7 p.m.**

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## The new meaning of ‘jobs’

► Continued from page 12

lancer, which means they’re one of my (best!) clients and I’m one of their “self-employed contractors.”

You see, this wasn’t meant to be a gloom-and-doom column. It was meant to give you ideas of how we can solve some of the problems of the unemployed.

It’s going to take inventiveness, and in many cases, monetary help from those who can afford it. But somehow, we have to take the “new economy” and make it a good one for ourselves.

The other thing we can do is work as a community to change education. More students will be needed in certain fields, like health care, as baby boomers age. Here, also, there are all kinds of opportunities, like doing the heavy work elders can no longer do.

Thirty-five years ago somebody came into my newsroom and took my typewriter away. I wasn’t happy.

Since then, I’ve been through about ten system changes and none of them have been easy.

But none of the people who I’ve written about and know who have reinvented themselves have had it any easier.

The good thing is, they’ve all been able to do it.



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MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

A family poses by Mile 0 in Key West; depending on your perspective it is the end of the road or the beginning. For each of us, January 1, 2014 is also a Mile 0 on a road yet to be traveled.

## Observations:

► Continued from page 3

as an ignorant microscopic step up from a barbarian or an amoeba. Perhaps, but hopefully not, seeing me as the last of a breed dying from self-inflicted wounds.

I distinctly remember sitting in a junior high science class and the teacher telling us that we were lucky to be so young because we would certainly be alive to see a space station in operation. I also remember one smart-aleck kid respond with, "Nah, you probably have a few good years left!" I don't know if that teacher lived to see the International Space Station, but I hope so.

The truth be told, we do have a lot of cool stuff, our lives are relatively easy and the future, despite all of our challenges, does look bright. We will overcome and emerge better time and again. Of that I have no doubt.

But life is funny. How is it that I am here in 2014 typing this into a

wireless computer connected to a global network rather than having been born a serf 800 years ago? Can it really be luck of the draw? I don't know but I'll take it as a blessing. Life is good. Yes, it can be better but it is only us that can make it better.

I'm not so naive that I think 2014 won't contain ugliness and painful challenges. But I do believe that we will emerge from the year just a little bit better than we did in 2013. We will move forward, second by second, minute by minute, day by day. We will continue our long human legacy of overcoming all odds against us. Of that, I have no doubt.

Here's to a better 2014 for all of us. I'm really glad to be here with you. Happy New Year.

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72" W x 60" H.....	\$131 Installed

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 Includes up to 5 qts 5W20, 10W30, or 10W40 motor oil. Purolator oil filter. Most cars and light trucks. Please call for appointment. Valid only with coupon. Not valid with any other coupons or specials. Coupon expires 1/16/14

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 EXCLUDES TIRES & SALES SPECIALS

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MVD1266 • A fee will be added: 4% (\$2.50 min.) not to exceed \$20) to cover the disposal of hazardous waste materials & supplies

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

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



**Ollie**

Ollie is a mostly white kitten with a little gray on his head and ears. His mother is Nellie, a beautiful tabby. Ollie loves to play with the other kittens at the shelter as well as his siblings. And, boy, does Ollie love to chase the cat toys around the shelter. He is quite a charmer but he would like to come to live at a forever home of his own. Go meet this handsome guy and give him that home. Ollie has been neutered and he is current on his shots. As part of his adoption Ollie will be microchipped.  
 DOB: April 25, 2013.



**Shelby**

Shelby is sweet like cotton candy and just as soft, too. She is a sociable, joyful puppy who wants to please. When she greets you, her face lights up with a big doggy smile, her ears go back, and her eyes sparkle. She loves playing tug-of-war and looks so darn cute doing it you just have to let her win. Shelby was released from a car as a stray in the Ruskin area. As part of Shelby's adoption she will be made current on her shots, spayed, and microchipped.  
 DOB: July 1, 2013.

