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Public meeting set on road study

By Kathy Steele
 ksteele@lakerlutznews.com

The city of Tampa, Hillsborough County and Pasco County remain at odds over whether Kinnan Street in New Tampa should connect to Mansfield Boulevard in Wesley Chapel.

A 450-page draft report, known as the Wesley Chapel Roadway Connection Study, looks at that road project, as well as two other potential intra-county road connections in the Wesley Chapel and State Road 56 area.

The study says that Pasco County will face substantial costs to address traffic increases — with or without potential

If you go

WHAT: Meeting to discuss the Wesley Chapel Roadway Connection Study

WHEN: May 29, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Pasco-Hernando State College's Porter Campus at Wiregrass Ranch, 2727 Mansfield Blvd., in Wesley Chapel

COST: Free

INFO: Visit PascoMPO.net.

would be about \$13.8 million. With road connections, the cost would be about \$15.4 million.

A public meeting to discuss the study, and get public input, will be held on May 29 at the Pasco-Hernando State College's Porter Campus at Wiregrass Ranch, at 2727 Mansfield Blvd.

This is part of a multiphase process taking place over several months.

The focus of the meeting is to get comments on the study, not to get a consensus on what should or shouldn't be connected, said Pasco County Commissioner Mike Moore.

See MEETING, page 19A



CHRISTINE HOLTZMAN

A day to honor student accomplishments

The African-American Honor Day Awards Ceremony was a time to recognize student accomplishments, and the Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel was packed with people who turned out to acknowledge the good work done by so many. The Citizens Concerned for Students hosts the honors assembly to recognize African-American students who have achieved the honor roll at least once during the year. This year's Honor Day celebrated nearly 2,000 students. Above, fifteen-year-old Lissette Urey, left, a freshman at Wesley Chapel High School, and 13-year-old Christina, right, an eighth-grader at Thomas E. Weightman Middle School, proudly display their Honor Day certificates, with their younger sister Anila, who one day hopes to follow in her sisters' footsteps.



Shalyah Fearing, a Season 10 semifinalist on the television show 'The Voice,' entertains the audience with one of her original songs.



World-class athlete and business consulting firm CEO Charles Clark, the keynote speaker for the evening's award ceremony, shares his story of success with the audience. He encouraged the students to never give up doing their best with the uplifting message 'If you can dream it, you can do it.' Clark was recognized as the sixth fastest man in the world at the IAAF Track & Field World Championships in 2009.

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Please be sure to include what kind of animal it is, and where you took the picture. Also include your contact information, so we can get in touch with you, if we need to.

Lutz teen named state winner for Doodle 4 Google contest

By Kevin Weiss
 kweiss@lakerlutznews.com

An inspiration from nature — and a passion for learning — helped Lutz teenager Mark Thivierge craft an award-winning drawing.

Thivierge, 16, was recently named the Florida State Winner of the 2018 Doodle 4 Google competition — one of 53 state and territory winners whose work is displayed in an online gallery on the Doodle 4 Google website.

The Doodle 4 Google competition, in its 10th year, is a contest open to kindergarten through 12th grade students across the U.S., to redesign Google's logo. This year's theme is "What Inspires Me?"

Thivierge's doodle, "Inspiration," features excerpts of his own poetry and music compositions, as well as example of scientific and mathematical innovations, surrounding a map featuring unique geographic landscapes from each of the 50 states.

Thivierge, who is home-schooled, incorporated several state landscapes of places visited into the piece, such as the Florida beach lines, the White Mountains in New Hampshire and the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina.

The 10th-grader said: "I get inspired by seeing the nature. It motivates my love to learn and to explore, and to create. Some of



COURTESY OF MARK THIVIERGE
Lutz teenager Mark Thivierge was recently named the Florida State Winner of the 2018 Doodle 4 Google competition.

the subjects that I'm really interested in were geography, science, mathematics, music and writing, which I all tried to incorporate into the doodle."

In composing the doodle, Thivierge first outlined a U.S. map. He then filled in each scene from there.

The entire piece was designed using colored pencils and took about 1 1/2 months to complete.

Besides notable national landmarks, some other surroundings of the piece were arbitrary. For instance, he penciled dairy farms and green fields across some Midwest states.

See GOOGLE, page 19A

Proposed homeless shelter for families stirs passions

By Kathy Steele
 ksteele@lakerlutznews.com

Efforts to aid Pasco County's homeless population are shifting from a homeless shelter for single adults to a shelter for families only.

The goal is to place homeless families in permanent housing as soon as possible. That is a significant change from the initial focus one year ago on a "navigation center" with wraparound services for single men and women.

The effort now has a new name, too. It's no longer being called a navigation center. Instead, it will be called the Housing Services Center.

Whatever it is called, some area residents still don't want any shelter in their neighborhood. Others are unhappy with the change in focus.

And, some are ready to welcome the shelter as a first step in the right direction.

About 100 people attended a public meeting on May 16 in New Port Richey to learn more about the new concept, and to offer comments.

Cathy Pearson, Pasco's assistant county ad-

See SHELTER, page 19A

B

INSIDE, PAGE 1B

Making a difference through Special Olympics

By Kevin Weiss

kweiss@lakerlutznews.com

For these teachers, Special Olympics is a longtime passion.

With nearly 15 years combined as volunteer coaches, Connerton Elementary's Jean Howey and Jenna Moore have experienced the positives of the world's largest sports organization that serves people with intellectual disabilities, and strives to "transform lives through the joy of sport, training and competition."

Together, the teachers run Connerton's Special Olympics Unified sports program, which pairs special needs athletes with nondisabled peers, or 'partners.'

Athletes and partners compete year-round against other unified programs across Pasco County and Florida — in everything from basketball, bocce and bowling, to track and field and cycling, and more.

The Connerton educators estimate the school features about 40 coed athletes and "at least that many on campus who are partners."

Howey, a physical education teacher, and Moore, who teaches special-needs students, coordinate times for the athletes and partners to practice together in gym class, at recess and other planned times at the end of the school day.

Beyond that, the educators help facilitate various school inclusivity campaigns such as "Best Buddies" and "Spread the Word to End the Word."

"Best Buddies" pairs basic-education students and kids with disabilities. "Spread the Word to End the Word" aims to eliminate hurtful language when talking about people with disabilities.

The teachers even formed an afterschool running program for boys and girls.



COURTESY OF JENNA MOORE

Connerton Elementary School physical education teacher Jean Howey has been actively involved in Special Olympics since joining the school in 2014. She also helps facilitate various school inclusivity campaigns such as 'Best Buddies' and 'Spread the Word to End the Word.'

In addition to the unified sports, these initiatives have helped eliminate misconceptions that some may have about students with physical or intellectual limitations, the teachers said.

Additionally, it has fostered tight-knit bonds and lasting friendships between basic-education student and their special-needs peers, from prekindergarten up through fifth grade.

"They see they're more alike than different and they become friends. They want to come play with each other and visit with each other," said Howey, who's been at Connerton since 2014.

Moore added, "there's just something so pure and natural about their friendship and how they care for each other."

It shows up in different ways, the teacher added: "Just the little things that they do to encourage each other — it's a really special thing."

While Special Olympics offerings have been available at the Land O' Lakes school since it opened in 2010, the more inclusive unified program was newly introduced this year.

