



THE OBSERVER NEWS



Early Easter treat

Hydro Harvest Farms held a free Easter Egg and Scavenger Hunt last Saturday as an early treat for local youngsters. More photos on page 14.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

'Do, build, succeed'

By **LIA MARTIN**
lia@observernews.net

Two students from the Lennard High School Robotics Club had the seniors living at SunTowers sitting on the edge of their seats while listening to the students describe the robots they had built and the awards they had won.

More importantly, you could see how the students living their dream were captured within the hearts of those listening. For, you see, the listeners had made it possible for these students to have a dream. The residents donated \$1,000 to the Robotics Club.

Joe Figueroa, 16, and Sylvania "Silvie" Valerio, 15, are in 10th grade at Lennard High in Ruskin. They have big plans. Because of the Robotics Club, Figueroa and Valerio are going to college. In a school where kids tend to get into trouble because of a lack of things to do, or purpose to do them, the Robotics Club is saving their future.

Figueroa says he wants to go to the University of South Florida and study engineering. Next year, as a junior, he is going to participate in the dual-enrollment program, which means he will already have the first two years of college under his belt by the time he graduates from high school.

He has big plans and has set goals. Figueroa started attending the Robotics Club this year.

"I found an opportunity to join, so I took it," Figueroa said. "I wanted to build robots, and I am already applying for scholarships to USF."

Figueroa describes how he was bored and lost, not knowing what to do with his life on a day-to-day

basis. He said he was just watching television and trying to find things to do after school. This may be one of the most important aspects of this club — it is giving a future to kids just like Figueroa.

Jim Reve knows how much impact the program is having already on students. Reve started the Robotics Club with funds from his own pocket. You

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LIA MARTIN PHOTO

First row from left, SunTowers board directors John Testerman, Bob McKroskey, Virginia Watson, Helen Buckelew, Helen Gunn and Martha Christensen. Second row from left, Jim Reve, Lennard High School instructor; Lennard High students Joe Figueroa and Sylvania Valerio. SunTowers directors not shown in the photo are Jewel Smith and Jean Hall. The awards shown on the table from left, 2013 Robotic Arm award, second place; 2014 Battleweight Division; the 'Best Robotics' award; and the NASA Egglander award to the Lennard High Robotics Club for second place.



New gym takes shape at Gardenville Recreation Center



Hillsborough County Commissioner Sandra Murman, fourth from left, was among those on hand to help break ground on the project last month. COURTESY OF CONCERNED CITIZENS OF GIBSONTON

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

A new 10,000-square-foot gymnasium on the grounds of the Gardenville Recreation Center, 6219 Symmes Road, Gibsonton, is already taking shape.

The multipurpose facility will feature spring-flooring to provide shock absorption for a variety of sports and will open the door to new athletic leagues, tournaments, classes and other events to be held at the new gym.

Construction began last month and the gym is expected to be completed by early 2015.

Brandon Bonilla, for one, can't wait. "We can play on the outdoor basketball court here for a couple of hours in the morning before it becomes too hot to play, so a new indoor gym will be a lot better because we can play longer," said the Gibsonton teen, as he took a break from a game of hoops at the recreation center.

"Some kids don't come because it just gets too hot, but if it's inside, there will be no excuse," Bonilla said. "I think you will see more kids playing."

Nestled in a 9-acre park on Symmes Road, the current recreation center is home to after-school care programs, outdoor basketball courts, a fitness room, picnic shelters, a meeting room

and playground.

The center, a hub for community events serving upward of 800 people a week from Gibsonton and surrounding communities, also hosts programs for teens, toddlers and seniors, as well as a popular summer camp program.

The new gym will be home to a lot more than just basketball.

"It's going to be a multi-use facility with basketball, volleyball and pickleball (a popular new sport that is a hybrid of tennis and table tennis) as well as a new weight room," said David Ramirez, Gardenville's program supervisor, who has been at the center since 1995.

The gym will also be used for meetings, special community events and the center's popular summer camp, spring and winter break programs.

"We are going to go all the way from youth to senior programming in the gym, so it will definitely be multigenerational," Ramirez said. "The walls are already going up, so we are jamming."

"We are very excited to get this built and really looking forward to it. We are going to be the premier recreation site for the Gibsonton community."

Ruskin food pantry homeless after church decides to sell property



KEVIN BRADY PHOTO

Pastor William and Dora Cruz, both in their 80s, have helped found some of South County's largest food banks over the last 30 years.

By **KEVIN BRADY**
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A Ruskin food pantry is searching for a new home after a local church said it could no longer afford the property.

Opened in 2008 by Pastor William and Dora Cruz, The Lord's Lighthouse Mission helps feed and clothe more than 300 people a week.

The property on East College Avenue is owned by St. John the Divine Episcopal Church, which opened a new church in Sun City Center in 2009. The cost of operating both campuses has become a financial strain on the church. Finding a new home for the pantry is proving difficult.

"We need to leave as soon as possible, but where do we

go?" asked Pastor William Cruz. "We have been turned down by several churches and businesses in the area already."

Serving mostly migrant workers and the area's homeless population, the pantry is also finding that hungry seniors are increasingly knocking on its door.

"We have many who come in wheelchairs and walkers," said Dora Cruz, who estimates that 30 percent of the mission's clients are seniors.

St. John had planned to close the College Avenue church in 2008 and move into a larger facility, but because of difficulties with zoning issues at the time, the church opted to

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Could One Hour With This Doctor Give You The Answer To Your Disc Pain?

Now, in the Lakewood Ranch area, 1 mile off I-75, one doctor has what may be the most important breakthrough in non-surgical back pain treatments. Before and after MRI studies have shown disc bulges shrink in size—even with the most painful cases of L4-L5 herniations.

If you've had disc problems for years, recently injured your back, or you're suffering with sciatica, you must hear about these new studies.

Scientific studies tell us that spinal discs are responsible for most of the aches and pains people suffer from. Discs act like a cushion between our backbones and allow for a space at each level so the nerves can exit the spinal column.

When these discs get injured or wear out from bad posture, they begin to degenerate and cause pain. Bulging and herniations begin to form, pressing on the nerve roots. If the herniations occur at L4-L5, they can severely compromise the large sciatic nerve, causing muscle weakness, tingling, and severe pain.

The most common invasive treatment for disc herniations is surgery. This costs quite a bit of money. Even with health insurance the patient is left with their own portion of the bill, in excess of \$10,000 to \$15,000, and sometimes more. The recovery time and missed work can be anywhere from 3 to 6 months, not to mention the obvious severe risks associated with all surgery.

But here's the biggest problem... there is a high failure rate of back surgery. One medical study found that, on average, 53% of L5-S1 back surgeries fail to produce relief of symptoms. (International Orthop 1987)

Before You Go Under The Knife And Opt For Spinal Surgery...

You should seriously consider a less invasive approach called spinal decompression. Non-surgical spinal decompression is a new technology that has been proven to help reverse disc herniations. It creates a vacuum effect on the disc, which helps pull the disc back in and provides a fresh blood supply to promote healing.

Spinal decompression treatments are very gentle. In fact, every once in a while I even catch a patient sleeping during sessions.

You'll simply lie on your stomach or back, whichever is comfortable, and then a specialized belt is gently put around your waist. We'll set the machine to focus on your problem area—then the advanced decompression computer system will do the rest. Most patients feel better with just a few treatments, and best of all there will be no dangerous drugs, no invasive procedures, and no painful exercises.

Feel the Improvement and Say "Yes" to Life Again

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better. Start your body on the way to pain-free, normal living. Feel tight joints rest, relax, free up. Feel muscles tied in knots become more supple. Feel strength in your muscles increase.

You're able to live life like a normal person again, without back pain—able to play with your kids, enjoy time with friends, and finally get a good night's rest.

The Single Most Important Solution To Your Sciatica and Back Pain

It's time for you to find out if spinal decompression will be your sciatic and back pain solution. For 7 days only, I'm running a very special offer where you can find out if you are a candidate for spinal decompression.

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Everything I normally do in my new patient evaluation. Just call before 5 p.m. on May 5, 2014; and here's what you'll get...

- An in-depth consultation about your health and well-being where I will listen...really listen... to the details of your case.
- A complete neuromuscular examination
- A thorough analysis of your exam, x-ray findings and MRI so we can start mapping out your plan to being pain-free.
- You'll get to see everything firsthand and find out if this amazing treatment will be your pain solution, like it has been for so many other patients.

Until May 5, 2014, you can get everything I've listed here for free! The normal price for this type of evaluation is \$250, so you're saving a considerable amount by taking me up on this offer.

See What Some Of Our Patients Who WERE Good Candidates Have Had To Say About Our Program:

I have had low back pain since 1992. It would hurt like an "abscess" and go down my right leg to my ankle. It would hurt whenever I was sitting or standing so I would have to switch every few minutes. I didn't want to have surgery so I tried decompression. I was hoping to have less pain and now I have no pain! If you hurt, don't wait as long as I did to get help. I've never been to an office where I've been treated as wonderfully as I have by Dr. Tyson and his staff. Don't wait. Go!
Brenda Lee – Receptionist – Sarasota, FL

Before I came to see Dr. Tyson I was completely at my end. I couldn't do anything. I couldn't plan anything. It even hurt to talk. I had been suffering from a burning, tingling, knifelike back pain every day for several years. I tried prescription medication (9-10 pills a day), chiropractic, physical



therapy and had five epidurals. After having decompression therapy I have little to no pain! I can now do the things that I want and need to do. I've gotten my life back.

Sally Hookey – Housewife – Sarasota, FL

Decompression therapy is the best thing I've ever done! I used to have constant low back and hip pain. My left leg and toes were numb. I couldn't sleep or even bend over to pick anything up off the floor. My husband was bedridden and I was afraid that I couldn't take care of him. I had an MRI, epidurals and the surgeon recommended back surgery for my herniated disc. Now I have NO PAIN! Thank you Dr. Tyson. The staff is great and they bake the best cookies for you!

Ruby Phillips – Retired – Sarasota, FL

I was having severe neck and left arm pain. I could barely move my arm. I had an MRI which showed that I had a herniated disc in my neck. Then I was sent to the neurosurgeon and orthopedic surgeon in Tampa. My only options were epidurals or surgery. I wanted to try decompression first. Boy, am I glad I did! My neck pain is gone and I can now use my arm without pain. I went to a follow-up appointment with my orthopedic surgeon in Tampa and he told me to "keep doing what I'm doing." They are a great bunch of people and you'll be glad you went.

Barbara Sales – Retired – Sarasota, FL

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Ruskin food pantry becomes homeless

► Continued from page 1

maintain both campuses.

Ed Brown, chief of staff at St. John the Divine, said: "We kept one contemporary service at 9 a.m. on Sundays there, and gave it five years to see if it was a viable plan. But at the end of the five years, we were disappointed in our expectations of growth there, and expenses were growing larger."

Even with a "two campuses, one church" philosophy, many parishioners felt disconnected, Brown said. "So both for financial and psychological reasons, we felt we had done our best and would have to end the experiment."

The contemporary service was moved to the Sun City Center church in February, with the College Avenue campus serving only as a base for its popular outreach to the poor, the Lord's Lighthouse. St. John soon decided it would be best to sell the property.

The property is not yet on the market but "we expect it will be soon," Brown said.

The Lord's Lighthouse will have as much time as it needs to move. "No clock is ticking on them," Brown said. "We will provide whatever help that we can."

Hungry families begin lining up at the pantry before 7 a.m. on Tuesday mornings, food distribution day. Each family receives a

10-pound bag of food, including beans, rice and tortillas and anything else that might have been donated that week. Most of the food is gone by 10 a.m.

"There is a great need here in Ruskin," said Dora Cruz.

Cruz and her husband have been ministering to the poor since 1952, founding missions throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, including the Good Samaritan and Beth El missions in South County.

Retiring from Good Samaritan in 2008, some 25 years after they founded it, Dora and William thought they were ready to let others take the lead in helping the poor. But both, in their late 70s at the time, found they couldn't stay away from mission work.

"We were ready for retirement, but after a few months we decided we were still strong and we still had the call from God to help the poor, so we contacted St. John the Divine church and they opened their doors for us," Dora said.

The pantry spends \$800 a week on food, buying staples like rice and beans from Sam's Club and fresh tortillas from Apollo Meats in Apollo Beach. Grants from the Community Foundation of Sun City Center (\$20,000 last year) and the Interfaith Council (\$15,000 in 2012), free food from

five area 7-11 stores and individual donations help keep the wolf from the pantry's door, but he's never far away, said Carlos Rivera, the mission's treasurer.

Julio, homeless since October, is a regular at the food bank. He says: "This is the only place I come to. I don't know what I would do without it; go hungry, I guess."

The Lord's Lighthouse, 815 East College Ave., is always looking for donations of food, clothing and furniture. Financial donations are especially welcome because they can be leveraged to buy food by the pound from local suppliers. For more information, call 813-641-7100 or 813-321-9723 or visit the group's website, www.lordslighthouse.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LORD'S LIGHTHOUSE
Families start lining up for food at The Lord's Lighthouse an hour before the pantry opens its doors on Tuesday.