PHOTOS MARLENE GREENBERG

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## RUSKIN BRANCH LIBRARY

1 Dickman Drive SE • Ruskin 33573



### Adult Computer Classes for the Technologically Challenged

**Word I: Introduction • Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 3 p.m.**

Learn to create, save, print, and edit documents. Basic keyboarding and mouse skills are recommended. Seating limit: 18. Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the program start.

**Word II: Font and Page Formatting • Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 3:45 p.m.**

Discover the basics of font formatting, changing font type, size and color and page setup, margins, paper orientation. Word I is recommended. Seating limit: 18. Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the program start.

**Computer Tutor • Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 5:30 p.m.**

Tutoring in Microsoft software, email, and the Internet. Seating limit: 18. Registration in person required no earlier than one hour prior to the program start.



### 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. Chapel duty at the VA Hospital every Sunday all month, 8:30 a.m.

**Friday, Jan. 3** - Fish Fry 4:30 p.m. No music.

**Saturday, Jan. 4** - Crew Games & free hot dogs 6 p.m. Music by You 2 Kan 7 p.m.

**Sunday, Jan. 5** - Lounge Games 2 p.m. Music by Bert & Sassy 6:30 p.m. Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:30 p.m.

**Monday, Jan. 6** - Crew Games & free hot dogs 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 7** - Games in lounge, 1-4 p.m. Bingo doors open 3 p.m. Bingo at 6 p.m.

**Thursday, Jan. 9** - Bar Bingo 6 p.m.

### Business slow? Advertise in The Observer

We cover south Hillsborough County with a circulation of 48,000 papers every week! We offer many options in every price range...from classified ads to full pages. Call 813-645-3111 and ask to speak to an advertising representative today. For more information visit us on the web at [www.ObserverNews.net](http://www.ObserverNews.net)

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Up to 5 qts. 10w30, 5w30 or 5w20s  
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Shopper Observer

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## Coming Soon to Curbs in Sun City Center and Kings Point

Automated residential garbage and recycling collection service will begin in the Sun City Center and Kings Point communities on Jan. 15, 2014. Automated collection is a process where garbage and recycling containers are emptied using a mechanical arm on the collection vehicle, instead of workers lifting cans and bins by hand.

---

**WAIT UNTIL JAN. 15 TO SET CARTS OUT AT CURB**

Beginning the week of Jan. 6, a **GRAY** roll cart for garbage and a **BLUE** roll cart for recycling will be delivered to Hillsborough County Solid Waste customers in Sun City Center and Kings Point. **DO NOT** place the roll carts out for collection until the new service begins the following week.

---

**BE SMART WHEN IT'S TIME TO USE THE CARTS**

Please read the important information that will be delivered with the carts. When the new service starts, allow a 3-foot clearance around each cart at the curb. All garbage and recyclables must go in the carts.

There will be **NO** change to your yard waste collection. It will still be picked up manually, in containers and cans provided by residents, or in bags and bundles.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Scan QR code on your smartphone, visit our website, or call the Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department at 813-272-5680.

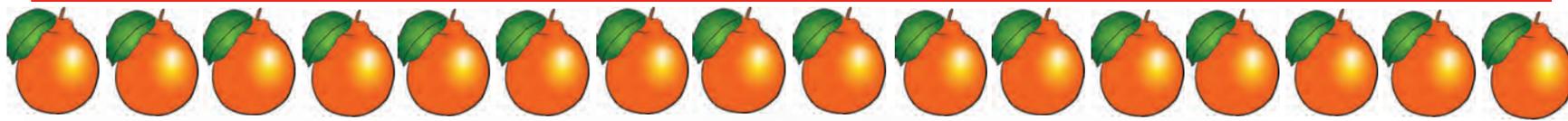
**Fill It. Tilt It.**  
**That's How We Roll!**

Automated Garbage And Recycling Collection

**Carts Are Coming Jan. 6**

[www.HillsboroughCounty.org/TalkTrash](http://www.HillsboroughCounty.org/TalkTrash)

# HONEYBELLS NOW!



They're IN our Store at Dooley Groves NOW! Come and Get'em!

These are the BEST tasting fruit you'll ever eat! Don't miss out.