New Port Richey's Longleaf Elementary is the county's only other elementary schools that also offers a unified program.

According to Special Olympics Florida's website, unified programs enable Special Olympics athletes to not only learn and play new sports, but also experience meaningful inclusion. Each athlete is ensured of playing a valued role on the team.



The teams also provide a forum for positive social interaction.

All participants are of similar age and ability, and unified teams are constructed to provide training and competition opportunities that meaningfully challenge and involve all athletes.

The educators advocate for more unified programs to be introduced at other elementary schools, suggesting it teaches kids at a younger age the importance of social inclusion and breaking down stereotypes about people with disabilities.

In some cases, the athletes prove better at a particular sport or activity than their unified partners, to their partners' surprise.

That signals a pleasant moment for both the athletes and their partners alike, the educators said.

Said Moore, "I think one of the cool things is (partners') realization like, 'They can do this! They can do it!' They're realizing like they have this preconceived notion about what someone can do and it's like, 'They're blowing me away, they're blowing me out of the water.'"

Howey added: "You get partnered with someone who might be deemed 'normal' and you're better at something than they are? That's a really cool feeling."

Land O' Lakes garden teaches about sustainability

By B.C. Manion

bcmalion@lakerlutznews.com

There's a garden in Land O' Lakes, called the Rosebud Continuum, where people can learn more about gardening and sustainable practices.

Jerry Comelias, site and educational director for the 14-acre Rosebud Continuum, 22843 Hale Road, said the property features a sustainability farm, a wildflower meadow, friendly goats, aquaponics, hydroponics, Florida native plants, beekeeping and biodigesters.

The Florida Native Plant Trail feature a Florida Native Wildflower Meadow.

There also are bio-digesters at the site, which can take waste and turn it into gas and liquid fertilizer. The gas that's produced can be used to fuel a grill, and the liquid fertilizer can be used in gardens and in hydroponic systems, he said.

The fertilizer is so highly concentrated, Comelias said, "you can take beach sand, and put that in it, and grow food."

Plants grow without soil in the hydroponics and aquaponics area.

There's also an apiary where bees are kept and a petting zoo, with goats.

A small chicken coop, called a chicken tractor, is there, as well, and is moved from place to place on the property.

"We put chickens in it, and they will prepare the ground for growing food. They pull the roots and eat the bugs. It's really great," he said.

Comelias, a graduate of the Patel College of Global Sustainability at the University of



Lettuce thrives in the greenhouse at the Rosebud Continuum.



B.C. MANION

Jerry Comelias holds two white carrots planted by Academy at the Lakes students at the Rosebud Continuum in Land O' Lakes.

South Florida, said the project grew out of a partnership between the Patel College, and Sonny and Maryann Bishop family that owns the 14-acre site.

Sonny Bishop, a former National Football League player, also is Lakota Sioux.

The project expresses the Bishop family's desire to kind of recover some of the indigenous practices previously used in Florida, Comelias said.

A trail leads through a wildflower meadow, which is near the property's lake.

"We want it to be a place where people can come and reflect, think or pray, or just enjoy being out in nature," Comelias said.

Beyond the wildflowers, the site features all sorts of ways to grow fruits, vegetables and herbs.

Students from Academy at the Lakes and Blake High School are involved with the project.

Fruits and vegetables being grown at the site include white carrots, strawberries, okra, cabbage, onions, celery, pineapple, tomatoes, Seminole pumpkins, collards, kale, beans, radishes and lettuce. There are all sorts of herbs, as well. And, there's a variety of trees.

The project aims to look at using natural approaches and keeping the big picture in mind.

The idea is to use systems-thinking when approaching problems, Comelias said.

That means being mindful of potential consequences. For instance, "If we come up

with a solution for fuel, is it going to create a problem for food? Is it going to create a problem for water?" he said.

The project aims to help others to learn about sustainable practices.

"We kind of try to do everything in a natural way and help people learn how to do that," Comelias said.

An open house was recently held on the property, so the public could see what's happening there.

Some recent guests from Haiti, were there, too. They traveled there to learn about practices they can use at home, Comelias said.

"We kind of try to do everything in a natural way and help people learn how to do that," Comelias said.

The property is expected to be open to additional visitors in the future.

For example, he said, "we hope to do sustainability summer camp for kids and teach them how to turn 2-liter bottles into hydroponic systems."

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Turning dirty trash bins into a thriving business

By Kathy Steele
Ksteele@lakerlutznews.com

Jennifer Trudel takes her work seriously. If that means crawling inside a trash bin to scrape off that last bit of grunge, she's there. In fact, on first-time service calls, that extra scrubbing is a take-it-to-the-bank guarantee. "I just want to get it clean," she said. "I'm an A-type personality."

She also is an entrepreneur in a cleaning service that's so new that many people have never heard of it. Her business, Scrub A Dub Bin Cleaning, got rolling about four months ago. She has more than 120 clients who signed up to get their trash and recycling bins cleaned with an eco-friendly technique. She rides up to the curbside in her blue truck, pops the bins onto rotating nozzles that jet sprays 190 degrees of very, hot water, and deposits the bins back onto the curb. "That more than kills everything," she said, except on first-time cleanings when bins can be a tougher challenge. Gum is the worst, Trudel said. But, she has a spray that freezes the sticky wads and that gets it off every time. Her truck carries more than 500 gallons of water. It also has a storage container for the dirty water that is later recycled to the county's sewer system for processing at a wastewater treatment facility.

As a final step, Trudel sprays a biodegradable disinfectant and deodorizer, and leaves a fresh, clean bin.

It's a much more efficient, sure-fire method that uses less water than a garden hose, and doesn't wash dirty water into storm drains, she added.

Word of mouth is helping her build a customer base in Wesley Chapel, New Tampa and Land O' Lakes.

Trudel also sets up displays at community events, and is available to meet with neighborhood or homeowners' associations to explain her service.

"A lot of people sign up because they see the truck driving by or when a neighbor sees me cleaning someone else's bin," Trudel said.



Wesley Chapel resident Jennifer Trudel owns Scrub A Dub Bin Cleaning, which provides trash and recycling bin cleaning services that are eco-friendly.

She also has a Facebook page and a website.

Scrub A Dub Bin Cleaning came as a surprise to Trudel and her family.

She moved to Pasco County when her husband got a job promotion and transfer in 1996. The couple has four children. The youngest is heading to college.

Trudel had been a pharmacist for nearly three decades, but decided as empty-nest time approached that it was time to find something else.

"I didn't enjoy it anymore," she said. "I wanted to own my own business."

Bin cleaning didn't spring to mind.

Then, a Facebook friend bragged about her clean bins from a service in South Florida and posted a photo.

"It was this crazy-looking truck," Trudel said. "We were all intrigued."

Trudel dove into the research. She found out that the city of London, some 20 years ago, mandated that residents keep their bins clean.

Rodents were overrunning the city — feasting on a steady diet of smelly, household garbage. Companies emerged in London to clean the bins, and developed the self-contained system of water storage and disposal.

Trudel said similar services are provided

in South Florida and south Tampa, but she appears to be the first in Pasco County.

She ordered her truck from a company in Miami. After a four-month wait, she drove it up to Pasco.

"It's a great thing to drive," Trudel said.