Local red-light camera tops county ticket list

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

A camera at the main entrance to the largest mall serving Riverview and Brandon issues more citations for running red lights than anywhere else in the county, according to figures obtained by this newspaper.

The red-light camera at the entrance to Westfield Brandon Mall on State Road 60, popular as a cut-through route to U.S. 301 for some drivers, took the dubious distinction of first place for the number of tickets issued in 2013 with 6,250. It's the third consecutive year the busy intersection has topped the ticketing list.

Drivers do, however, appear to be learning, if slowly. Last year was the first time in four years the amount of tickets issued at the intersection, one of the busiest in the county, dropped. Cameras at the mall's entrance issued 9,794 tickets in 2012, some 8,244 in 2011 and 6,748 in 2010, according to a report from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.

A number of factors explain why the camera at S.R. 60 and Grand Regency Boulevard has topped the ticket charts for the third year, said Cpl. Adam Brescia, who oversees the red-light program for the sheriff's office.

"Primarily it's because people are using it as a cut-through, plus it's a transient area right there by the interstate and it's the only large mall in that part of the county," Brescia said.

Red-light cameras promote crashes, say opponents, because drivers concentrate on the light change and don't pay attention to other vehicles. The camera at the

mall entrance, however, shows crashes have actually gone down. There were 24 crashes within 100 feet of the intersection in 2011, then 15 in 2012 and 12 in 2013.

Red-light cameras are under increased scrutiny locally and statewide. Tampa voted to get rid of the city's 51 red-light cameras, although that decision was later reversed. The initial 4-3 vote to ax the cameras came on the heels of a similar vote in St. Petersburg weeks earlier.

Removing the cameras would be a mistake, said Brescia, who cites the low number of repeat offenders as proof that drivers are changing their ways.

Of 26,048 red-light camera citations issued in 2012, only 48 drivers got more than one ticket.

"I know it's changed my own driving," said Brescia, "because I know I will have to pay a ticket. Although I know there are not cameras at other intersections, when I see the light turn yellow, I am preparing to stop. It has changed my behavior, and that goes for everyone else."

When a vehicle runs a red light, cameras record the vehicle and its license plate. Law-enforcement officials then review the evidence and decide whether a violation is warranted. The citations are mailed to the vehicle's registered owner.

Motorists might avoid getting nabbed on the scene after running a red light, but the law makes sure



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Positive Talk: Developing a supportive climate

Have you ever worked in a facility that exuded warmth and support for all the employees? How about a home that nurtures and lifts family members? In each of these instances, someone has found the key to developing a supportive climate and convinced others to join them in enhancing it. There are some keys to developing this climate; here are a few of them.



By William Hodges

When problems arise — and they always will — focus on the problem, not the person. Try not to be judgmental nor immediately start determining motives of others for their actions. If you focus on the person, they will immediately become defensive, and, even if they are wrong, are much less likely to change once they have been attacked. Find out what is causing the problem and then look for ways to reduce if not eliminate it. I find that I have to eat a lot less crow if I ask questions first and respond second.

In focusing on the problem, the first effort should be not to assign blame but rather to find a solution. It is best not to impose your goals on the group but rather to work in unison with others involved, creating a win-win environment. Ask as many questions as possible and get opinions from each person who might have input, no matter how small.

Keep in mind that a supportive atmosphere is not always achieved by using any one conflict-management technique, and it is rarely achieved when competition is involved. More likely, the techniques of compromise, accommodation and collaboration are used. Do you know the difference? Compromise means giving up some of our desires to get some of them. Accommodation means putting our desires on hold to help others get what they want. Collaboration, which is my personal favorite, has us team up with others, and make an honest effort to get the most for all of us. Most supportive companies and homes have a combination of all three techniques working all the time.

In a supportive atmosphere, we recognize the rights of all persons to have different beliefs from ours and be respectful of those beliefs. I know that is hard to do when you can see so clearly why the other person is wrong, but arguing with them is not going to bring them around — even if you are right. It can, in fact, cause them to hold onto a belief they know is wrong because they do not want to give up the pleasure of being right. State your thoughts and give your advice, and then back off. They will either see the light or they won't. Continued harping will just result in a negative atmosphere.

Team or family meetings are a wonderful way to create a supportive atmosphere as long as you have read the above and strive to have the meeting conducted in a democratic fashion. If one person conveys an attitude of dominance and an attitude of superiority, the meeting will not only be useless but counterproductive as well. If employers really want to know what the employees think, they must give them a forum free from fear. The same goes for parents. I recently saw a young man and his father united after a bad situation. The son was in trouble and had been for some time. The father asked repeatedly, "Why didn't you tell me about the problem?" The son replied, "I was afraid to." When trouble comes, it is too late to open channels of communication. Start now.

Creating a supportive atmosphere is not easy, but it is worth the effort.

To start, think before you speak and be respectful of the feelings of others. You will be amazed at how these two simple actions will change your life and the lives of those around you for the better.

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, that 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: 813-641-0816. Email: bill@billhodges.com Website: www.billhodges.com

Manatee Sail & Power Squadron meeting is May 6

The Manatee Sail and Power Squadron holds general membership meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Palmetto Elks Lodge, 4611 E. 4th Avenue, Palmetto (behind Peggy's Corral).

The squadron welcomes those interested in learning more about its educational programs for new boaters and those who have been boating for years.

For more information, email Lt. Barbara Brown at membership@manatee-squadron.org or visit www.manatee-squadron.org.

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Firehouse Blues & Bar-B-Q

On Saturday, May 3, from 5 to 10 p.m., the Firehouse Cultural Center's Smokin' Bar-B-Q will focus on good food, good music and good people enjoying a lovely afternoon and evening at the Firehouse, alongside beautiful Marsh Creek. The Firehouse is at 101 1st Ave. NE, Ruskin.

From 5 to 7 p.m., Smokin' BBQ will be flying off the grille and will be served with delicious sides, craft beer and delightful wines.

The country sounds of "Victoria Hawkes," Victoria Ginty and Mike Ivey, will add to this very relaxed event.

But the party is not over. At 7 p.m., the Firehouse Pub rocks and heats up with George Worthmore, well known in the blues scene from South Africa to New York City.

The community is invited to join the Firehouse Blues & Bar-B-Q event by purchasing tickets. Firehouse Pub seating is communal, which means you may have other guests at your table. Cash bar and refreshments available.

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Life lessons learned in Riverview High culinary program

By **KEVIN BRADY**

kevin@observernews.net

Fifteen minutes before the doors open at The Reef, the kitchen symphony is reaching the end of its crescendo. Large pots hitting the stove are laying down the bass, accompanied by a constant rattle of plates and staccato commands to speed it up coming from the conductors.

The conductors, in this case, are M. Todd Jent and Jessica Evans, teachers in Riverview High School's Culinary Arts program.

Walk through the double doors to the intimate dining room and the controlled chaos of the kitchen vanishes, replaced by the calm assurance of wait staff attending small tables adorned with spotless plates and sparkling silverware



The Reef's cinnamon rolls don't stay on the shelf too long, said instructor Jessica Evans.

wrapped in black napkins.

If the goal of education is to prepare students for the real world, The Reef is as close to that as you will find in any high school. Celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay wouldn't be out of place here, although you sense his cutting condescension wouldn't rate with these youngsters: The über-chef would find himself filleted in less time than it takes to boil an egg.

"Everything we make here is from scratch, so they learn a different cuisine every week," said Evans, who teaches students to create German, Cuban, Thai, Spanish and Mexican dishes, among others. Graduates have gone on to cook at prominent restaurants as well as to culinary school.

"The majority of our students will probably never cook again in a professional sense, but it helps them when they are out on their own and learning they don't have to make macaroni and cheese or ramen noodles every night," said Evans, who has a degree in hotel management. "We teach the importance of eating fresh as opposed to all the processed foods."

Modeled on the experiences of real chefs, the program starts with

the basics of safety and sanitation and moves on to everything from meat butchery to making sauces and pasta.

M. Todd Jent is a Culinary Institute of America graduate who spent years in professional kitchen

before earning his master's degree in education.

"As an executive chef, I always trained my own staff, so it was a natural fit to work with students," said Jent, standing in the kitchen as the restaurant was about to

open, one eye always on his students.

Jent and Evans are particularly proud that they have created a real-world atmosphere in the kitchen.

► Continued on page 16



KEVIN BRADY PHOTO

Instructors try to create a real-world atmosphere in the kitchen at Riverview High School.

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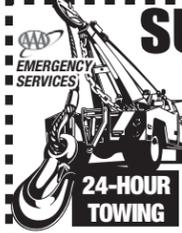
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■ By **MICAH BREWER**
bmicah25@yahoo.com

In the mind of Micah For the love of the game

Many people find goals in life important. I am not a very goal-oriented person, but I do have some that I've set for myself because I thought they would be fun.

Recently, I accomplished one of my biggies.

Eight years ago, I had a co-worker named Marc who told me that he wished he had someone to golf with. I'm pretty spontaneous, so I told him if he taught me how to hit the ball I would start golfing. I had a blast!

After a couple of weeks of my hacking up the driving range, he took me golfing for the first time, and I was hooked. Neither of us was very good at first, but even then I told Marc that I wanted to shoot par one day. Par is the number of strokes in a round it should take an expert to finish.

Most golf courses have a par of 72 for 18 holes of play. At this point I don't think either of us had been under 110, so par seemed about as far away as a Cubs World Series.

But since that day, I have told all my friends that if I shoot par, I will throw my golf bag in the pond and never play again. I would then become a bowler, and begin a quest to throw a perfect game. 300.

Now that I had a goal, I did what every golfer who wants to score well does. I went to the library and found a book with a chapter called "How to Break 100."

Within a few rounds of play, I was dipping into the 90s. How cool. Once I was consistently shooting in the 90s, I made the trek back to the library where I rented the same book that also contained a chapter called "How to Break 90."

Once again, within a few more rounds, I was dipping into the 80s. I was shooting lower than ever, and Marc would not play with me anymore.

I repeated this process, referring to the chapter called "How to break 80."

This one was much tougher than the other two, but with some persistence and experience I started shooting in the 70s from time to time.

This brings us to last week.

It was a beautiful spring day, and I went down to Parrish to play some golf at a course called Palmetto Pines. I play there a few times a year. Is the course nice? you may ask. No. Are the people who work there friendly? No. There is only one reason to golf there this time of year — and that reason is that the course is super easy, and there is a good chance you will score the lowest round of your life.

I made it through 16 holes at 1 under par. On the last two holes, I was so nervous. I was so close to achieving a goal I had pursued a long time. I went bogey, and then par on the last two holes to end with a round of 72 — par!

I was so excited, I immediately took my bag off the cart, and threw it into the pond as I had promised. The other golfers who were watching all of this seemed to look at me in awe and pity. They were a little confused by my actions. Most of the time when something goes into the pond in golf, it's either by accident or anger. I was dancing around like an idiot and laughing as I watched my golf bag sink into the watery depths of golf legend. And that is the story of how I became a bowler.

I know nothing about bowling, except what I know from going to friends' birthday parties as a kid, and the handful of times that I've gone as an adult with buddies when we had nothing else to do. My usual goal for bowling is to break 100. It's not often that I achieve that goal. However, I did go play for the first time as a serious bowler a few days ago, and I'm proud to say that on my second game I bowled a 154, which means I'm over halfway to 300. This all seems pretty easy.

The bowling alley rented me the lane for an hour, and I played seven games in a row by myself in said hour. I am too sore for words, but I am having fun with this so far, which is what it's all about anyway.

Let's go bowling.



Think of it as 'May Flowers ...'

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

When people in Florida start looking for sunlamps to stave off Seasonal Affective Disorder from the lack of sunshine, it would cause one to think that the weather has been a little unusual the past week or so. According to preliminary data from the National Weather Service, temperatures have generally been normal, and 1.27 inches of rain through April 20 is somewhat on track for the total April average of 2.03 inches. Above, the storm that blew through South Hillsborough with a flourish, spawning reports of water-spouts, contributed a small amount to the rainfall total. In the end, it was an April shower, something apparently needed for those May flowers.

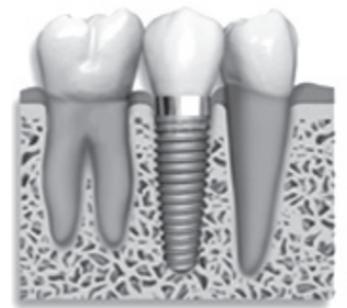


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Self-help community opens new playground in Riverview



Summerview Oaks Property Owners Association president Vanessa Josey speaks at the dedication of the community's new playground.

For almost 10 years, the residents of Summerview Oaks have been looking forward to a playground in their community. Last month, they got one.