Extremely Rare Honeybell Tangelos are ripe only in January! Only once each year can you savor the unequalled succulence of Florida's most treasured citrus, Honeybell Tangelos.

No other can match the juiciness of these rather large, easy to peel beauties.

Its tangy flavor is the best ever to come out of Florida!



## Dooley Groves

Country Farm Market in the Grove

[www.dooleygroves.com](http://www.dooleygroves.com)

VISA MasterCard 813-645-3256 Discover American Express

Fax 813-645-1827

**VERY LIMITED SUPPLY**  
Ripe only for a few short weeks in January. Order today, before they're all gone! We'll be shipping them soon...

ALL Honeybell Gift Packs start at \$49.99 +S/H



**Come to the Grove! It's just a short drive out in the country**

NOW IN SEASON  
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*Packed in Mesh Bags for Home or Travel*

golden seedless

Navel Oranges

Ruby Red seedless Grapefruit



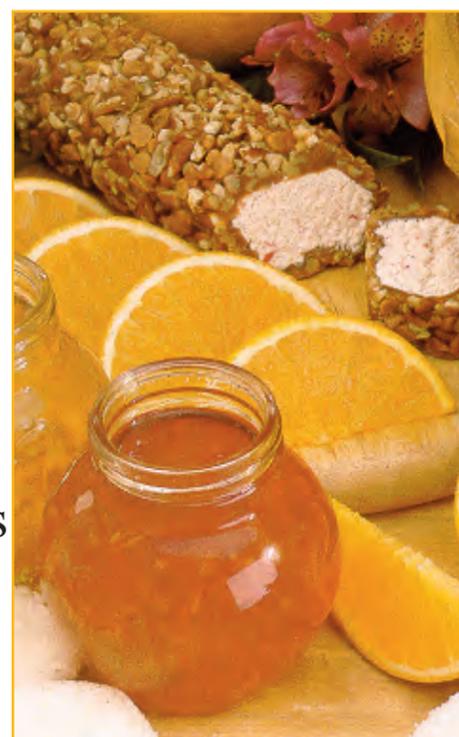
### Honeybells!



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Fruit Preserves & Spreads

LOCAL Honey, Candy & Cookies  
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*and so much more!*



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**The Original Grove Store Location**  
1651 Stephens Road,  
Old Sun City, Florida  
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Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm  
OPEN Sunday through Honeybell Season 10am -5pm

**DIRECTIONS FROM SUN CITY CENTER / RIVERVIEW AREA:**

Travel WEST on S.R. 674 about 5 miles (past I-75) to U.S. 41. Turn SOUTH (left) on U.S. 41. Travel for about 3 miles to Universal-Stephens Rd. (First road past Circle K/Shell Station on left) Turn LEFT and drive about 1/4 mile to Stephens Road. Turn RIGHT onto Stephens Road.

Travel 2 miles. Dooley Groves is on the left.

**FROM TAMPA/BRANDON AREA:** Take I-75 South to Exit 240 (Ruskin exit) then follow above directions to Dooley Groves.

Area Obituary



**Dorothy Ann Devling**

Dorothy Ann Devling, 97, of Sun City Center, Fla. passed away peacefully in her sleep on December 20, 2013. She was predeceased by her husband William Harold Devling and daughter Shirley Lingenfelter.

Surviving are sons William (Shirley) Devling of Port St. Lucie, Fla. and Robert (Robin) Devling of Sun City Center, Fla.; daughter Jane (Gregory) Bee of Copeland, Fla.; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Dorothy was a member of Vernon Chapter #611 Order of Eastern Star in Java Village, N.Y., where she was active until moving to Florida. Once there, she taught herself to swim and logged 3000 miles in the Sun City Center lap pool. She rode her three-wheeled bike around town and was on her third one after wearing out two. Dorothy enjoyed lawn bowling in the Tuesday-Friday women's group. She had been a member of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church for several years, and then was a member of St. John the Divine Episcopal Church on East Del Webb Blvd. No services are planned at this time. Interment will be in Holland, N.Y. at a later date. Arrangements by Zipperer's Funeral Home.