She offers various pricing plans from one-time-only cleaning to special offers for quarterly, bi-monthly or monthly cleanings. Trudel is having the time of her life.

"This to me is not a job," she said. "This is my life. I'm so engrossed in it."

For information, visit ScrubADubBins.com or [Facebook.com/scrubadubbins/](https://www.facebook.com/scrubadubbins/), or call (844) 727-8229.

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What's Happening

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BASIC RIFLE SAFETY CAMP

Dade City Rod & Gun will offer the NRA's First Step (Firearm Instruction, Responsibility and Safety Training) Rifle Program for area youth and those interested in learning how to properly handle a rifle. The 4 ½-hour session will be offered during the summer, subject to availability. The cost is \$40 per participant and includes the use of a rifle, ammunition, training materials, refreshments, professional instruction and a safe shooting environment. For dates and times, email Larry Shrewsbury at LShrews1@aol.com.

TEEN ANIME

The Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St., in Dade City, will host new Anime films May 24 from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. For information, call (352) 567-3576.

SAFE DRIVER COURSE

The AARP Safe Drive Course will be offered May 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the New River Library, 34043 State Road 54 in Wesley Chapel. To register, call Beverly Cogdill at (813) 907-3908.

MOVIES FOR ALL AGES

The New River Library, 34043 State Road 54 in Wesley Chapel, will host a free senior movie May 25 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. A children's movie, with popcorn, will be shown May 26 at 2 p.m. For details, call (813) 788-6375.

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

Moore-Mickens Education and Vocational Center, 38301 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., in Dade City, will host a Community Enrichment Day May 26 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Volunteers are invited to come out and clean up monumental landmarks in the county. Choose a time to help. Refreshments will be served. For information, call (352) 518-8008.

GUVERN BRUNCH

Lutz Gubern candidate Kandy Sinquefield will host a brunch at Café Liberty Coffee & Bistro, 17695 N. Dale Mabry Highway in Lutz, May 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will be donated by the restaurant to the Gubern race. For information, email Kandy4LutzGovna.com.

SUMMER BREAKFAST

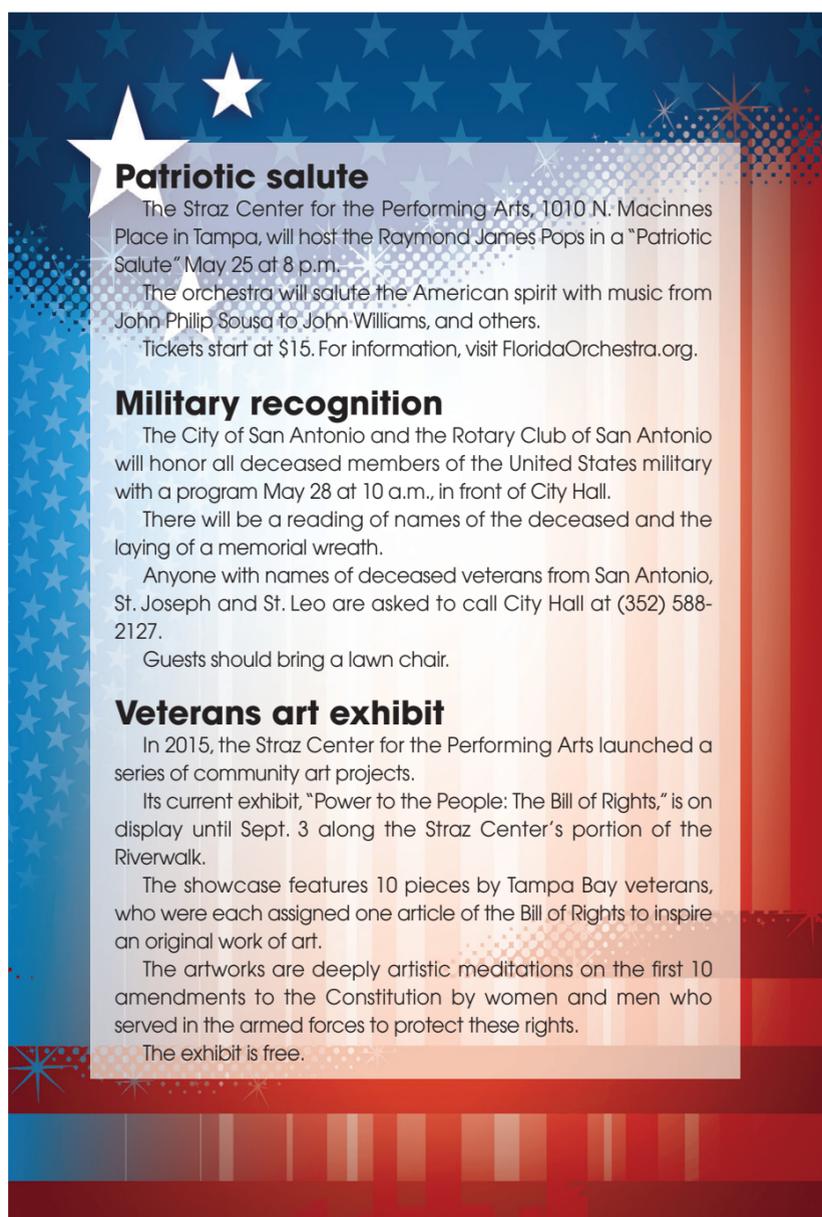
The New River Library, 34043 State Road 54 in Wesley Chapel, will celebrate the end of the school year with a summer breakfast May 26 at 11 a.m. There will be waffles (with lots of toppings), fruit, pastries and juice. For information, call (813) 788-6375.

WATER SAFETY DAY

Florida Elite Swimming will host a Water Safety Day May 26 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Land O' Lakes Recreation Complex, 3032 Collier Parkway. There will be water safety tips, a free open swim, games, swim lesson information and more. The pool will open for regular open swim from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., after the event. For information, email lorenmmacdonald@gmail.com.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY FILM

Cobb Grove 16 Theatres, 6333 Wesley Grove Blvd., in Wesley Chapel, will show "Solo: A Star Wars Story" May 26 at 10 a.m., in a sensory-friendly format. The auditorium will have brighter lights and



Patriotic salute

The Straz Center for the Performing Arts, 1010 N. Macinnes Place in Tampa, will host the Raymond James Pops in a "Patriotic Salute" May 25 at 8 p.m.

The orchestra will salute the American spirit with music from John Philip Sousa to John Williams, and others.

Tickets start at \$15. For information, visit FloridaOrchestra.org.

Military recognition

The City of San Antonio and the Rotary Club of San Antonio will honor all deceased members of the United States military with a program May 28 at 10 a.m., in front of City Hall.

There will be a reading of names of the deceased and the laying of a memorial wreath.

Anyone with names of deceased veterans from San Antonio, St. Joseph and St. Leo are asked to call City Hall at (352) 588-2127.

Guests should bring a lawn chair.

Veterans art exhibit

In 2015, the Straz Center for the Performing Arts launched a series of community art projects.

Its current exhibit, "Power to the People: The Bill of Rights," is on display until Sept. 3 along the Straz Center's portion of the Riverwalk.

The showcase features 10 pieces by Tampa Bay veterans, who were each assigned one article of the Bill of Rights to inspire an original work of art.