Summerview Oaks is a self-help-built community of 72 homes north of Big Bend Road and east of U.S. Highway 301. The closest playground to Summerview Oaks was over two miles away and required crossing a busy six-lane highway. Walking or riding bikes along U.S. Highway 301 is an unsafe venture (especially at dusk) for younger children.

Despite the community's master plan, which includes a property owners association, a clubhouse, landscaping, a welcoming entryway and a playground location, limited funds prevented the association from fulfilling its goal to build a playground.

However, with the help of Ka-BOOM!, a nonprofit that helps communities build playgrounds, and major contributions from Tampa's Gerdau Long Steel North America, Florida Home Partner-

ship and the Community Foundation of Tampa, children, teens and their friends now have a safe place to play within their neighborhood.

According to Vanessa Josey, Summerview Oaks Property Owners Association president, "What makes this community so unique is that not only did each family con-



Children help clear the land for a new playground in Summerview Oaks, Riverview.

tribute a minimum of 600 hours to build their homes but many of them also contributed many hours, along with more than 150 volunteers, to help plan and build this playground. Even the children contributed drawings of their ideal playground and helped with the preparations."

Josey said, "I am very proud of our contributors and proud of our community."

For more information, call Vanessa Josey at 813-672-7860 or email her at Vanessa@flhome.org.



Youngsters race to break the banner marking the opening of Summerview Oaks' new playground.



HUTH & BOOTH PHOTO

Sociallights Connection expands at Winthrop Town Centre

Sociallights Connection Inc. has expanded its facility at Winthrop Town Centre. On April 16, the Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce conducted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the occasion. Sociallights' staff was on hand to greet chamber members and show them around their new space.

Sociallights Connection offers Achievable Community Interaction Therapy (ACIT) and All About Speech & Language (AASL) Occupational/Speech-language Therapy Programs for Special Needs. Their mission with this program is "Social Growth for Social Success." The vision is to increase a child's potential for positive and appropriate social interactions, build successful and meaningful peer relationships and grow and connect with the community.

If you would like to learn more about this agency, call 813-220-0971 or visit its Facebook page, Sociallights Connection Inc. Its address is 11146 Winthrop Market St., Riverview.

Community cat campaign completed

South Shore Felines has successfully completed a targeted campaign to Trap-Neuter-Return community cats in Ruskin. Each of the 130 outdoor cats involved were spayed or neutered, vaccinated and ear-tipped, where a small part of the top of the left ear is removed to indicate the cat is sterilized. Of these impacted cats, more than 30 — mostly kittens — were adopted.

This Jan. 1 to April 14 campaign was made possible by a grant from PetSmart Charities®. South Shore Felines also partnered with the Humane Society of Tampa Bay, Animal Coalition of Tampa and Gully's Surplus Grocery in Ruskin.

"This significant increase in sterilized cats will exponentially reduce the outdoor cat population in Ruskin for years," said Rita Bundas, field operations director who led the Ruskin campaign. "We are committed to continue with our South Shore Cat Area TNR in Ruskin and the rest of the South Shore Area."

South Shore Felines is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. For more information, visit www.SouthShoreFelines.org or call 813-393-0844.

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Replacing grey pipe now could save you thousands later

Innovation, change, technology — these words have become the buzzwords of the 21st-century business. Change can be a good thing when the change is necessary and done at a careful and measured pace. However, in the mid-1980s a change occurred that the residents of Sun City Center are still feeling the effects of today. A new product was introduced to the plumbing market that at the time was touted as a time and money saver. That product was polybutylene pipe, also known as grey pipe. The grey pipe was meant to be a more affordable replacement for the antiquated copper and galvanized pipe that had been used previously. It was only a short time before problems became apparent.

It is known that oxidants such as chlorine in the public water supplies react with the polybutylene piping and

acetal fittings, causing them to scale and flake and become brittle. Microfractures result, and the basic structural integrity of the system is reduced. Thus, the system becomes weak and may fail without warning, causing damage to the building structure and personal property. It is believed that other factors may also contribute to the failure of polybutylene systems, such as improper installation, but it is virtually impossible to detect installation problems throughout an entire system.

If you have more than one conversation with plumbers, you will find varying opinions on polybutylene pipes. If you do the research, you will find no less than hundreds of independent studies that validate the dire need to replace polybutylene piping as soon as is possible. Some plumbers may even tell you that as long as you

have the copper fittings you will be all right, but this is a myth. This is often assumed as the breaks typically happen closer to the fittings, and this is simply because the pipe is compressed, is weak and brittle, and any pressure to the pipe can cause a massive break.

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing has been involved in replacing and re-piping homes that have the suspect grey pipe for the last 30 YEARS. You can be assured that they will be as quick and noninvasive as possible while in your home. They are the best at what they do and it will show in the finished product. So you may be asking: why replace the pipe if I have never had problems? In order to sell your home, a prospective buyer must be able to insure the new home. Almost all insurance companies are not writing new policies unless a full replacement of the Polybutylene pipe has been done.

When you hire Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing, you are hiring a licensed and bonded company. You wouldn't hire a tree trimmer to perform open heart surgery; and hiring an unlicensed plumber to replace the piping in your homes is akin to that — just a disaster waiting to happen.

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing not only offers re-pipes but 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.

Howie's Sun City Center Plumbing has a beautiful showroom at 139 S. Pebble Beach, SCC, Suite 202. The office is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. The Showroom is stocked with fixtures from companies like Moen, Delta, Kohler, as well as many others. Stop by today and enjoy a cup of coffee or other refreshment with our friendly office staff while talking about your next home project.

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Time to start thinking about summer

There are summer camps across the Tampa Bay area that offer programs with environmental science themes. Some of the best were recently listed in *Bay Soundings*, a quarterly news journal covering Florida's largest open-water estuary:

■ **Around the Bend Nature Tours at Oscar Scherer Park.** From birds and butterflies and aquifers and ecosystems, Around the Bend Nature Tour's summer camps cover a wide variety of eco-topics in summer camps designed to teach children to be environmental stewards in a hands-on setting where they can see and touch the topics they're learning about. Call 941-794-8773 or visit www.aroundbend.com.

■ **Boyd Hill Nature Preserve.** A 245-acre park located on the shores of Lake Maggiore in St. Petersburg, featuring more than three miles of trails and boardwalks and five unique ecosystems, plus six different summer camps. Creative, memorable and affordable fun geared toward children as young as 3 and adults with physical or mental disabilities. Financial aid available for eligible parents. Call 727-893-7326 or visit www.stpete.org/boyd/daycamps.asp.

■ **Brooker Creek Preserve.** An 8,500-acre wilderness area located in the northeastern corner of Pinellas County features multiple programs for adults and children scheduled year-round, including summer camps. Children will experience science-based, hands-on learning as they explore and investigate the ecology and conservation of Florida's wildlife and natural habitats. Call 727-453-6800 or visit www.brookercreekpreserve.org.

■ **Busch Gardens Summer Camps.** The nationally known attraction also offers behind-the-scenes summer camps for local kids. Inspiring, exciting and educational programs range from single-day adventures to an entire week. Call 877-248-2267 or visit seaworldparks.com/en/buschgardens-tampa/educational-programs/2/

■ **Camp Bayou.** Although the camp doesn't offer regularly scheduled classes, it is open for field trips with programs that range from general ecology and river habitats to the importance of pollinators and gopher tortoises. Camp Bayou has Nature Center programs where children can discover Florida's waterways —

finding all kinds of life living near the water's edge. Or visit a Native American campsite and make clay pots or weave palm fronds. Call 813-363-5438 or visit www.campbayou.org.

■ **Clearwater Marine Aquarium.** Coastal learning experiences with summer camps are available for students in K-12. Or spend the day at CMA for a laid-back look at Tampa Bay's wildlife, including Winter, the dolphin with the prosthetic tail, in a new tank with underwater viewing windows. Campers can choose to snorkel, kayak, interact with animals, travel to nearby animal attractions or enjoy arts and crafts. Call 727-441-1790 or visit www.seewinter.com.

■ **Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Residential Camps.** Day camps or ACA-accredited overnight camps on Crescent Lake in Odessa or Camp Wildwood on 589 acres outside Ocala give girls an opportunity to participate in outdoor activities. More than 100 sessions are offered across the region, with themes including science and technology. Call 813-281-4475 or visit www.gswcf.org.

■ **Eckerd College.** Located on the shore of Boca Ciega Bay, the Eckerd College Waterfront Program is one of the largest collegiate programs in the U.S. Campers ages 5-17 explore watersports, including sailing, wakeboarding, windsurfing, kayaking, saltwater fishing and looking for marine life. Call 800-456-9009 or visit www.eckerd.edu/waterfront.

■ **E.G. Simmons Park.** Ruskin camp open to kids ages 9-15 with activities including canoeing, camping and swimming, culminating with a deep-sea fishing trip. Visit www.hillsboroughcounty.org/summercamps

■ **Estuary EDventures Summer Camps.** Tampa Bay Watch expands its summer camp offerings with multiple opportunities for learning and adventure from its Tierra Verde headquarters. Its location on the Shell Key Preserve provides summer campers with exciting hands-on opportunities to learn about marine ecology and restoration projects. The preserve boasts rich mangrove forests, grass flats and shallow waters teeming with marine life. Camp activities vary depending upon session type, and may include snorkeling the grass flats, seine net pulls, animal

collection and identification, kayaking through the mangroves, and exploring nearby islands. Also on site is the marine education center and classroom featuring outdoor wet labs, touch tanks, and aquariums — all of which are utilized for education about Tampa Bay and restoring its marine habitats. Income-based scholarships are available. Call 727-867-8166 or visit www.tampabaywatch.org.

■ **Eureka Springs Park.** Discover Hillsborough County's historic arboretum with master gardeners. Children ages 9-12 will learn to compost, identify garden insects and diseases and observe seasonal changes with field trips to the University of South Florida Botanical Garden, a downtown green-roof complex, and Tampa Bay History Center. Visit www.hillsboroughcounty.org/summercamps.

■ **Florida Aquarium AquaCamps.** Diverse offerings for kids ages 3 to 15 with a strong focus on science and wildlife encounters in downtown Tampa. Every camper will have an amazing camp experience by incorporating themes that focus on environmental science topics and feature up-close animal encounters with plenty of hands-on learning. Call 813-273-4000 or visit www.flaquarium.org.

■ **Great Camps at Great Explorations Children's Museum.** 10 weeklong themed camps including science are featured with volunteer opportunities for children over 13 in St. Petersburg. Children ages 5-7 can explore everything from solving problems, learning about fossils, going on a space mission, riding in a hurricane simulator and protecting our planet. Themes for kids 8-11 years old include participating in CSI investigations, archeology, astronomy and learning culinary chemistry in the kitchen. Call 727-821-8992 or visit www.greatexplorations.org.

■ **Lettuce Lake Canoe and Nature Camp.** Explore one of Tampa's most spectacular nature preserves. Campers ages 10-15 will learn the basics of backpacking, building a fire, canoeing, camping, pitching



a tent and hiking while identifying native plant and animal species. www.hillsboroughcounty.org/summercamps.

■ **Lowry Park Zoo.** Tampa's award-winning zoo hosts more than 100 weeklong camps for kids in grades K-8. Kids and teens can learn about nature, science and the animal kingdom while hiking through the zoo, exploring behind the scenes and cooling off in the zoo's water play areas. Adventure camps include animal encounters, keeper talks, educational shows, games, crafts and more. Call 813-935-8552 or visit www.lowryparkzoo.com.

■ **Mad Science Summer Camps.** Budding scientists can attend camps in various locations across the region to learn to make indoor lightning, launch rockets and experience a giant vortex. Mad Science engages children in scientific explorations ranging from bridge building and dinosaur digs to model rockets and the science behind their favorite sports. Call 727-895-5595 or visit www.madscience.org/tampabay to find a location near you.

■ **MOSI Summer Science Camp.** Take advantage of learning adventures in a wide range of science and technology areas for ages 2-18 at the region's top science museum. From finding rocks to launching rockets or making rock music, campers will create experiences that expand their interests. Doing real science with the tools and technology used by professionals is just one of the ways MOSI Summer Science Camp inspires campers with a "can do" attitude that can last a lifetime. Call 800-995-6674 or visit www.campfun.org.

■ **Mote Marine Aquarium's Summer Camps.** Hands-on marine science camps for kids from 2-18 on Longboat Key. There are also high school internships, volunteer

opportunities, field trips and overnight adventures. Call 941-388-4441, ext. 229 or visit www.mote.org/summerprograms.

■ **Nature's Classroom Summer Camps.** A series of programs open to students who have completed grades 4-8 include wilderness, survival and outdoor skills, and fishing camps. A Water Adventure Camp, sponsored by the Southwest Florida Water Management District, is free and includes a field trip to Crystal Springs Preserve. Call 813-987-6969 ext. 221 or 222 or visit www.naturesclassroom.net.