Everyone looks forward to a New Year and the hope it represents. "Well wishers" come at us from every direction wanting us to reap a harvest of joy and happiness, peace and prosperity. A "good new year" is a universal desire that everyone seeks. But how can we assure ourselves of having a Happy New Year? The answer comes from Isaiah 41:10.

First, we must honor the two "nots" — do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Fear and dismay will disturb our minds, trouble our souls and destroy our health. Only as we place our faith in the goodness and grace of God will our fears evaporate and dismay vanish.

Second, add the two "I am's" — I am with you and I am your God. Our God is always with us and we are never beyond His reach. When problems arise, He wants to solve them. When needs arise, He will meet them. When foes would destroy us, He will conquer them. When storms appear, He will calm them.

Third, we need to mix them with the three "I will's." I will strengthen you. He has all the strength we need with some to spare. I will help you. Here is help that is seeking us and is sufficient for every situation. I will uphold you. With what? The very same hands that hold the universe together!

If we want 2014 to be a Happy New Year, we must begin every day of every week of every month of the year reading God's Word and spending time in prayer.

**Dear Santa....**

Two-year-old Angel Gonzaga was one of the children who visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Dec. 19 when they made a stop at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Claus explained to the little ones how Jesus is the best gift of Christmas; then Santa listened to what the boys and girls wanted under their trees on Christmas Day. In the photo Angel enjoys some of the cookies, hot chocolate and other goodies that were served to the children



in Fellowship Hall after Santa's visit. Watch for Santa again next year at 1239 Del Webb Blvd. in Sun City Center.



**The Inspirations Gospel group to appear in Gibsonton Jan. 9**

The Inspirations, the Southern Gospel group from the Great Smokey Mountains, will appear in concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 9 at the First Baptist Church in Gibsonton.

Tickets are \$10 each; age 12 and under no charge. Tickets may be purchased ahead of time by calling 813-677-1301 or 813-956-6843. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

The First Baptist Church is located at 9912 Indiana St. in Gibsonton.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society offers financial assistance**

Did you know that the St. Vincent de Paul Society offers assistance to those in the community who have fallen on difficult times?

Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. until noon at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are on

hand to help those who are in need of financial assistance.

All information is kept confidential. For more information, call 813-385-6110.

Prince of Peace Catholic Church is located at 702 Valley Forge Blvd. in Sun City Center.



**Local residents attend Beth Moore Living Proof Live Conference**

Carol Paterson, left, Linda Palmer, Ellen Thomas and Rebecca Crowell recently attended the Beth Moore Living Proof Live conference in Daytona Beach. The seminars are conducted so women can learn more about God's Word, with the goal of leading a life of Bible Study. Living Proof Live is celebrating its 15th year of ministry.

BETH ISRAEL The Jewish Congregation  
of Sun City Center,  
1115 Del Webb Blvd. E. Sun City Center (813)634-2590  
SHABBAT SERVICES FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM  
TORAH STUDY SATURDAY AT 12 NOON  
MORNING SERVICES 2ND AND 4TH SATURDAY 10AM  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

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**Area Places of Worship**

**Ruskin United Methodist Church**

First Street & 4th Ave. NW, Ruskin (behind Suntrust Bank)  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND WORSHIP WITH US:  
SUNDAY MORNINGS: Nov. - April..... 8:30 a.m. Day Care Available  
Rev. Richard Nussel and All Year..... 10:45 a.m. Mon. - Fri.  
Phone: 645-1241 Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m. 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
call 645-6198

**Friendship Baptist Church**

Rance Goad, Pastor (Southern Baptist)  
1511 El Rancho Dr.  
Sun City Center, FL 33573  
Phone/Fax: 813-633-5950  
WEEKLY SERVICES:  
Sunday 9 a.m. .... Bible Study  
11 a.m. .... Bible Study  
10 a.m. & 6 p.m. .... Worship  
Wednesday 6 p.m. .... Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**

701 Valley Forge Blvd. • Sun City Center, FL 33573-5354  
Reverend David Allman, Pastor  
Telephone: 813-634-1292 • Website: sccredeemer.org  
Worship Services on Sunday 10 a.m.  
Holy Communion First & Third Sunday • Bible Class Thursday 10 a.m.