The artworks are deeply artistic meditations on the first 10 amendments to the Constitution by women and men who served in the armed forces to protect these rights.

The exhibit is free.

the sound level turned down. Guests can dance and sing without the worry of disturbing others. Tickets will be available in person only the Wednesday prior to the show. For information, visit CobbTheatres.com/grove16.aspx.

ARTSY MARKET

Brooksville Main Street will host a "Un-Common-Ly Artsy" event May 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the City of Brooksville Uptown Art Gallery, 201 Howell Ave. There will be fine artists, crafters and makers, as well as food trucks. For information, visit Un-Common-Ly Artsy on Facebook.

GULFSIDE SHOPS SALE

All six Gulfside Hospice thrift shops will offer a 25-percent-off storewide sale on Memorial Day, May 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds benefit support care for hospice patients in Pasco County. For a list of locations, visit GHPPC.org.

ESSENTIAL OILS

The Land O' Lakes Library, 2818 Collier Parkway, will host "Springtime with Essential Oils" May 29 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The class will include a PowerPoint presentation on spring gardening, cooking recipes, diffuser blends and more. Guests can make a cleaning spray to take home. Registration and a signed liability waiver are required. For information, call (813) 929-1214.

READING CLUB KICKOFF

The Land O' Lakes Library, 2818 Collier Parkway, will host a Summer Reading Club Kickoff for kindergarten through third grade May 30 at 10 a.m., and at 2 p.m., with a presentation from Giving Tree Music. For information, call (813) 929-1214.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay will host an orientation session May 29 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., at Wesley Chapel Honda, 277750 Wesley Chapel Blvd., for anyone interested in becoming a mentor or volunteer. For information, contact Deb Kristo-Irwin at (813) 997-6881 or DebK@bbbstampabay.org.

STEAMPUNK JEWELRY

The Land O' Lakes Library, 2818 Collier Parkway, will offer a class on steampunk jewelry May 30 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guests can make a pendant or earrings inspired by a hot air balloon. Registration and a signed liability waiver are required. For information, call (813) 929-1214.

GUVERN FUNDRAISER

Lutz Gubern candidate Domenic Difante will host a fundraiser May 31 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at Panini's Bar and Grill, 3973 Van Dyke Road in Lutz. There will be music and karaoke, corn hole, jumbo Jenga, jumbo Connect Four, beer pong and more. Wristbands for "Kill the Keg" are \$15. For information, call (813) 962-3479.

TECHHIRE INFO

CareerSource will present "TechHire" May 31 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St., in Dade City, for anyone that wants to learn about careers in technology, including free training and paid internships. For information, call (352) 567-3476.

CLASSIC & CARD GAMES

The Land O' Lakes Library, 2818 Collier Parkway, will offer classic board games, card games or challenging video games, for adults, May 31 from 10 a.m. to noon. Refreshments will be provided by Friends of the Land O' Lakes Library. For information, call (813) 929-1214.

FARM ACTIVITIES

Sweetfields Farm, 17250 Benes Roush Road in Masaryktown, will again showcase its 'living labyrinth' — a sunflower maze — on weekends during the month of May from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturdays and Sundays (last admission on farm grounds is at 3 p.m.) The maze also will be open Memorial Day, May 28. Admission is \$9.50 plus tax for age 12 and older; \$5 plus tax for ages 3 to 11; and free for age 2 and younger. No pets are allowed. This is an outside activity, and subject to close if weather is severe. No rain checks or refunds. For information, call (352) 279-0977, or visit SweetfieldsFarm.com.

VIOLIN CLASSES

The Florida Orchestra will offer free group violin classes and other musical experiences to eligible at-risk children and teens, ages 6 to 19, in Hillsborough County, in partnership with the University Area Community Development Corporation's Prodigy Cultural Arts Program. The free lessons will be offered June through September at select locations. The orchestra also will offer the Instrument Petting Zoo, which gives students the opportunity to see, touch and play instruments. For information, visit UACDC.org/prodigy.

MAHJONG CLUB

The Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St., in Dade City, will host a Mahjong Club June 1 from 10 a.m. to noon, for all skill levels. Bring your own set, or use a library set. For information, call (352) 567-3576.

Z BOOK CLUB

The Z Book Club will meet at the Zephyrhills Public Library, 5347 Eighth St., June 1 at 3 p.m., to discuss "The Rules of Magic" by Alice Hoffman. For information, call (813) 780-0064.

RAIN HARVEST WORKSHOP

UF/IFAS Pasco Extension will offer a rain harvesting workshop June 2 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., at the Stallings Building, 15029 14th St., in Dade City. Participants can learn how a rain barrel collects and stores water that runs off a roof, and how to prevent it from picking up pollutants and washing them into creeks and streams. The session costs \$40 and is for Pasco County residents only. One rain barrel per family. Registration is required by visiting tinyurl.com/y7vdloq9.

FAMILY SING-ALONG

The Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St., in Dade City, will host a family movie sing-along June 2 at 2 p.m., for ages 12 and younger, with an adult. A popular musical movie will be shown. For information, call (352) 567-3576.

INNOVATION GRANTS

Hunter Brooks Watson Memorial Fund is accepting grant applications for any young person, ages 16 to 25. The applicant must have an enthusiasm and passion for an innovative idea or project, and must be working and developing new ideas in areas such as music, the performing arts, technology and entrepreneurship. The grants, up to \$5,000 each, are not scholarships for academic studies, but financial support for assist innovative young people in bringing ideas and projects to fruition. The current application deadline is June 15. For information, visit hunterwatson.org/grants.

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Fri, May 25 - Mon, May 28

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Fourth Custom Home Underway At Exclusive Carencia In Odessa

One of Tampa Bay's most exclusive private communities, Carencia by Bayfair Homes in Odessa, has begun construction of its fourth million-dollar-plus home.

"The momentum is building at Carencia," said Ryan Dougherty, Bayfair's vice president of sales and marketing.

"Our newest home to start construction on is located on Lake Pretty, and has over 5,000 square feet of living area, with splendid views of this beautiful lake from virtually every room. The family that chose Bayfair to build their lakefront home worked with our team of professionals to ensure the design of their home suited their needs and tastes."

Carencia is a 58-acre gated enclave of 18 homes located between Lake Pretty and Lake Politz, just west of Gunn Highway. The community offers almost impossible-to-find waterfront lots with private docks on 84-acre Lake Pretty — a large, private ski lake that has no public access.

It also encompasses tranquil Lake Politz, a smaller spring-fed lake perfect for fishing, canoeing and kayaking. It also is ideal for families wanting waterfront living in a more serene setting, since no motorized boats are permitted on the lake.

"All of our waterfront lots provide stunning views of open water with natural shorelines and cypress trees that support abundant wildlife," said Dougherty.



The community also has wooded lots with water views — most with stands of mature hardwoods, including laurel oaks and even a massive live oak that is over 100 years old. All Carencia homes provide exceptional privacy and are built on sites that are an acre or larger.

"This land is unbelievably beautiful, tucked away in rural Odessa, and just minutes from excellent schools, and great entertainment and shopping, including Westfield Citrus Park Mall," said Dougherty. "Plus, Carencia is just a five-minute bike ride away from the Upper Tampa Bay Trail."