■ **Secrets of the Sea** (formerly Pier Aquarium). Multiple camps combine marine science with other activities for students entering grades 1-6 at John's Pass Village in Madeira Beach. Call 727-895-7437, ext. 205 or visit www.thesecretsofthesea.org/discover-the-sea/summer-marine-adventures.

■ **Science Center of Pinellas Summer Camps.** The nation's oldest science center offers a full schedule of summer camps for kids from K-12 featuring hands-on science, technology, engineering and math programs. Call 727-384-0027 or visit www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org.

■ **Upper Tampa Bay Park.** Camps introduce kids ages 8-15 to Florida's wildlife, with canoeing, fishing and hiking, and field trips to regional aquariums and a deep-sea fishing charter. Visit www.hillsboroughcounty.org/summercamps.

■ **Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center.** A series of camps introduce kids ages 6-12 to the natural wonders of Weedon Island while exploring the ecology and conservation of Florida's wildlife and natural habitats. Call 727-453-6503 or visit www.weedonislandpreserve.org.

Summer brings Robotics Camps

Florida Advanced Technological Education, or FLATE, Center, the National Science Foundation Center of Excellence for high-tech manufacturing in Tampa, will offer several robotics camps this summer. The camps, which have been offered since 2006, will feature, for the first time, the all-new Lego® Mindstorms® EV3 Robot system, which combines the "versatility of the LEGO building system with the most advanced technology" that allows users to "create and command robots that walk, talk, think and program to do anything one can imagine."

Cost for each weeklong camp is \$175. Schedule and list of camp offerings include:

- ▶ June 16-20: introductory EV3 Robotics Camp for middle-school girls only!
- ▶ June 23-27: Introductory EV3 Robotics Camp for all middle-school students
- ▶ July 7-11: Introductory EV3 Robotics Camp II for all middle-school students
- ▶ July 14-18: Intermediate EV3 Robotics Camp (A) for middle-school students
- ▶ July 21-25: Intermediate EV3 Robotics Camp (B) for middle-school students
- ▶ July 28-Aug. 1: Robotics & Engineering Camp for all high-school students.

Each camp offers a different level of challenges. During the introductory and intermediate camp, students will learn how to build and program EV3 robots and program them to follow specific commands. The high-school camp provides students with higher level STEM and robotics-related challenges. Campers will solve LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robotics challenges through original robot design, construction and programming. Campers will also learn about additive manufacturing and see demonstrations of 3D printing. Additionally, high-school campers will use CAD software to design models for 3D printing and write programs to operate the NAO humanoid robot.

Curriculum for all the camps comprises a mixture of LEGO educational materials that are integrated with STEM subjects and modern manufacturing and are conducted in a competitive problem-solving environment. Campers will tour various local high-tech manufacturing facilities and develop increased critical thinking, teamwork and communications skills.

All camps will be held at the Brandon campus of Hillsborough Community College. Camp days are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. To register for the camps, visit www.fl-ate.org/projects/camps.html and www.madein-florida.org. You can also email Desh Bagley at camps@fl-ate.org.



About a kitty ...

This pretty cat, evidently someone's abandoned pet, has been a regular visitor to the dental office of Dr. Kirk Parrott in Ruskin for the past few weeks. The staff calls her Ol' Blue Eyes for her vivid eyes, and they are trying to find a home for her; meanwhile, they are feeding her. If you have room in your heart and home for Ol' Blue Eyes, call Paula at 813-645-6491.

Observations: Leaving and not saying goodbye



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

From the cockpit of my boat, Florida's beauty is palpable. This is a good place, like nowhere else on earth.

Easter morning dawned brightly and beautifully, as seen from the cockpit of my boat at Little Harbor in Ruskin. As a Christian, I find the day holds a very special significance for me, but this morning was even more special. The incredible blue sky enhanced with puffy clouds and the cool breeze told me that this day was destined to be a Floriday — one of those beautiful days that only happen in places with palm trees and beaches.

But now, late afternoon on a beautiful Easter in South Hillsborough, I find myself in a

laundromat with a surprisingly large number of other people. I've lived 51 years and had no idea so many people would do laundry on Easter. I guess there is always dirty laundry, regardless of the day. I certainly have my share. My trip to Florida wasn't entirely planned; at least, it wasn't supposed to happen yet. So here I am after not even having time to empty out my dirty clothes in my luggage from a trip to Minnesota last week.

My Easter dinner plans included a delivered pizza, until I found out that there was a two and a half hour wait for delivery today. Again, I had no idea so many people ordered pizza on Easter. I didn't know until today that pizza places would be open on Easter. I've seen some pretty dark back alleys in some pretty scary cities and countries, but I'm starting to think that I've led an unusually sheltered life. For a lot of people, a holiday is just another day of work, perhaps with a delivered pizza for a reward at the end of it. Despite feeling a bit long in the tooth these days, it seems I still have a lot to learn. I also have a serious number of blessings to count.

Over the past many years, I've made no little secret about how much I love Florida, although I have a rather strange relationship with it. In this incomparably beautiful place, there is sadness, extraordinary struggle, palpable anger and some political issues that would make a third-world dictator blush. The last one is strange, too, because I don't know how those problems come about — I've met any number of elected

officials and have always been impressed with their commitment and dedication. Well, not always, but most of the time. Perhaps it is just the case of a few bad apples spoiling the bunch.

But none of that spoils Florida. Last month my wife and I moved away to a city we've come to love, but it isn't Florida. There is simply no place else on earth like this place. It has been my home for longer than anywhere else, and for all of the problems, there are good people working to tackle them. And there are incomparable sunsets. And there is just the perfect Floriday when you need one. This is a good place.

So I'm not leaving. Well, I have already left, but I'm going to come back — as often as possible and whenever the good people at this newspaper feel I may have something to add to the excellence that is this publication, something that far supersedes me. I know that excellence exists with or without me.

But if I'm lucky, if the stars shine just right and the light from a perfect sunset turns my plans golden, then I'll keep coming back, meeting more of the wonderful people I long ago chose to spend my life with and enjoying more of the perfect mornings, hot, sultry days of summer and the sunsets in which I can almost see God's hand holding the brush to paint the sky.

Sharing a wooden bench, waiting for my clothes to dry, I am certain I look as tired and



Observations

► Continued on page 13

Pretty Clothes
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Magazine



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AUDUBON SOCIETY PHOTO

American Oystercatcher adult and chick forage along the rocky shoreline of Port Tampa Bay's Dredge Disposal Island 2D in Hillsborough Bay.

Port and Audubon Florida remind us about nesting season for migratory birds

As part of its commitment to environmental stewardship, Port Tampa Bay reminds Floridians that the 2014 annual migratory bird nesting season is underway in Tampa Bay. The official bird nesting season is April 1 through August 31, each year. The Port Authority works closely with Audubon Florida, as well as state and federal regulatory conservation agencies, to provide protection annually for nesting birds and their young in the Hillsborough Bay area.

The port owns and operates two dredge disposal islands in Hillsborough Bay — islands 2D and 3D. Both islands and the Richard T. Paul Alafia Bank Bird Sanctuary have been recognized collectively by BirdLife International and the National Audubon Society for their

global significance as bird nesting areas. Protection of the nesting birds that use these islands has evolved into a shared project.

"Port Tampa Bay has earned a leadership role in the management of one of Florida's most important sites for beach nesting birds," said Ann Paul, Audubon Florida's regional coordinator.

Islands 2D and 3D and the Alafia Bank Bird Sanctuary are designated as "no trespassing" areas year round, and birds that nest in these areas are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as well as the Florida Threatened and Endangered Species Act of 1977. Penalties for criminal and civil acts have been established for disturbing or harming migratory



The Walking Dead Escape comes to the USF Sun Dome on May 10

The Walking Dead Escape, the official zombie obstacle course of television's *The Walking Dead*, is coming to the University of South Florida Sun Dome on Saturday, May 10, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$150. Additional fees may apply. Spectator tickets are now available through Ticketmaster.com, Ticketmaster outlets, by calling 800-745-3000 or at the Sun Dome Box Office. For information on VIP, Walker, and Survivor registrations, visit www.SunDomeArena.com. Sign up for the SD VIP Pass to receive all the information you need about this event and others at www.SunDomeArena.com.

Register as a Walker and join the undead horde by stalking the course for 1.5 hours as an official "The Walking Dead Escape" Walker. All Walkers receive a pro makeup session and Walker training.

Register as a Survivor and navigate the course while avoiding the undead and testing your skills on the Evacuation Route, or experience the Evacuation of the Apocalypse as a Spectator. See Survivors navigate the Zombie-overrun Evacuation Zone, Herd Highway, Hospital Hell, Prison Gauntlet, Quarantine, and more. Plus, you can meet all the Walkers and Survivors at the Fan Fest at the end of the course.

VIP packages are also available. The VIP package includes the op-

tion to run the course twice – first as a Survivor and then a Walker, VIP gifts, VIP-only lounge and exclusive behind-the-scenes access.

Elements of the Apocalypse

Evacuation Zone: You thought you were escaping the virus, but your military-guarded safe zone has been compromised. Break through the zombie chaos and begin the run to survive.

Herd Highway: Herds of zombies have overrun a highway of abandoned cars. Hide and dash your way through the congested dead zone — but be strategic! Herds are attracted by smells, sounds and quick movement!

Hospital Hell: Rick woke from his coma in a zombie-infested hospital. Navigate the undead doctors and destroyed equipment to escape the crumbling medical facility.

The Prison Gauntlet: Rick's group hasn't cleared this prison block yet. Crawl your way through the barricades and chain-link fences to escape the infested penitentiary.

Quarantine: Just when you think you're safe ... FEMA teams must run highly confidential scientific tests on you to find out if you've been infected!

All Sun Dome ticket events will be available through charge-by-phone at 1-800-745-3000, Ticketmaster outlets, online at Ticketmaster.com, or in person at the Sun Dome Box Office.



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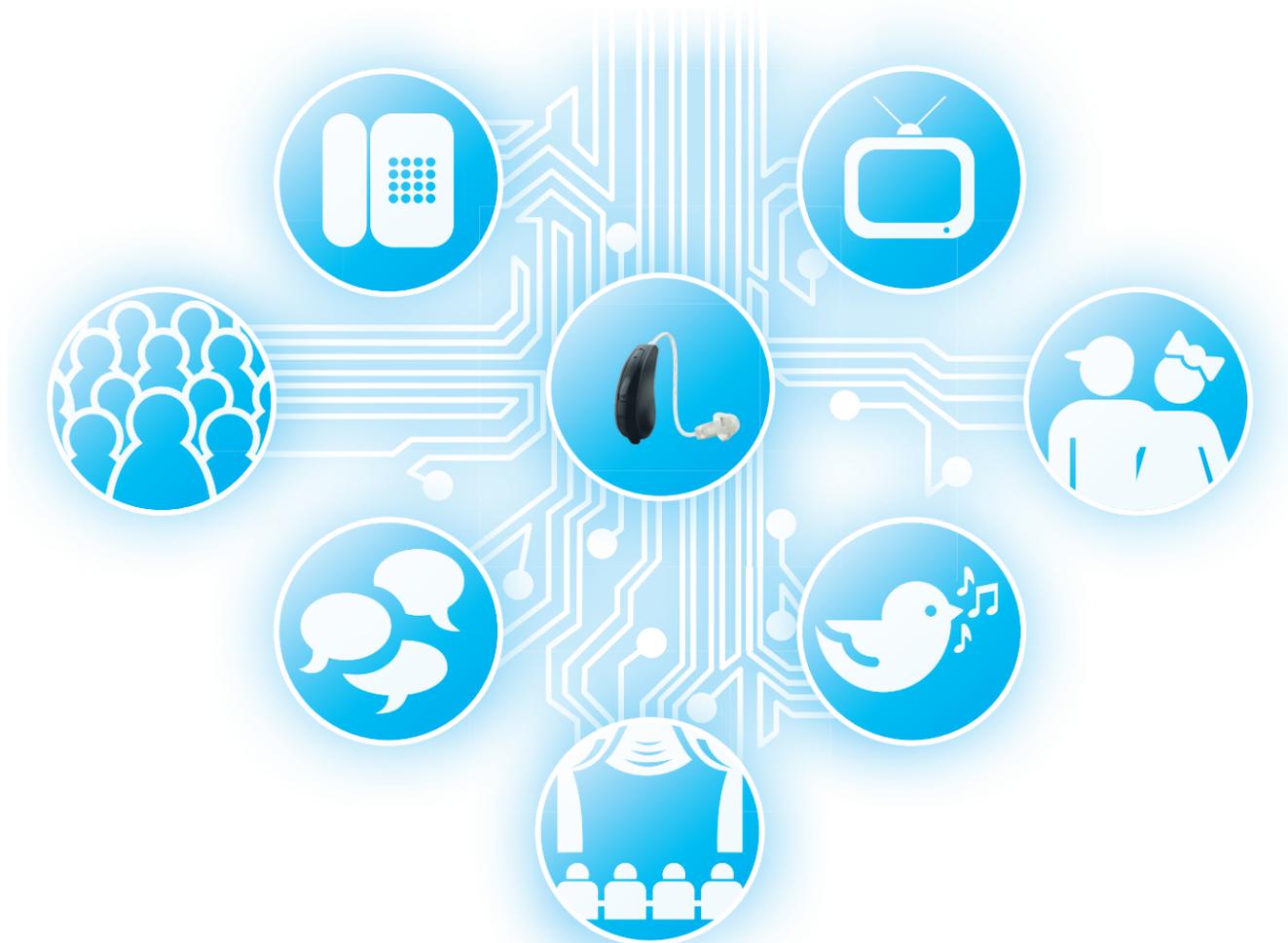
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You, me and business:

A mini Relay for Life

In the past three months, two good friends of mine have been diagnosed with cancer, one with breast cancer, the other with colon cancer. And while the medical community has made great strides in treating cancer in the last 22 years, I remember back that far when I was diagnosed myself, and I know how devastating it can be. The very word is scary beyond belief.