**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.  
813-481-9060

**First Baptist Church of Gibsonton**

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

**Prince of Peace Catholic Church**

702 Valley Forge Blvd., SCC, FL 33573  
Phone: 634-2328 • Fax: 633-6670  
www.popcc.org  
Masses:  
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon  
Saturday Vigil..... 4:00 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.  
Dr. Samuel (Sam) A. Roach, Pastor  
1301 U.S. Hwy. 41 N., Ruskin, FL • 645-1121 • www.nbc.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.uccsun.org

**Welcome to the: South Hillsborough Church of Christ**

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.  
EVERETT TATE, MINISTER

**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

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of SCC**

Meets in the Henry Gibson Social Hall of the Beth Israel Synagogue • 1115. E. Del Webb Blvd.  
Thursday, 7:00 PM • Call 633-0396 • www.sccuu.org  
Doubt is the whetstone of understanding.  
— John Dos Passos

**PRAYER - PRAISE - WORSHIP The Anointing Church**

324 Green Manor Drive, SCC, FL • 813-922-6640  
www.theanointingchurch.com

**The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center**

1210 Del Webb Blvd West • 634-2539  
http://www.sccumc.com  
Come Belong Grow Serve WORSHIP SERVICES: SUNDAY  
8:30 a.m. .... Contemporary Service  
9:30 a.m. .... Traditional Service  
10:00 a.m. .... Contemporary Service  
11:00 a.m. .... Traditional Service  
4:00 p.m. .... Hispanic Worship  
Bookstore 633-8595 FREE Nursery Provided  
Senior Pastor: Dr. Warren Langer  
Assistant Pastor: Rev. Samuel Rorer

## Area Places of Worship

**Southside Baptist Church**  
*"A Warm, Loving & Friendly Church"*  
 4208 U.S. Hwy. 41 S • Sun City, FL 33586 • 813-645-4085

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

**First Christian Church**  
 Worship Service @ 10:30 am  
 Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am  
 1707 55rd Street Southeast  
 Ruskin, Florida 33570  
 www.firstchristiansuncitycenter.com  
 Phone: 813-419-4930  
 Minister Mike Grant

**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

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..... 4:00 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.

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

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

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



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

~ MASSES ~

Vigil Mass..... Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass..... 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Monday thru Friday..... 8:00 a.m.
Holy Days..... Contact Parish Office for Schedule
Español..... Sabado 6:00 p.m.; Domingo 12:30 p.m.; Jueves 7:00 p.m.
Confession..... Thursday 6:15 p.m.; Saturday 3:15 p.m.



**Dale Ann Bradley**  
**Bluegrass greats play at First United Methodist Church of Brandon**

A major bluegrass show will take place at First United Methodist Church of Brandon, Saturday, Jan. 12, beginning at 6 p.m. No tickets will be sold; donations will be taken at the door. The show features bluegrass greats:

- Dale Ann Bradley, 5-time International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Female Vocalist of the Year.
- Phil Leadbetter, Grammy-nominated 2005 IBMA - and 2008, 2009 SPBGMA (Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music Association) — Dobro Player of the Year.
- Steve Gulley, IBMA songwriter of the year and founding member and lead vocalist for the super-group, Mountain Heart.

Their supporting band will be local boys Cory, Jarrod and Tyler Walker. The Walkers are lifetime residents of Lithia and attended Durant High (Cory class of 2008, Jarrod, 2010, Tyler will graduate this spring).

Cory and Jarrod have played on a CBS television special with Keith Urban in 2004 and on ABC with Earl Scruggs and Ricky Skaggs in 2005.

They have played the Grand Ole Opry several times as Cory and Jarrod Walker as well as with other bands. They have played nationally as well as in Canada, France, Italy and Japan. Cory is a 2013 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University and Jarrod will graduate MTSU this spring.

Cory and Jarrod play for national touring groups Sierra Hull and Highway 111 and Missy Raines and the New Hip respectively.