Homes in Carencia, including the lot, begin at \$1 million and start at 3,500 square feet. Sales began last

fall, and already several homes are under construction or in the design process. The first families to build in the community will move in later this year.

"The most personal expression of one's success is building a beautiful home for yourself and your family," said Dougherty. "And, when it's time to move up to the home of their dreams, families are finding that Carencia is the perfect community for them."

Carencia is also unique as a luxury home community because its developer is also the builder of its homes.

"This is 100 percent a Bayfair Homes community, which means we are overseeing every step in its development and construction, so

that 100 percent of Carencia's vision is fulfilled," said Dougherty.

"Every home we build will contribute to the community's luxurious and exclusive streetscape, and all will boast the fine details and high-end finishes that Bayfair is known for as a premier builder," he adds.

Bayfair Homes has a long history of building luxury homes in Odessa and Lutz. It built many estate homes in Keystone Shores and Stillwater between 1998 and 2005, and also developed New Floresta and Haven Bend in Tampa's Lake Magdalene area, along with several on-your-lot locations.

In addition to Carencia, Bayfair Homes is also building lakefront homes in Oak Reserve, a 10-home Lutz community located close to Avila, as well as water and non-waterfront custom homes in South Tampa.

Because of its custom quality construction and premier finishes, Bayfair Homes builds just 12 to 15 homes a year — or about 450 custom homes total since the company was founded 30 years ago. It has been locally owned and operated since it was established, and is one of few custom builders to provide an experienced architecture and design team on staff, as well as in-house warranty experts.

For more information about Carencia and Bayfair Homes, call (813) 906-1000, or go to Bayfair.com. Carencia is located off Gunn Highway in Odessa, about a mile south of North Mobley Road, and then east on Copeland Road another half mile.



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LAKEFRONT LIVING



Bayfair Custom Homes is proud to offer just 18 luxurious estate homes in Carencia, with each residence built on a minimum of one acre. Set against the scenic backdrop of 84+ acre skiable Lake Pretty and 12+ acre Lake Politz, the majority of homes will have lakefront views.

Each home will be custom designed and built by Bayfair's renowned team of artisans, with a range of architectural styles offered to support a distinctive and luxurious streetscape as you drive through the community.

THE BENEFITS OF BUILDING A CUSTOM HOME

Each home in Carencia will be custom designed to take advantage of the lake views, trees, or other features unique to your selected homesite. Also, each owner will have the opportunity to tailor the design to suit their needs and work with Bayfair's professional team to ensure the design finishes match your preferences.

Bayfair has been designing and building fine custom homes throughout the Tampa Bay area, with over 400 custom homes built since 1989.



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Availability, pricing and other information contained on this page are subject to change without notice. Homesites in Carencia are offered for sale in conjunction with a home to be built by Bayfair Properties, LLC. This is not an offer where prohibited by law. © 2017. All rights reserved. Carencia, LLC and Bayfair Quality Builders, LLC. License #CBC049006.



Located off Gunn Highway in Odessa, approximately one mile south of North Mobley Road, and then east on Copeland Road another a half mile.
16000 Carencia Lane, Odessa, Florida 33556

Protect The Birds In Your Yard

One of the best parts of backyard living is the fun your family can have watching birds at your feeders.

But did you know your home poses dangerous risks to birds that visit your yard and garden? Unfortunately, window strikes are common among many species of birds, and millions are killed annually flying into windows.

Whether you are an avid amateur ornithologist, or just a casual observer, you can help by taking precautions at your home.

Because birds can see certain light frequencies that humans cannot, you can do things to your windows to make them visible to birds, but won't obstruct your own view. And, this can be done as a simple home project completed in just an afternoon.

Try applying UV decals and

UV liquid to your home's windows and sliding glass doors. Those from WindowAlert, for example, effectively alter the flight path of birds to prevent window strikes.

While the coating will look like etched glass to the human eye, it will look very visible to a bird.

"Turning your home into a refuge for birds is a simple way to save lives and protect the creatures that beautify your yard," says Spencer Schock, founder of WindowAlert, who also recommends planting trees, shrubs and flowers that provide birds with nourishment and shelter.

"It's easy to be a better friend to birds by taking a few simple measures in your home and garden," said Schock.

Courtesy StatePoint Media



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2113 W FORE DR, TAMPA, FL 33612
FANTASTIC LOCATION! 4 bedroom, 3 bath POOL home with 1,892 sq ft. This home features a light and bright front living room and spacious kitchen with eat in/dining space. The large family room offers French doors to the screened patio. The expansive open lanai offers plenty of room to relax and enjoy your sparkling oversized pool with separate spa. This home is situated on a large lot with mature landscaping and also features a storage building. Priced at \$300,000. Contact Holly Ruhlig at 813-240-6768



0 HIDEOUT TRAIL, LAND O LAKES, FL 34639
Absolutely beautiful corner lot with SKI LAKE access! Bring your own builder! Great opportunity to build your dream home on this peaceful 1.02 acre lot with access through the gated community of Outlaw Lake Estates. This property does not have HOA dues, CDD fees or deed restrictions. Access to 40+ acre ski lake with community boat ramp. Priced at \$85,000. Contact Holly Ruhlig at 813-240-6768



3004 MARBLE CREST DR, LAND O LAKES, FL 34638
Welcome home to this beautiful Southern Crafted Homes, Boca Grande Model, located in the gated community of Stonegate. This spacious 3298 sqft, 3 car garage home boasts 4 bedrooms with walk in closets, 3 full bathrooms, formal living room, dining room, and an open concept eat in kitchen / family room combination with surround sound and a natural gas fireplace. Huge second story bonus room. The beautiful, sparkling pool will keep you cooled off in the summer while enjoying your amazing views of the pond and expansive treed greenspace within the community. The pool has a spill over spa and both the spa and pool are solar heated for year round enjoyment. The additional outdoor living space is pre-plumbed with water, electric, and gas for you to create your dream outdoor kitchen. Priced at \$449,900. Contact Heather Patierno at 813-833-7804



8107 MILLWOOD DR, BAYONET POINT, FL 34667
Welcome Home! This bright, beautiful 3 BR 2 BA home with 2,384 sq ft, in sought after Millwood Village, is ready to move into! The split floor plan features a huge Master Bedroom Suite that includes a 16 x 12 master bath with a garden tub and separate shower as well as an additional bonus sitting room/office that is 13x9, and sliding doors to the pool and lanai. All bedrooms feature walk in closets for plenty of storage. Enjoy dining in your formal dining room with a bay window or take it out to your screened in patio and lounge in your beautiful 14x28 pool! Your kitchen features plenty of cabinet space and a large nook for dining. This home has been newly painted both inside and out and meticulously maintained! Priced at \$233,900. Contact Linda Ruhlig at 813-494-5433



8208 LAGERFELD DR, LAND O LAKES, FL 34637
Move in ready!!! Don't wait, this beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,845 sq ft home is freshly painted inside, overlooking scenic pond with no backyard neighbors. The Screened porch overlooking the pond is partially covered with a birdcage screen and has brick pavers. The kitchen has new countertops and new appliances in December 2017. The kitchen opens to the greatroom with the view of the pond. The LARGE master bedroom has new laminate wood floors, large master closet and master bathroom with dual vanities and a garden tub. Priced at \$235,900. Contact Stephanie Meid at 813-695-0234.