By **DANA DITTMAR**
Executive Director
SCC Chamber of
Commerce

That's why we're going to hold a mini Relay for Life on May 3 right here at the Chamber to raise money for the local support programs of the American Cancer Society. These programs are designed to help cancer patients get through their treatments with the least amount of duress.

Look Good Feel Better provides wigs and special makeup techniques. When you look good, you feel better about yourself. And we all know how powerful positive thinking is in healing. There is also *tlc*, which helps with prosthetics.

Road to Recovery helps with transportation to and from treatments. Unfortunately, not everyone has a way to get to the doctor.

And there's also Hope Lodge, which helps arrange for stays for family members.

All of the programs make living with cancer a little more bearable. That's why we Relay.

Most Relays for Life are overnight events held at a local high school football field. A majority of the teams comprise middle- and high-school kids, and they have a blast while competing to raise money for this great cause.

I've not missed one in the 22 years since my diagnosis. They're a lot of fun! But as I've gotten older, I have to admit I'm not as keen on the overnight part. Or the noise part.

Our mini Relay is designed for local residents who would like to be a part of the event, but on a much smaller, much quieter level. We'll start about 10 a.m. in the morning with opening ceremonies. We'll hear from a cancer survivor. We'll hear from a caregiver. We'll let our survivors start the first lap around the Payant Financial parking lot, and then we'll have a small reception for them. We'll hold a luminaria service to honor those we have lost to the disease. And we'll have lots of activities and fun during the day.

Our theme this year is "songs." My team, the Aqua Viva Divas, has chosen "Tiptoe Through the Tulips" (and weed out cancer!). I'm guessing our tent will be very floral!

If you would like to have a team, just give me a call here at the Chamber. We have only four teams so far, so there's plenty of room. Yes, we want to raise some money for the support programs. But our primary goal this year is to establish this mini Relay as an annual event and get the word out. We want lots of you to show up and give us your support, be it moral or financial.

Everybody knows someone who has battled cancer. Which means everybody has a reason to Relay. Why do YOU Relay? Come out on May 3 and tell us YOUR story.

Billy Joel Tribute is Sunday afternoon

The Turnstiles will perform their Billy Joel Tribute from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, at Community Hall, 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center.

The Turnstiles debuted their tribute show to a sold-out crowd three years ago. Since then they have received rave reviews from thousands of enthusiastic Billy Joel fans.

Faithfully re-creating Billy's music with a seven-piece live band sets them apart from other tribute acts. The show is full of energy, involves the audience and appeals to a large demographic.

Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday, from 10 to noon, at the Atrium kiosk, or at the door the day of show, starting at 2 p.m. Reserved theater seating. Open to the public. For more information, call 813-642-2001.

Pets of the Week

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



Leo

Pause to consider Leo. Leo is a handsome, shy guy with a heart murmur. He enjoys play time and his life in general. Leo knows his limitations and rests often, but most cats sleep a lot. Leo needs a quiet home, and thus he must go to a single-cat family. He has lots of love to share with someone who has lots of love to give him. And he's very playful to boot. Leo has been spayed, brought up to date on his shots and microchipped.

Estimated DOB: April 2007.



PHOTOS MARLENE GREENBERG

Cari

Cari is a beautiful, playful, young lab mix. She has a gorgeous reddish-tan coat with white boots on her paws. Cari was owner-relinquished because her caregiver had to relocate and was unable to take Cari. She gets along with other dogs, is crate trained, and is good with children. If you want free kisses, please stop by the shelter to introduce yourself to Cari. As part of Cari's adoption, she will be spayed, microchipped and current on vaccinations.

DOB: June 2, 2013.

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Correction

In last week's *SCC Observer* article "Water wars, water shortages," Melissa Meeker was incorrectly identified. She was actually executive director at the South Florida Water Management District. She has since become executive director at WaterReuse Association in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area. We regret the error.

Red light cameras

► Continued from page 3
they pay up with a \$158 fine. Of that, \$75 goes to the county or city where the violation occurred, and the remainder goes to the state. No points are assessed on a driver's license, and motorists can appeal the tickets in traffic court.

County drivers have been navigating red-light cameras since Dec. 29, 2009, when the cameras were installed at six county intersections, including the mall entrance and at Bloomingdale Avenue and Bell Shoals Road. Cameras also monitor traffic at Sligh and Habana avenues, Waters Avenue at Dale Mabry Highway and Anderson Road and Fletcher Avenue and Bruce B. Downs Boulevard.

The company that installed the cameras — American Traffic Solutions in Hillsborough County — is paid \$4,750 per month, per camera. The company maintains 10 cameras at the six intersections.

Terrie, who did not want her last name used, said she fell afoul of the red-light camera at Bell Shoals

and Bloomingdale but had no problem with her ticket.

She said, "It was completely deserved, as I was inattentive and thought the arrow would stay green longer than it did. The photos were amazingly clear, and I had no reasonable arguments. It taught me to be more attentive."

Another motorist, James, said, "I now try to be a better red-light stopper, but now I am catching myself looking for those lights instead of focused on the intersection." James also had to pay a \$158 fine.

Jim Dowd, a Ruskin resident, has never been ticketed by a red-light camera and has a simple solution for fellow drivers.

"We should all stop on red and wait for a green light. It might inconvenience some people enough to get rid of the politicians who have had a hand in installing these things. Meantime, it will prevent many drivers behind me at the red light from chancing a right-on-red ticket, too."

There may be some hope for local drivers looking to avoid the camera at the mall. The Gornito

Lake Road extension, opened last July, gives South County drivers a straight shot to S.R. 60 from U.S. 301 and Bloomingdale Avenue, avoiding the mall completely.

In all, 21 states and more than 50 Florida counties and cities use the cameras. Statewide, 404 intersections are equipped with red-light cameras, according to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

Watch videos of local red-light runners on YouTube by searching for "Red Light Runners Hillsborough."

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Observations

► Continued from page 9
rundown as anyone in here. After a day of sanding, painting and other overdue boat projects, I am exhausted. But there is a difference — I'm exhausted by choice. I'm very certain that some, if not many, of the people in this laundromat are exhausted merely from the struggle to survive. As best they can, at least.

I am spending Easter evening in a laundromat in Ruskin, Florida. I am sharing this space with people who work — really work — hard for a living and for whom work doesn't stop for a holiday. These are good people. People who

smile shyly upon eye contact while they are folding clothes, or when they look up from whatever were their thoughts while sitting on a wooden bench waiting for the machines to do their job. This is Florida, just as the beaches and palm trees are Florida.

This trip is almost over, I'll be gone by the time you read this, but I'll be back in a few weeks. And then, God willing, I hope to be back again a few weeks after that. But right at this moment, I'm just enjoying a Floriday. And on this day, I'm counting my blessings and offering thanks. I am happy to be here.

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Thu 24:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)* WII BOWLING	9:30 to 10:30 am 2:30 to 3:30 pm	NEXT DIABETES WORKSHOP: Tuesday, May 27 1 to 3 pm Please register for these workshops by calling Arlette at (727) 828-2411 Next Diabetes workshop will be Tuesday, June 24th
Fri 25:	SALSA DANCING SLOW FLOW YOGA GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 to 11 am 1 to 2 pm 2:15 to 3:30 pm	
Mon 28:	MONDAY MORNING MOVIES SLOW FLOW YOGA GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 am to Noon 1 to 2 pm 2:15 to 3:30 pm	
Tue 29:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	11 am to Noon 1 to 3 pm	
Wed 30:	LINE DANCING*: Beginners or Advanced (Classes Limited to 30 ppl)	11 am to Noon; 12:15 to 1:15 pm	

MAY 2014 EVENTS *REGISTER NOW!

Thu 01:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)* WII BOWLING	9:30 to 10:30 am 2:30 to 3:30 pm	Visit us online to view the monthly calendar and upcoming events: JSAMedicalGroup.com click the events tab
Fri 02:	SALSA DANCING SLOW FLOW YOGA GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 to 11 am 1 to 2 pm 2:15 to 3:30 pm	
Mon 05:	MONDAY MORNING MOVIES SLOW FLOW YOGA GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 am to Noon 1 to 2 pm 2:15 to 3:30 pm	LINE DANCING PARTICIPANTS: Close-toe shoes with non-stick bottoms only permitted. No scented perfumes & lotions to class.
Tue 06:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)*	11 am to Noon 1 to 3 pm	
Wed 07:	LINE DANCING*: Beginners or Advanced (Classes Limited to 30 ppl)	11 am to Noon; 12:15 to 1:15 pm	
Thu 08:	SilverSneakers® (MSROM)* WII GAMES	9:30 to 10:30 am 2:30 to 3:30 pm	Please check your insurance coverage for SILVERSNEAKERS class participation eligibility.
Fri 09:	SALSA DANCING SLOW FLOW YOGA GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 to 11 am 1 to 2 pm 2:15 to 3:30 pm	
Mon 12:	MONDAY MORNING MOVIES SLOW FLOW YOGA GENTLE CHAIR YOGA	10 am to Noon 1 to 2 pm 2:15 to 3:30 pm	

Hydro Harvest Farms provides children with early Easter treats



The treats of Easter came early for children in Ruskin as Hydro Harvest Farms held a free Easter Egg and Scavenger Hunt on Saturday. "We had 140 kids and their parents, grandparents, and aunts and uncles," said Terrie Lawson of Hydro Harvest Farms, a family-owned business located at 1101 East Shell Point Road. "Many children came up and told me what a great time they had — even teens! I asked several kids what they liked best, and most of them liked planting the marigolds in the tiny Easter baskets." The event was free and open to the public. The scavenger hunt consisted of activities, finding and identifying plant parts and other things hidden amid the hydroponic farm. At the end, each child received a bag of candy. Disney provided marigolds, seeds and some craft items. For information about Hydro Harvest Farms, visit www.hydroharvestfarms.com or call 813-645-6574.

MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

College grad heads for missionary training

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

A year ago Sacia Mullins of Ruskin was finishing her last year at the University of South Florida, where she majored in theater and minored in psychology.

She was doing a thesis that required combining her studies and had come up with the idea of forming and training a Justice Dramatics Theater Group for middle-school students ages 10 to 14.

She had worked with children before at her church, teaching four-year-olds, but the dramatics project introduced her into one-on-one work to help the kids learn not only about theater but, because of the justice element, also about proper behavior and respect.

After graduating in December, she worked as a customer service representative at M&M Printing Company (owner of *The Observer News* and *The Current*), where her

father, Wes, is the CEO.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do with my life," said 22-year-old Sacia in a recent interview before packing up and leaving for missionary training. In one way, she had always thought she would do the missionary work, she said, but that she wasn't sure until recently. Elders in the Church of Latter Day Saints, commonly known as the Mormons, advise that all boys spend a time in missionary work, but it is not something many girls consider, she said.

"We believe women are more geared to home and family, so we are not heavily encouraged to go," Sacia explained. "But I was wondering what I wanted to do, I didn't really know. Then one day I turned to this Scripture in First Corinthians with a chapter heading that seemed just right for me. It's the one about true saints being perfectly united in the same mind and that the Gospel

is preached by the weak and simple."

Sacia said her mother, Karina, never did missionary work and instead had chosen to stay at home until she and her two sisters and one brother were older. Then her mother worked in the office at Ruskin's Mary & Martha House, a shelter for abused and homeless women, some with children.

"Life is about service," Sacia said, sounding more like a 40-year-old than a newly graduated college student. It was while reading the Scripture that she decided to go on an 18-month mission experience. "Missionary work is going to be a little about everything," she said, "helping people with their needs, whatever they are."

She began her adventure with her parents taking her to Provo, Utah, April 9, for preliminary instruction and meeting members of her group. In about three weeks

the group will head for Denver, Colorado, where she will spend the rest of the time.

In the first email sent back after her arrival in Utah, Sacia said, "I feel like I've finally found my place in the world, if that makes any kind of sense. It's so spiritual, and I can already feel myself growing. I'm exhausted, but it's worth it."