First United Methodist Church of Brandon is located one block north of SR 60 (Brandon Blvd.), at 121 North Knights Ave., between Kings and Parsons. Call the church office at 813-689-4161 for more details, or visit www.fumcbrandon.org.

**Daniel Rodriguez in concert at St. Andrew on Jan. 5**

At 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 5, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church presents a return concert by the American tenor Daniel Rodriguez, long known as the 'singing policeman.'

Back when he was an officer with the NYC Police Department, he comforted and inspired the nation in the aftermath of 9/11 with his operatic singing of "God Bless America" during the interfaith service at Yankee Stadium; the service was broadcast worldwide.

He also appeared at many subsequent memorial services and funerals.

All tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the door the day of



the concert, or at the church reception desk.

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is located at 1239 West Del Webb Blvd. in Sun City Center.

**JoAnne Podgurski to perform concert at United Methodist Church**

Popular local singer JoAnne Podgurski will perform a solo concert at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 3 in the sanctuary of the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center.

JoAnne has been singing since she was two years old; her father had a country band and she was around music

all the time. She has always sung in church and in school musicals while growing up. JoAnne frequently performed with a gospel music group on a local TV show in Portsmouth Va., called "Spread A Little Sunshine."

She was also involved in musical theater while living in Virginia. JoAnne was involved with the Pelican Players for seven years in Sun City Center. She has been part of the Praise Team at United Methodist and is a featured soloist at the church,

where she also works with the children's choir.

A donation of just \$5 is requested at the door on the night of this performance.

For additional information about this and other events and activities 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 www.umcsc.org.



**Trinity Baptist Mission Endowment Trustees**

Planning annual distributions used to help establish new churches in Florida are Mission Endowment Fund Trustees Vern Elarth (left), Chairman Shan Hise, Richard Stanhope and Spencer Faircloth. For more information, call 813-634-4228.

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PENNY FLETCHER PHOTO

Work continues at the Summerfield Clubhouse. Originally slated to be completed in November, some code issues held it up and now it is expected to be open in mid-January. Summerfield Master Association President Bob Abruzzese and Community Manager Abi James say it will be worth the wait.

## Summerfield gym

► Continued from page 1

munity use the weight and cardio rooms, James said. They were getting crowded.

Much space that was used for offices and meeting now belongs to the weight and cardio rooms. In fact, more than half the community center (not counting the full-size gymnasium) will be used for fitness.

This renovation won't include anything on the outside of the clubhouse, which was repainted and re-landscaped about five years ago.

The approximately \$200,000 project included breaking down walls between small rooms to make for large areas and new exercise equipment was ordered.

The equipment has arrived, and now sits in boxes in the gym, which is also being used as a make-shift office by staff members who have desks and files in a small area just inside the gym's entrance.

"We're really excited to have the wi-fi room going in," James said. She said she expects that will be one of the most used parts of the facilities.

As for the weight and cardio rooms, if people who are able to come during the day will do so, instead of coming at peak hours for people who work during the day — like in the early morning and after five p.m. — it would not have been crowded, James ex-

plained. "We have regulars in the morning, and in the evening. But we see many come in right before and after work."

Besides completely redoing the exercise rooms, the restrooms have been thoroughly remodeled and are awaiting the installation of new fixtures. New tile flooring in the entranceway and halls has also been installed.

Two extra treadmills, another stationary bike, some elliptical machines and new (open) storage racks for various size weights have already arrived.

Long-range plans call for adding a new wing and doing some renovations outside, but they are five or six years away.

"Those things will be done in the same way," Abruzzese explained. "Only when the money is there."

The complex also has tennis courts, a basketball court, two swimming pools, and both a fenced and un-fenced playground.

The main community complex is located in the center of the community, on the north side of Summerfield Boulevard, which crosses Big Bend Road at the only traffic signal east of U.S. Hwy. 301 prior to coming to Balm-Riverview Road.

There is also a public golf course in the community at 13050 Summerfield Blvd., just southeast of the clubhouse.

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