24023 HIDEOUT TRL, LAND O LAKES, FL 34639
Lakefront lot on private Outlaw Lake! 1.49 acre lot in the community of Outlaw Lake Estates, with 37 lots, all are one to two acres. Skiing, PWC, kayaking, paddleboarding allowed on this 40+ acre lake. Minimum sqft is 2,400 single story, 2,800 two story, no minimum "to build" time. Priced at \$120,000. Contact Stephanie Meid at 813-695-0234

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Bearss Landing Townhomes Opening This Summer

One of north Tampa's most desirable locations on Bearss Avenue, located just west of North Boulevard, is the site of a new townhome community being built by Meritage Homes.

Opening this summer, Bearss Landing will be a community of 115 townhomes on the north side of Bearss Avenue, positioned between Buchanan Middle School and Carrollwood Day School.

"There is a huge demand for affordable new construction in north Tampa, and Bearss Landing will be perfect for families looking for a spacious home with quick access to USF, downtown Tampa, and all the shopping and dining in Carrollwood," said Chris Ryan, division president of Meritage Homes for Tampa.

In addition to being just five minutes from Interstate 275, floor plans developed for Bearss Landing are uniquely designed for families and young adults buying their first home.

Six floor plans will be available, ranging from 1,756 to 2,378 square feet. Every plan has a covered patio, two-car garage, three bedrooms and two-and-a-half baths. The first floor has a half bath, and two full baths are upstairs, along with the master bedroom and two additional bedrooms. Some floor plans have a downstairs flex room that can be used as an office, dining room, playroom or library.

"It is very unusual for a townhome community to provide two-car garages for every home," said Ryan. "But, our research shows that just about everyone buying a home wants a two-car garage, so we made sure that was a standard feature."

Bearss Landing is planning to open two models homes, the Fremont and Burbank, in July. Prices are expected to begin in the high \$200s.

"Energy efficiency is another fea-



ture that new homebuyers identify as important," said Ryan. "Meritage seamlessly builds energy efficiency into every home, which means homeowner will save up to 50 percent on their utility bills."

Meritage Homes, which has designed and built over 100,000 homes in its 32-year history, is the industry leader in energy-efficient homebuilding and has received the ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year for Sustained-Excellence Award for the sixth consecutive year.

Bearss Landings also offers upscale amenities, including a gated, landscaped entrance, and large

community pool and cabanas. Amenities are under construction and will be ready for the community's first homeowners.

The schools zoned for the community are Lake Magdalene Elementary, Adams Middle and Chamberlain High. For families looking for private schools, Carrollwood Day School is next door, and offers classes for children from preschool through high school. Further west on Bearss Avenue is Hillel Academy, Tampa's only accredited Jewish day school, with classes for preschoolers through eighth grade.

About Bearss Landing

NEW CONSTRUCTION

- 115 Townhomes
- 1,756 to 2,378 square feet
- 6 unique floor plans
- Attached 2-car garages
- 3 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths
- 5 minutes to I-275
- 10 minutes to Carrollwood
- Gated, landscaped entrance
- Community pool and cabanas
- Models opening summer 2018

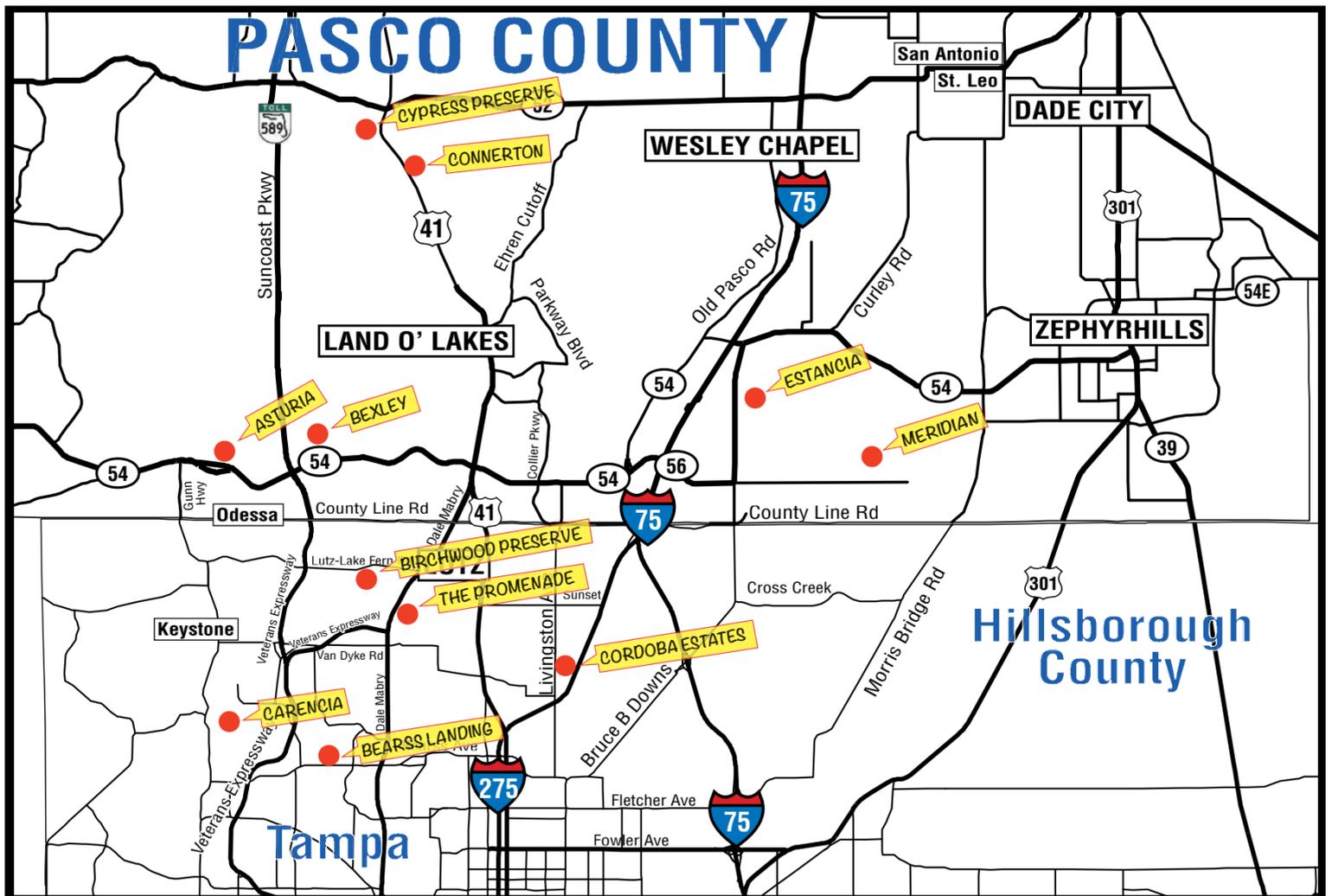
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Builders in blue appear in today's Home Section

Birchwood Preserve in Lutz Opens Phase II

It has only been a year since Pulte Homes opened Birchwood Preserve in Lutz, and there has been so much demand that the community's second phase is opening ahead of schedule this summer.