We hear so many stories about how troubled and troublesome all the young people are today. That's one reason why *The Observer News* and *The Current* focus on the good ones, and there are many. Residents who "catch young people in the act of doing something good" are always encouraged to send in a photo and a caption from an event. Or, in the case of something really big — like spending 18 months in missionary work — email news@observernews.net with a possible story idea.



Sacia Mullins, 22, of Ruskin is headed for Denver, Colorado, to do 18 months of missionary work.

Plenty of action locally

By **JONIE MASCHKE**
Member: Florida Outdoor Writers Assn.

If you want to go fishing but don't have access to a boat, try bridge or pier fishing. Florida has more bridges crossing saltwater than any other state. Be sure to choose one that allows public fishing; there are some that don't. Look for signs.

Most public parks that have waterfront also have a designated fishing area.

E.G. Simmons Park, located at 2401 19th Avenue NW, in Ruskin is an ideal spot to catch a redbfish. Redfish are plentiful in the canals in the park right now. The park is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Flounder catches have been plentiful locally. They spend most of their time on the sandy bottom sleeping, but this month they have been surfacing and eating at high

and low tide.

Sheepshead has been a popular catch with those fishing from land, pier and bridges.

Trout catches are being made in the grassy flats. A great-tasting fish.

Freshwater bass catches are abundant this time of the year. There are bass in the upper fresh waters of the Alafia and Little Manatee rivers.

Freshwater catfish are playing hide and seek with anglers, but many fishermen have outsmarted them.

If you are not finding fish, check around the mangrove roots, in the grassy flats and on high and low tide.

Watch the weather, fish together. Fishing is fine, just drop a line.



FISH TALES

Man arrested in slaying of Gibsonton woman

Body was found in January behind Summerfield Plaza

A Tampa man is behind bars in the killing and rape of a 21-year-old Gibsonton woman.

Meaghan Casady's body was found Jan. 18 by a sanitation truck driver behind the Summerfield Plaza, 11323 Big Bend Road in Riverview.

Jose Enrique Gonzalez, 48, was arrested April 17 and charged with first-degree felony murder and sexual battery.

Gonzalez befriended the victim at 2:50 a.m. Jan. 17 in the parking lot of CJ's Saloon, where both were later seen leaving in his car, according to

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office detectives.



HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Jose Enrique Gonzalez

A deputy found Gonzalez and Casady pulled over at the side of Rhodine Road, just east of U.S. 301, at 4:23 a.m. Interviewing Gonzalez, who was outside and leaning over the passenger door, the deputy noticed a slight scratch on the man's nose. Casady told the deputy she

was "okay." The deputy then advised Gonzalez to take the woman home as soon as possible.

Interviewed by detectives a day after Casady's body was found, Gonzalez dismissed many scratch marks on his face, saying they

were the result of trying to stop a fight in the parking lot of the bar before he met the victim, contradicting an eyewitness at the bar and the deputy who stopped Gonzalez.

Gonzalez also said he dropped Casady off at Rhodine and Balm-Riverview roads shortly after 4:30 a.m. and drove to his workplace. A video later showed Gonzalez pulling into his workplace at 6 a.m., according to the affidavit.

A surveillance video also showed the Tampa man's vehicle in the area where Casady's body was found.

Forensic tests on Gonzalez's vehicle also turned up bloodstains. An investigation also revealed Gonzalez's DNA on the victim's body, officials said.



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTOS

Hundreds come together to the beat of a collective mind on Easter

There were grandparents and children, couples young and old, there were snare drums and floor toms, bongos and even a few five-gallon buckets, all beating to the rhythm of the collective mind during the sunset drum circle at Little Harbor Resort in Ruskin on Easter Sunday. Hundreds of people turned out to drum, dance or just watch and enjoy the musical festivities and camaraderie. The drum circle takes place each Sunday just before sunset on the beach near the Sunset Grill Tiki Bar. The event is free and open to the public. For information, visit the Sunset Grill Drum Circle Facebook page at tinyurl.com/observer-drums.







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Riverview High culinary program

► Continued from page 5

"I've worked at other post-secondary schools, and this kitchen rivals any of those," Jent said.

As interest in cooking and healthy food has grown nationally, so, too, has the number of students in the program. While 30 to 40 students at Riverview were slicing and dicing under Jent's watchful eye years ago, today there are more than 200.

"I think it's the atmosphere we create here and the old adage about how do you get experience when you don't have a job," Jent said. "They can get it here. We try to create an environment that is as close to the real thing as possible here, so we have the health department come in and inspect us. We are regulated and open to the public, so it's as real as you can get."

With minimal funding from the school district, income from the kitchen's restaurant goes back into the program. "It's very much hands-on learning here," Jent said.

Amid the culinary cacophony, Rachel Taylor's quiet determination wins her the respect of her

fellow students, many often turning to her for advice.

"I am not really a culinary person, but I really enjoy it here because of the teachers and the way people work together," said Taylor, 18. "A lot of other classes emphasize individual accomplishment, but in here it's all about



KEVIN BRADY PHOTOS
The Reef's intimate, spotless dining room draws around 100 customers a week.

working with a team."

While Rachel doesn't see her future over a stove — she wants to become an animal control officer — the skills she picks up at Riverview will hold her in good stead, Jent said.

"They learn to work with each [other] and communicate," Jent said. "We even create conflicts sometimes so that they learn how to resolve conflicts and work together. We make them talk it out and reason with each [other] in an adult manner."

The Caesar Wrap is a favorite of Jessica Lewis, one of the 100 customers who frequent The Reef each week.

"The chicken is perfectly cooked," she said, "and the lettuce is cut perfectly. It's just amazing."

Eat at The Reef

Open to the public from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, an average meal at The Reef, 11311 Boyette Road, costs \$5. Meals can be eaten or take out. The restaurant also does catering. For more information, call 813-671-5011.



M. Todd Jent goes over butchering techniques with students in his class.

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OSS1 - EXP. 4/30/14



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MAY EVENTS

Thurs. May 1 • 3:00 – 4:00 pm • Cookies & Conversation with Kay Coburn Dyer. Expect to enjoy a relaxed atmosphere with new friends! Facilitated by Kay Coburn Dyer, Geriatric Care Manager.

Wed. May 7 • 10:00 – 11:00 am • 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!

Thur. May 8 • 1:00 – 2:00 pm • Neuropathy Support Group Sponsored by the Men's Club of SCC LOCATION CHANGED TO SUN TOWERS THIS MONTH. Are you suffering from pain and numbness in your extremities? Our speaker this month will be: Dr. Babette Pachence, MD from Tampa General Hospital's new Sun City Center Clinic. She is a graduate of Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons where she received her MD in 1978. She did an internship at Temple University Hospital in Internal Medicine and then completed a residency in Pathology at the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia Presbyterian, followed by post-graduate work in pathology at UMDNJ Hospital. She became Board certified and from 2001 – 2006 was a private internal medicine practitioner in Princeton, NJ and an instructor for UMDNJ. Most recently, she practiced at Bradenton Internal Medicine where she covered both Manatee Memorial and Blake hospital.

Thur. May 8 • 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. • "A Matter of Balance" by Tampa General Hospital A Matter of Balance (Eight-week Program) presented by: Suzan Mekler, AHFS, PRCS, NS, CPT, & Raina Trevanna, OTR/L, CHT, Tampa General Hospital. Do you have concerns about falling? A Matter of Balance can help reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults. Learning to manage concerns about falls and use of practical strategies to reduce this fear can lead to increased activity levels. Join us to learn techniques to view falls and fear of falling as controllable, set realistic goals to increase activity, exercise to increase strength and balance and other ways to manage concerns about falls. You must be over the age of 60 to register for this program. Registration is required as printed material is provided and space is limited. Call 1-800-822-3627 to register.

Thur. May 8 • 2:30 – 4:00 pm • Peace of Mind Support Group Facilitated by Edmond Dubreuil MSW, RCSWI mental health professional. Supported by: South Shore Coalition on Mental Health & Aging & United Methodist Church of SCC

Wed. May 14 • 10:00 – 11:00 am • Charles Schwab Investment Series Don't miss this opportunity to meet with Ann MacKay, CFP with Charles Schwab and learn about: Why Everyone Needs an Estate Plan

Wed. May 14 • 2:30 – 4:00 pm • Diabetes Support Group Please join Lisa Endick, RN from Nurse on Call Home Health Care as she facilitates our support group "Everyday Basics of Diabetic Care".

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Now there's a place to dispose of your 'stuff'

If your spring cleaning efforts have yielded "stuff" that's too big for trash containers or not donation-worthy, Hillsborough County has just made your day.

The last Saturday of the month, to be exact.

The county will open a community collection site at 16180 West Lake Drive in Wimauma on the last Saturday of each month through September for Hillsborough residents who want to dispose of bulky trash, electronics, tires and other large household items.

The Wimauma site will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, Aug. 30 and Sept. 27. Residents of Hillsborough County may dispose of items at no charge by showing valid identification, such as a Florida Driver's License, Florida Vehicle

Registration or a utility bill.

The following items may be placed in the dumpsters:

- furniture, junk, trash, debris
- metal
- electronics
- tires (limit 5 per residence)

Items that will NOT be accepted for disposal:

- commercial trash and debris
- tree debris
- commercial vehicle tires
- hazardous chemicals

Hillsborough County's Code Enforcement and Solid Waste divisions are partnering on the six-month trial project as an extension of Code's popular Operation Fight the Blight program.

For more information, call Hillsborough County Code Enforcement at 813-274-6600.



Feline Folks needs volunteers

Feline Folks needs volunteers who can be available on an as-needed basis to help collect cat food from local retail donors. The team works every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Most likely, the help will be needed once per month.

For more information, call Cliff at 813-601-7111.

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THE SAVVY SENIOR

Air travel tips for seniors with special needs

Dear Savvy Senior,

I would like to fly my elderly parents across the country next month for my daughter's wedding but have some concerns about the flight. My mom has trouble walking long distances, and my dad has COPD

and needs an oxygen tank. What airport or airline services are available to help old passengers?

Concerned Daughter



By Jim Miller

Dear Concerned,

Flying can be physically exhausting for anyone, but for seniors with health issues or physical limitations, it can be extremely challenging. Here are a few tips that can help.

Booking the flight

When you book your parents flight, this is the time to make special requests that can help make the trip easier for them. You'll need to make these requests over the phone.

For example, you may want to inquire about seats in the front of the plane for easier access or bulkhead seats that provide extra leg room, and you should probably request a wheelchair or two with attendant(s) to maneuver your parents through the airports they will be departing from and arriving at, and if there's a connecting flight in between.

If your parents don't want a wheelchair, but want some help, ask about electric carts.

You also need to check with the airline regarding their policy for portable oxygen concentrators for your dad. Some airlines require specific medical forms that will need to be signed by his doctor.

Airport assistance

If your parents are flying on their own, you should know that airlines allow elderly fliers to be escorted to and from the gate by a non-traveling companion, as long as the escort provides his or her full name, birth date and government-issued ID.

If no one is available to help your parents, find out how the airline can assist them. Delta Airlines, for example, can have an employee help your parents through check-in with 48 hours' notice and American Airlines provides special assistance to passengers with disabilities.

Or, consider hiring an indepen-

dent company like Royal Airport Concierge Services (isroyalusa.com), who will meet your parents at the curb to help them check their bags and escort them to security. They typically charge \$150 to \$250 and serve dozens of airports across the U.S.

There are also a number of traveling companion services, like FlyingCompanions.com and PreferredTravelHelpers.com, that will do everything, including making the travel arrangements, accompanying your parents on the trip, and facilitating their needs along the way. Fees vary, depending on what's needed and travel costs.

Going through security

All U.S. airports offer expedited screening to passengers 75 and older that allows them to move through security without removing their shoes or jacket, and many airports have lanes specifically for use by passengers with disabilities and medical conditions so they don't have to wait in line. They should ask about these when they check in.

If your parents are packing medications in a carry-on bag, they should know that their pills and/or liquid medications do not have to be packed in their prescription containers to get through airport security, but they will need to separate them from their other belongings so they can be screened. Liquid medications in excess of 3.4 ounces will require separate screening.

For more information on other airport security screening policies and procedures visit tsa.gov/traveler-information, or call TSA Cares at 855-787-2227, where you can ask specific questions.

Boarding and deboarding

When it's time to board, your parents can take advantage of the airlines preboarding option for elderly passengers who need some extra time to get on the plane and get settled. And for getting off the plane, they can wait for the other passengers to debarb so attendants can assist them with carry-ons and escort them from the plane.

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.

Questers International choose St. Petersburg for convention site

Questers International will hold its annual convention at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, May 3-7, 2017. This is big news for local Questers, especially those in Sun City Center. During the convention, the area will be busy with more than 500 delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada.

The Questers is an international study organization founded in 1944. Members have an insatiable appetite for knowledge. Attics hold magic for them; they are museums filled with treasures. Questers march to the beat of a different drum as they rationalize collecting antiques as doing their part in the recycling process.