"Since we opened our sales center last May, we've sold close to 80 homes out of 120 available in our first phase," said Vince Kuntz, Pulte's sales consultant in the community. "The demand has been so good, that we've sold most of our 60-foot home sites in our Elite home series, and have a waiting list of buyers wanting larger lots in our second phase."

Birchwood Preserve's second phase offers another 76 home sites, many with conservation and water views. Like the first phase, 60-foot lots are reserved for homes with three-car garages, and 50-foot lots for homes with two-car garages.

The community's second phase is also introducing Pulte's Classic series of homes, which are designed to be more affordable, with prices beginning at \$310,000 for 1,851 square feet.

"Homes in our Classic series meet Pulte's high quality standards, but offer finishes that are less expensive to make homes more affordable, especially for first-time homebuyers," said Kuntz. "By comparison, homes in our Signature series on 50-foot lots begin at \$333,990 for 1,904 square feet."

Birchwood Preserve's new Classic series has eight floor plans, ranging from 1,851 to 4,274 square feet. Pulte is building a new model home for its Classic series, the 2,855 square-foot Citrus Grove. This two-story home offers 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2.5 to 3 baths, an owner's suite on the first floor and a large game room upstairs.

"This is very much a family community, and our large, two-story homes are most in demand," said Kuntz. "Our most popular floor plans are those with four and five bedrooms with over 3,000 square feet of living area."

Birchwood Preserve's biggest draw is its outstanding A-rated schools. It is



the only new, single-family home community in Lutz that is zoned to all three schools at the highly desirable public school complex on Lutz Lake Fern Road — Steinbrenner High, Martinez Middle and McKitrick Elementary.

"When people walk in the door at our sales center, the first question they ask is about our schools, and 95-percent of the time, when they learn all grades are assigned to these A-rated schools, they are sold," said Kuntz. "Nothing is more important to our buyers than being zoned to some of the best schools in Hillsborough County."

Kuntz adds that while other new, single-family home communities in the area may be zoned to Steinbrenner High, none are also zoned to top-rated Martinez Middle and McKitrick Elementary.

"We even have families with babies moving here, because in a few years they want their child to go to McKitrick," said Kuntz.

After schools, the second top reason families are choosing Birchwood Preserve is because of the communi-

ty's convenient location, a half mile west of Dale Mabry Highway and just south of Sunlake Boulevard where Geraci Road dead-ends.

"We're less than two miles from the Veterans Expressway, and just as close to St. Joseph's Hospital-North, and all the grocery, dining and retail on Van Dyke Road," said Kuntz. "With our quick access to the Veterans, it's easy to get to Tampa International Airport, the Westshore Business District, International Plaza and the Gulf Coast beaches."

Homeowners in Birchwood Preserve share a fabulous amenity center in the heart of the community. This facility is already built and includes a resort-style swimming pool with cabanas and hammocks, a multi-purpose clubhouse with kitchen, and a children's exploration climbing dome playground with swing set and other discovery play equipment.

"Birchwood Preserve already has an active family lifestyle with many things to do for families with children of all ages," said Kuntz. "Our residents quickly connect with one another, and have organized playgroups and their

own online community network."

When built out, Birchwood Preserve will have just 196 homes. Because of its small size, there is no CDD. Owners help support a beautifully landscaped gated entrance and the amenity center with an affordable HOA.

Most buyers are coming from surrounding neighborhoods in Lutz and Carrollwood, as well as Westchase and Citrus Park.

With its new second phase, Birchwood Preserve will offer a total of 18 unique single-family models, which range from 1,851 to 4,600 square feet, and offer three to six bedrooms, two to six bathrooms and two- or three-car garages.

Pulte's Sales Center at Birchwood Preserve is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Please stop by to visit Kuntz and his associate, Amanda Barningham, at 18709 Birchwood Groves Drive, Lutz, Florida 33558.

They can be reached at (813) 804-5705. You can also visit the website at Pulte.com/birchwoodpreserve.



Have You Finished All of Your Back-to-School Shopping? Your New Home Awaits at Birchwood Preserve in Lutz



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First Year Successes at Bexley Elementary

This Friday, 104 fifth-graders will graduate from Bexley Elementary in Land O' Lakes, capping off an outstanding first year for the new school.

"I'm amazed at how fast this school year has gone by," said Principal Vicki Wolin. "We're so proud of our first graduating class, and excited about the many accomplishments achieved this year by our students, staff and parents."

Wolin identified four successes she is particularly proud of.

1. Established a chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society for fourth- and fifth-graders. Students were invited to apply, and 40 were selected based on their application, grades and citizenship efforts.

Along with the support of their teams, two teachers co-chaired this initiative; fifth-grade teacher Cynthia Zimmerman and fourth-grade teacher Katlyn Gamble.

"Not all elementary schools have National Honor Society, and our co-chairs did a great job making this happen," said Wolin. "Establishing a chapter in our first year was important because we wanted to emphasize that the academic achievement of our students is a primary focus."

2. Organized a Safety Patrol Program for fifth-graders, with 25 youngsters selected, based on teacher recommendations, academics and good citizenship.

"Our safety patrol students monitor school activities, help out in the car loop and assist other students throughout the campus," said Wolin. "They are our goodwill ambassadors who exemplify our school rules— Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe."

3. Recognized by the Florida Department of Education with a Golden School Award for promoting parent and community involvement. The award requires that the total number of volunteer hours equals twice the number of students enrolled at a school.

Bexley volunteers far surpassed this



Bexley Elementary Principal Vicki Wolin talks with first-grader Andrew Fowler and his brother, kindergartner Robert Fowler.

number, logging over 3,000 volunteer hours, or twice the number of hours required, based on its student population of 715.

4. Established a Parent Teacher Organization to plan and support the school's Booster-thon and Spring Carnival fundraisers.

"Our PTO was very involved, especially for a new school," Wolin said. "Its fund-raising activities contributed to our outdoor beautification program with benches and umbrellas, and also supported our technology fund that we use to purchase iPads and laptops."

Wolin, who previously was principal for 14 years at Seven Springs Elementary in New Port Richey, was appointed Bexley's principal in January 2017, eight months before the school opened.

"It was an incredible learning experience to be part of the school from the ground up," said Wolin. "It allowed me to be proactive, and plan ahead to put in place the processes and procedures needed for the school."

Designed for 900 students, Bexley is the largest elementary school in physical size in Pasco County. It ends the

school year with 715 students, and is expecting an enrollment of 800 for the 2018-19 school year.

Much of this student growth is coming from children in primary grades, especially kindergartners.

"We had 120 children at our spring kindergarten roundup, and are growing from four kindergarten classes at the beginning of this year to eight classes next year," Wolin said.

The doubling of its kindergarten class is reflective of the many families moving into Bexley, the master-planned community where the school is located.

Newland Communities, the developer of Bexley, anticipates selling 150 new homes a year in its community — many to families with young children. Newland will be building for several years, with an anticipated build out of 3,500 homes.

In addition, two large apartment communities are opening close to Bexley Elementary that will have many families with school-aged children — Lakeside Walk at Bexley with 300 apartments, and Mystic Pointe with 262.