The group's motto, "It's fun to search and a joy to find," explains why it's so gratifying for them to find that special piece they've

been "questing."

The annual convention is an opportunity to award two significant scholarships – one to a graduate student earning a master's degree of science in preservation and restoration; and a three-year fellowship to a graduate student earning a master's degree of science in art conservation.

In addition, during the convention a number of chapters will be presented with grants for preservation and restoration projects for which they have applied. Many motorcoach tours are planned during the event to showcase some of Florida's attractions, focusing on historical and architectural sites.

For more information on The Questers, check out www.floridaquesters.org, www.questers1944.org or email manava14@verizon.net.



► Continued from page 1

know the dedication he has to the students has to be one of the reasons why Reve left a career at Lockheed Martin and NASA to become a teacher. His inspiration came from his teachers when he was a student in Crystal River, Fla. He remembers that his physical education teacher told all his students: "Once you're one of my kids, you're always one of my kids." Reve said that teacher was honored in his 90s and that all 165 of his "kids" came to honor him.

"It's about keeping a challenge," Reve said. "We have 35 to 50 kids building stuff every Monday and Wednesday, instead of going out and getting in trouble."

If he could be half the teacher his teachers were, that would be Reve's dream. Reve doesn't take personal credit for the achievements of his Robotics Club students. He says they do it all themselves with very little help.

"I like to build things," Valerio, club president, said when asked why she joined the Robotics Club. "I like taking things apart and putting them back together again."

Valerio said she also wants to study engineering at USF, but she said she also wants to have a career in the United States Army.

The Robotics Club started in May 2013. Members won their first competition when they built Goliath while competing at USF against graduate students there and a professional team.

"We beat them hands down," Reve said. He said that after the graduate students endured the

defeat, they were determined to compete against the Lennard High team again. "Two Saturdays ago, they invited us back, and we tore them up again! We came in first and second."

Admittedly, he said, the graduate students had more robust robots (read a lot more funding to build them) and they did score in the competition.

One of the SunTowers female residents asked Figueroa if there were any girls in the club. Currently the club has around 15 girls and 25 boys, which is a rather high percentage of girls pursuing engineering interests, according to Reve. He attributes the interest to Valerio.

"Historically, engineering is not a big thing for girls," Reve said. "More and more girls are seeing Silvie here, which is encouraging more girls."

According to Debbie Caneen of SunTowers and board president of the Sun City Center Area Chamber of Commerce, six months ago Reve approached her about needing funding to "build robotics and change the world." He was worried that the Robotics Club would not be able to keep going because it was an extracurricular activity at Lennard High. This means the club cannot receive direct funding from the School District of Hillsborough County.

Caneen already had been working with club members to find parts that could be recycled to build robots. During the presentation last week, Reve acknowledged he had been using his own money to keep the program going.

"Up until that point, it was coming out of my pocket," Reve

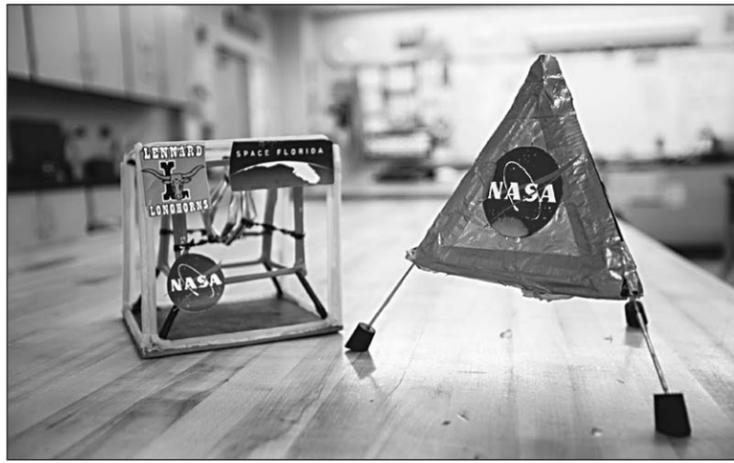
said to those SunTower residents. "You were the first to help, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

The residents asked questions and were happy with the answers. They look forward to the next school year, when Reve, Valerio and Figueroa will return with robots to show.

"Robotics is something I really like and enjoy," Valerio said. "Everybody has a small part in something to make it big Mr. Reve made that dream come true. We make new things out of old things."

The list of trophies the Lennard High Robotics Club won in the 2013/2014 school year:

- 2nd Place, NASA Egglander competition, May 2013
- 2nd Place, Best Robotics competition, November 2013
- 1st place, 15-pound Battlebot competition at USF Engineering Expo, February 2014
- 2nd place, 3-pound Battlebot competition at USF Engineering Expo



MITCH TRAPHAGEN PHOTO

The club's very first project was designing landers that would allow a raw egg to survive a 25-foot drop. Both landers were successful, both won awards. Since then, their success has continued. But in order for the club to continue dreaming, innovating and winning academic awards, they need your help.

- 4th place, 1-pound Battlebot competition at USF Engineering Expo
 - 1st Place, 15-pound Battlebot competition at MakerCon, April 2014
 - 2nd place, 3-pound Battlebot competition at MakerCon
- Because the Robotics Club is an extracurricular activity and cannot receive direct funding from the School District of Hillsborough County, any donations of

equipment and/or money would be appreciated. The budget for the 2013-2014 school year was \$3,990.96, all from donations. Left in the budget for the returning students of the 2014-2015 school year is only \$73.52. Checks may be made out to "Lennard Robotics" and dropped off at the school, or sent to Lennard High School, 2342 East Shell Point Road, Ruskin, FL 33570.

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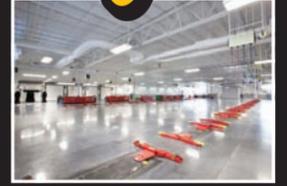
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Area Obituaries

Robert Louis Fosdale

Robert Louis Fosdale, 78, of Sun City Center, Fla., longtime resident of Georgia and Elmwood Park, Ill., passed away peacefully April 18.

He is survived by Phyllis, his beloved wife of 57 years; daughters Kathleen (Paul), Vicki and Carrie; brother Terrence (Lynn); six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He will be missed by his beloved Coonhound dog Dixie.

He was preceded in death by daughter Judi Lynn, parents Arthur and Norma, and brother Wayne.

Arrangements are being planned for interment at Ridgewood Cemetery, Ill. Arrangements by Zipperer's Funeral Home.

Elizabeth Maloney

Elizabeth Maloney, 96, of Sun City Center, Fla., passed away on April 14, 2014. She is survived by her son Donald (Erma) Faron of Sun City Center. She worked for many years as the secretary to the superintendent of schools in Millbury, Mass.

She was preceded in death by her husband Louis Maloney. Interment will take place in Millbury at a later date. Arrangements by Sun City Center Funeral Home.

How we think (and how to think better)

The Thursday, April 24, meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sun City Center will feature a video lecture by professor Patrick Grim of the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

The video will be followed by discussion and questions, moderated by Fellowship member, Oscar Kramer.

The Fellowship meets at 7 p.m. in the Henry Gibson Social Hall of the Beth Israel Synagogue on East Del Webb Boulevard in Sun City Center. All are welcome.

Ministerial group to hold April 28 Community Sing

South Hillsborough Ministerial Association, or SHMA, an organized, interactive group of local church ministers and congregations in South Hillsborough County, will facilitate the monthly "Community Sing" at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 28, at Ministerios La Red, 501 Second St. SE, Ruskin.

A "Worship Prelude" to the Sing will begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served afterward.

For more information, call 813-900-8454 or visit www.shmasouthshores.org.



The Brady Family to appear in Gibsonton May 3

Vaughn Street Bible Church's Saturday Night Sing will feature the Brady Family at 7 p.m. on May 3.

Admission is free, but a love offering will be taken.

The church is at 10018 Vaughn Street, Gibsonton.



All fenced in

The silt fencing on the campus of Saint Anne Catholic Church in Ruskin is the first visible sign of the construction to erect a new 4,000-square-foot facility to house the Saint Anne Food Pantry.

The ministry is currently operating out of a three-bay garage seen in the far right of the above photo.

The new accommodations will be four times larger than the current building and will eliminate difficulties in the storage, preparation and distribution of food parcels.

It will allow the addition of a walk-in freezer and cooler for meats, fruits, vegetables and other perishables; it will provide adequate space to store nonperish-

ables and bagged pick-ups; and it will provide an enclosed area for the sign-in tables that will keep both recipients and volunteers out of the potentially extreme Florida weather.

The new facility addresses the fact that the need for this service continues to grow in South Hillsborough County. The Food Pantry serves an average of 400 households each Wednesday, and it partners with Feeding America to service 400-plus households on one Thursday each month.

Saint Anne Catholic Church is located at 106 11th Avenue NE in Ruskin. For more information regarding the parish, visit its website at saintanneruskin.org.

E.G. Simmons Park is site for May 1 National Day of Prayer event

The South Hillsborough Ministerial Association, or SHMA, will host a local expression of the 63rd annual National Day of Prayer from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, at E.G. Simmons Park. The park is at 2401 19th Avenue NW, Ruskin.

The theme for this year is "One Voice, United in Prayer." All local pastors, congregations, ministries and others interested in prayer in the South Shore community are invited to participate.

Families are welcome. Restrooms and playgrounds are available. Free food and drinks will be available.

This year, SHMA will underwrite the park-entry fee. Upon arrival at the gate, mention: "National Day of Prayer Event."

In addition, for your comfort, you may bring in insect repellent and a folding or lawn chair for seating.

For further information, call 813-645-4805 or visit www.shmasouthshores.org.

Friendship Baptist holds National Day of Prayer service

Friendship Baptist Church will host a National Day of Prayer Service at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 1. All are welcome.

Friendship Baptist Church is at 1511 El Rancho Drive in Sun City Center. Rev. Rance Goad is the pastor.

Christian Movie on Saturday

On Saturday, April 26, Friendship Baptist Church will air its fourth Christian movie of the season on Saturday, April 26, at 5 p.m. The title was unknown at press time.



Back row, from left: Belina Brady, standing in for the late Recie Ward; Pastor Brady and Pam Brady. Middle row: Fancy Freeman, left, and Maddy Sullivan. Front row: Lexi Hancock.

New Beginnings counts piggy banks

The congregation of New Beginnings Fellowship brought their piggy banks to market. A youth group fundraiser lunch was served as the banks were counted. The proceeds from the Hog Killin' go to help pay for the church insurance, and the proceeds from the youth luncheon will go toward Youth Camp this summer. Some of the pig names were very creative. This time the Top Hog was Bacon in Disguise, owned by Maddy Sullivan. The church holds this event twice a year.

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
 TRADITIONAL 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
 FriendshipBaptistChurchSCC.com

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.

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.



"We love because He first loved us."
 1 John 4:19

Malcolm S. Clements,
 Pastor

First Baptist Church of Gibsonton

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.
 Children & Youth Ministry Mid-Week (Wed.) 7:00 P.M.
 9912 Indiana St. • Hwy. 41 & Estelle Ave. • Gibsonton, FL 33534
 813-677-1301

NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

"Loving God, Loving Others, Serving Beyond Borders"
 Dr. Samuel (Sam) A. Roach, Pastor
 1301 U.S. Hwy. 41 N., Ruskin, FL • 645-1121 • www.nbc.org

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.

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 Our Community
 Rev. Dr. Timothy Shirley
 Worship Services ~ 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.
 (813) 634-1304 ~ www.uccsuncity.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.

Wimauma Church of God

Loving God, Loving Others, Serving All
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Pastor Tom Durrance
 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
Faith has nothing to fear from thinking.
 — Albert Schweitzer

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
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
 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

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

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.



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ST. JOHN THE DIVINE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 SUNDAY SERVICES
 8:00 AM-Rite I
 9:15 AM-Contemporary
 11:00 AM-Rite II & Choir
 Fellowship Hour after all services
 Morning Prayer & Healing Service
 10 AM every Wednesday
 Fr. Lee Miller
 Priest
 SUN CITY CENTER 1015 Del Webb Blvd. E
 813-633-3970 - stjohrus@aol.com
 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 a.m.
Sunday School.....	10 a.m.
Wednesday Service.....	5 p.m.
Reading Room.....	Wednesday 4 to 4:45 p.m.

All Are Welcome

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
 Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.
 Contemporary Service 11:00 a.m.
 Prayers with anointing for healing and wholeness during worship the second Sunday of every month.
 Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mark E. Salmon
 Meet friends in Fellowship Hall between Services.
 Refreshments served.
 1239 Del Webb Blvd. West Phone: 813-634-1252
 Sun City Center, FL 33573 For information visit:
 Church is Handicap accessible www.standrewatcc.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 Friday8:00 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.

Russian singers at Prince of Peace

On Thursday, April 24, LYRA, a group of five professional a cappella singers from St. Petersburg, Russia, will present a concert of Russian choral music in the Conesa Center at Prince of Peace Catholic Church.

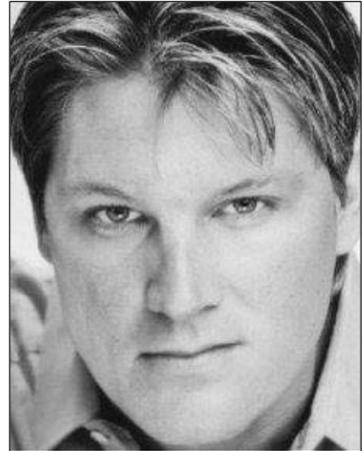
The first part of the concert will feature sacred music of the Russian Orthodox Church, including ancient songs, works of famous masters and little-known but remarkable Russian composers of the 18th through 20th centuries.

The second part of their program includes Russian folk songs: comic, lyric, dancing and love songs. The concert is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 7282.

This is a special opportunity to share the enormous Russian musical heritage. Attend and enjoy the sounds of Russia as interpreted by real Russians. All the performers are professionals singing in different choirs and opera houses throughout St. Petersburg, Russia.

Tickets are \$10 per person. For information, call 813-633-4368.

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



Mark Ralston to entertain at UCC

The last Fantastic Friday for this season will be on May 2, at United Community Church, 1501 La Jolla Ave., Sun City Center.

Mark Ralston, a singer and impressionist with more than 20 years of professional entertaining, will offer a delightful show.

The catered dinner in the Great Hall of the church will begin at 6 p.m., the show at 7 p.m. Tickets for the dinner and show are \$17 per person and may be purchased at the church on Sunday after service, or on Tuesday or Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon. The last day to buy dinner-and-show tickets will be April 29. Show-only tickets are \$5 per person and may be purchased up until the time of the show. For more information, call Paula at 813-633-6739.

Phil Provenzano and Jazz Xperience return to United Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church of Sun City Center welcomes back Phil Provenzano and the Jazz Xperience at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, in the church sanctuary.

A local favorite with a large following, Phil's ensemble is a mainstream, 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 throughout the Bay area and with such jazz greats as Ted Farlow, Herb Ellis, Nick Brignola, John La Porta, Phil Urso, Manfredo Fest, Billy Cobham, Ira Sullivan, Richie Cole and John Allred.

Concertgoers are encouraged to arrive early for a good seat, as the group is gaining a larger and larger fan base in this area. A donation of \$5 is requested at the door.

The church is at 1210 W. Del Webb Blvd., Sun City Center. For additional information about this and other concerts and recitals at the United Methodist Church of Sun City Center, call Jeff Jordan, director of worship arts, at 813-634-2539.



Members of the Valencia Singers rehearse for 100 Years of Broadway.

Broadway comes to Calvary Lutheran May 7

On Wednesday, May 7, at 7 p.m., the Valencia Singers of Valencia Lakes in Wimauma will perform 100 Years of Broadway at Calvary Lutheran Church.

The entire community is invited to enjoy the show, featuring a medley of more than 80 beloved Broadway tunes.

The performance will benefit Calvary's youth group, which plans to travel to Detroit in 2015 for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or ELCA, Youth Gathering. The Youth Gathering is a national conference held every three years for Lutheran teens.

The Valencia Singers has more

than 45 performers who entertain at Valencia Lakes many times throughout the year.

100 Years of Broadway is a fast-paced show covering music from Tin Pan Alley to today's contemporary Broadway. If you love Broadway, you won't want to miss this concert.

The show is free, but a goodwill offering will be taken at the performance, with 100 percent of the proceeds going toward the youths' trip to Detroit.

100 Years of Broadway will be performed at the church, 5309 U.S. 41 North in Apollo Beach (across from MiraBay).

LANDSIDE
 (941) 758.7880
 6906-14th St. W. on US41
 (1.5 mi. No. of SRQ Airport)

ELLENTON
 (941) 721.7773
 1525-51st Ave E.
 (Next to Ellenton Mall)

CORTEZ
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 6696 Cortez Rd.
 (5 min. from Anna Maria Is.)

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2014 Herald Tribune MANATEE READERS' CHOICE FIRST PLACE

SouthShore Regional Library

Kids program/event highlights

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

Block Party! — Thursday, April 24, 4:30 p.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.

Bedtime Stories — Thursday, April 24, 7 p.m.

For ages 2-5 with a caregiver ~ 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.

Story Time - Tuesday, April 29, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, April 30, 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.

Baby Time — Monday, April 28, 1:35 p.m.

Tuesday, April 29, 11:35 a.m.

Wednesday, April 30, 10:05 a.m.

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

Wonders of Nature — Monday, April 28, 7 p.m.

For children ages 5-12 ~ Come to this unique animal show featuring flying raptors and parrots and reptiles (including one of the world's largest pythons). The show combines humor, conservation and audience participation. Funded by the Friends of the SouthShore Regional Library.

Toddler Time - Tuesday, April 29, 10:05 and 10:35 a.m.

Wednesday, April 30, 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.

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

East Bay Watch

Midseason update on girl's flag football

by Michael Cooper



From left are Michelle Rodriguez, Jenna McEneaney and Madeline Hornacek.

The East Bay Indians girls' flag football team has arrived at mid-season and its record is 5-4. For the first time in its eight-year history, the team lost three games in a row. Three of its four losses were by six points or less, and in those games the team was in a position to win. The near-success is a tribute to three seniors leading a very young team of mostly freshmen.

Against King High School, the Indians took a 13-12 lead, only to give up a 4th quarter TD and lose 18-13. QB Madeline Hornacek rushed for 100 yards and a TD, and

threw for 111 yards and a TD to Michelle Rodriguez. East Bay out-gained the Lions 206 yards to 111. Defensively, Jenna McEneaney had 6 flag pulls and two sacks.

The third loss of the season came against district foe Bloomingdale Bulls, losing 29-0. The Bulls came on strong, taking a 22-0 halftime lead. In the second half, the Indians threatened but couldn't score. Rodriguez led the defense with 9 flag pulls.

Finally, East Bay rebounded in the next game against district rival Riverview Sharks. East Bay took a 26-0 lead into halftime, and

that was the final score. Hornacek rushed for one TD and threw for 170 yards and three TDs. On the receiving end, WRs Sydney Hostelley, Sara Hostelley and Rodriguez caught touchdown passes. Rodriguez led the defense again with 13 flag pulls. She is closing in on the career flag pull record.

With two games remaining in the regular season, the team is getting ready for district play. Most likely the Indians will be the 3rd seed, but they have a legitimate chance at winning its sixth district championship in seven years.

Ruskin Eagles Aerie 4351

1205 1st St. S.W.

Ruskin Eagles Aerie 4351 hosts meetings on Thursdays: Aerie at 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month; Auxiliary at 6 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th; Eagle Riders at 6 p.m. on the 3rd.

Upcoming Events

- Friday 5:30 p.m. Kitchen opens.
..... 6 p.m. Feather Your Nest Game.
- Saturday, April 29 5 p.m. Riders Dinner. Check at club for menu. 6:30 p.m. Music by Salvador.
- Sunday \$1 draft beer all day and evening.
- Monday 6 p.m. Bingo.
- Tuesday \$1 draft beer all day and evening.
- Wednesday Come on down and socialize.

For more information, call 813-645-2922.

RUSKIN BRANCH LIBRARY

1 Dickman Drive SE • Ruskin 33573



Adult Computer Classes for the Technologically Challenged

Internet: Malicious PC Software — Thursday, April 24, 3 p.m.

Learn about different types of malicious software, how they get on personal computers, how to remove them, and precautions to take when using the Internet. Limit 18. Register in person no earlier than one hour before the start of the program.

Windows 8: Introduction — Friday, April 15, 3 p.m.

Learn the layout, switching from tiles to desktop and how to get the Start button back. Basic mouse and keyboarding skills are recommended. Limit 18. Register in person no earlier than one hour before the start of the program.

Managing Media — Tuesday, April 29, 3 p.m.

Learn about saving files using cloud storage and USB devices. Learn how to transfer and download digital content. Limit: 20.

Computer Tutor — Wednesday, April 30, 5:30 p.m.

Tutoring in Microsoft software, email and the Internet. Limit 18. Register in person no earlier than one hour before the start of the program.

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100

105 PERSONAL

Thank you St. Jude & St Anthony for prayers answered. AK

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200

280 PETS

310 GARAGE/ YARD SALE

Garage sale. Saturday & Sunday. 8am-1pm, 713 Stoneham, St Andrews. SCC. Sofa/ loveseat \$90, oval crocheted tablecloth, sewing machine, misc.

Garage sale. April 26, 8am-noon. 1013 Ventana Dr, Cypress Village, Ruskin. Household items, clothes, quality furniture & antiques.

Garage sale. 1024 Augusta Dr., SCC. April 25 & 26, Reclining sofa, lift chair (like new) kids things, clothes & misc.

Multi family sale. Everything from furniture to tools & small items. Danbury Dr. Norwich Circle, SCC. (off Del Webb W) Friday, April 25, 8am-2pm.

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7 a.m. - NOON

Don't Miss This One!
Contents Include: Nice Vintage Wood-Framed Sofa, Wingback Side Chairs, Hammary Mahogany Matching Leathertop Nesting Tables & Lamp Tables, Cherry Desk & Secretary, Gorgeous KINDEL Dining Room Table w/Chairs, Matching Lockable KINDEL Breakfront & Server, Royal Doulton Figurines & Collectibles, Drop-Leaf Table w/Chairs, Wicker Chests, Provincial Full Bed w/New Beautyrest Mattress & Nightstand, Lane Cedar Chest, Vintage/Antique Bedroom Furniture, Twin Beds, Vintage Rocking Chairs, Rattan Lanai Furniture, Sleeper Sofa, Kitchenware, Sewing Machine & Knitting Supplies, Clothing, Home Décor, Garage Items, Tools, Freezer/Refrigerator, Maytag Freezer, Costume Jewelry and More!
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310 GARAGE/YARD SALE

(2) Twin Beds
coat w/

6" Mink Collar

extending to ankle long length \$250. A little bit of everything. 2026 Prestancia Lane, SCC. Friday 8am-noon.

Yard sale. 1609 N. Pebble Beach Blvd., SCC. Friday & Saturday, April 25 & 26, 9am-5pm., Moving. Furniture, tools, fishing, golfing items & many good things.

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CELLULAR SHADES ~ WOVEN WOODS ~ SUNSCREEN SHADES ~ PRIVACY SHADINGS ~ MORE

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LIFETIME WARRANTY

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EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES
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SUN SCREENS
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\$149 PER MONTH[^]

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Cash or Trade-In Value[°] \$3000

SALE PRICE: \$19,980



LEASE FOR:

\$249 PER MONTH[^]

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Cash or Trade-In Value[°] \$3000

SALE PRICE: \$24,988



LEASE FOR:

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Treatment is now easier than ever

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Often Invisible to the naked eye, **Chronic Vein Issues affect 4 of 10 Americans.** These issues are not simply cosmetic nuisances — they are medical conditions that get worse and worse. They can cause serious complications when left untreated. With new technologies, treatment is now easier than ever, and paid for by your insurance company. You can improve circulation and stop deterioration now for stronger, healthier, more youthful feeling and looking legs today!

1-Minute Self Screening

Check if you have any of the following:

- Leg Pain/Ache Night cramps Restlessness

Leg pain, night cramps, restlessness, "tiredness" or aching — like an iceberg, most of your vein problems are hidden. Now, the source of your pain is easily discovered using Ultrasound.



- Blue Feet/Ankles:

Blue vessels at the instep and ankle often indicate vein valve failure in larger hidden vessels.



- Swollen Ankles:

Swelling is often caused by failed veins, rather than renal or cardiac issues.



- Skin Changes:

Discolored skin results when veins with failed valves leak blood, fluid and protein, sickening the skin.



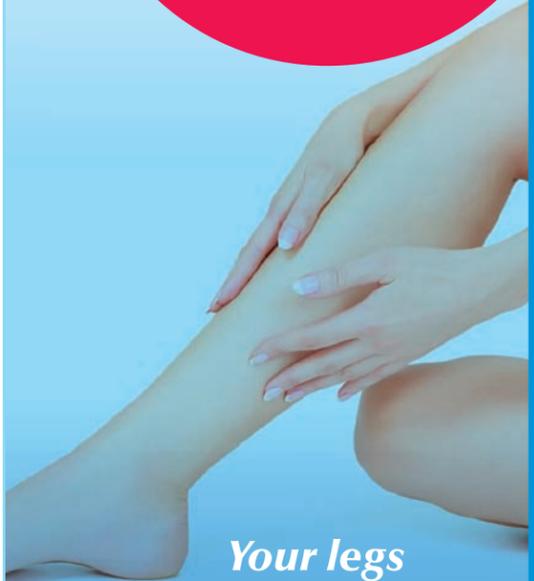
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- Varicose Veins



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Blood Clot
Increases
520%
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*Your legs
will look better
feel better, much
safer & healthier*

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