"With so much growth at Bexley and



About Bexley Elementary

- 726 students; projected 800 next August
- Principal Vicki Wolin — 30-year Pasco educator
- 84 employees, including 39 teachers
- First graduating class — 104 fifth-graders
- Golden School Award for over 3,000 volunteer hours
- School Mission: Believe. Engage. Succeed. Every Bulldog! Every Day!
- Located on 18 acres donated by Newland Communities

the surrounding area, we expect to be at our 900-student capacity within two years," said Wolin. "We also are seeing lots of local children transferring from charter schools to Bexley, and many families relocating from outside the state to Pasco County."

Bexley Elementary is built on 18 acres donated by Newland Communities. And, because of the generosity of this developer, there is room to construct an additional building on the school site in the future.

John Petrashek, director of construction services for Pasco schools, has praised Newland Communities for being "tremendous partners." He explains that Newland ensured that the site was large enough to meet the district's needs, and also made sure that needed infrastructure was available.

"We know that access to good schools is so important for families with kids, particularly when shopping for a new home," said Pam Parisi, vice president of marketing for Newland Communities.

"That's why we're thrilled to have Bexley Elementary School located right within the community. Parents and kids love the convenience of being able to walk or ride their bikes to school."



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Living The Dream In Connerton

Homebuyer preferences are constantly evolving, no matter the age of buyers. The days of formal living and dining rooms have changed into great rooms and family living centers. Luckily, most buyers - regardless of age - are looking for the same features in a community.

A recent study by the National Association of Home Builders revealed that although priority rankings vary slightly between generations, different age groups actually have very similar tastes in what they want in a new home community.

Among the top four most-desired amenities, three were the same for every age group — the desire to live in a suburban community, close proximity to parks and access to walking/jogging trails. The fourth most popular desire is an outdoor, resort-style pool.

The community of Connerton provides all of these amenities for its residents, plus a host of activities that allows them to meet neighbors and enjoy a healthy lifestyle. At Connerton, you will find carefully planned parks and green spaces, a paved trail system within the community and a natural, unpaved trail system in the 3,000-acre Conner Preserve.

Adding to its suburban appeal, many home sites are located on conservation, ponds and lakes. Club Connerton features a resort-style pool, special activities and vacation camps for kids, and an award-winning staff that was recently recognized by the NAHB as its Gold Award Winner for Best Lifestyle Program in the Nation.

Connerton's suburban setting includes convenient shopping at the community's entrance at The Arbors Village Center. This busy shopping center is anchored by Publix Super Market, and also offers banking, restaurants, hair and nail salons, a pool store, a liquor store, insurance agencies, a UPS store, pet grooming and a veterinarian clinic. Across the street is a Walgreens drugstore.



According to the NAHB study, top amenities buyers want are:

1. Suburban setting
2. Parks and green spaces
3. Paved trail systems for walking, jogging and biking
4. Outdoor, resort-style pools
5. Exercise rooms and equipment
6. Village centers with retail services and restaurants
7. Lakes and ponds
8. Natural, unpaved trail systems for walking and hiking

CONNERTON RESIDENTS TELL THEIR STORIES

Today's homebuyers have many choices when looking for a new home community, so we asked some of our residents why they chose Connerton.

Katie and Andrew Ebendick moved to Connerton because they found it to be a family oriented community with lots of activities for adults, as well as children.

When Stephanie and Stephen

Adcock began looking for a place to raise their children, they drove from the Citrus Park area and let their children play at the Connerton Cove playground. There they met a neighbor who was out playing with his own children, and he told them how much he loved the neighborhood.

Stephanie Adcock, who is also a Realtor, had this comment. "It has been nine years since we made the decision to join the peaceful Connerton community, and we have never regretted our choice. The friends that we have made are priceless and have made raising a family of four children a beautiful experience. I am never without a helping hand, and my children and I have made many friendships that will last a lifetime."

Danielle Ludwig and her family moved to Connerton in 2016. "The reason we chose Connerton over anything else was the pool, the events that are hosted and the amenities. We looked at other communities, and at the time, there were no other communities around like Connerton."

The Allenbaughs fell in love with the fact Connerton had the

Norman Rockwell look about it, and just the whole feel of the community. And, the Becwar family agrees, saying they felt that Connerton had that hometown, American feel that they really liked. They also thought the Clubhouse was great, and the people just absolutely fabulous!

SEE FOR YOURSELF

Connerton is not just another community — it's a New Town, a lifestyle and place where hundreds of families have made their new home. With 77 percent of residents moving from within the Tampa Bay area, and another 6 percent relocating from other parts of Florida, Connerton has truly become the premiere community of central Pasco County.

So please stop by, take a tour of the Clubhouse and visit the model homes offered by M/I Homes, Lennar, Inland and Homes by WestBay. You may just decide to stay for a lifetime.

Connerton is located approximately six miles north of the intersection of State Road 54 and U.S. 41 in Land O' Lakes. For more information, visit Connerton.com.



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Cornerstone's New Warehouse Is All About Customer Service

Like many service businesses, Cornerstone Air Conditioning, Plumbing & Electrical had a plan in place in case of a hurricane. So when Irma struck Tampa Bay last September, owner Dana Spears believed her company was ready.

Her fleet of 35 trucks and 65 employees were prepared to help customers get back up and running after power outages and flooding. But, a shortage of air conditioning units, generators and service parts hindered Cornerstone's goal of 100 percent customer satisfaction, because they could not get some of the equipment and parts they needed.

"We had to rely on our distributors, and when they couldn't get product from the manufacturers, we were stuck, too," said Spears. "Getting generators was the worst — the manufacturers were backlogged for two and three months, and we had to wait like everyone else."

That situation was unacceptable to Spears, who takes pride in her company's commitment to fast, expert service and outstanding customer care.

"I realized after Irma that we needed a larger warehouse so we could stock more of our own supplies and equipment," said Spears. "I didn't want to go through another storm season depending on our suppliers, worrying if they would be able to fill our orders."

So began Spears' plan to build a 6,000-square-foot warehouse next to her existing building on U.S. 41 in Land O' Lakes. And, just eight months after Irma left its mark, Cornerstone will soon be opening its new warehouse.

"We will be fully ready for hurricane season this year," said Spears. "We are investing over \$100,000 in generators, water tanks and air conditioning units, plus thousands more in an expanded parts inventory, all to be stocked in our new



warehouse. This is a huge commitment for our company, and we're doing it to make sure we have all the supplies needed to take care of our customers."

Cornerstone's new warehouse will store air conditioning units of all sizes and seer levels, and stock more high-demand service items for its air conditioning, electrical and plumbing operations. It will also stock portable and permanent generators of all sizes, including whole-house systems by Generac.

The new warehouse will also allow Cornerstone to field more service and maintenance calls, because technicians will no longer need to drive to supplier warehouses and wait for parts to be loaded on their trucks.

"Every morning our vans will be fully stocked with everything our technicians need, which means on most calls, we will be able to solve a customer's problem on the first visit," said Spears. "And, because our trucks will be more fully stocked, we will become a more efficient service

operation that will result in even better customer service."

The warehouse will also allow Cornerstone to buy some items in bulk, often at reduced prices, and expand the number of inventory items it carries.

"The savings we see from bulk purchasing will be passed along to customers after we are fully stocked," said Spears.

Cornerstone was founded in 2006 as an air conditioning service company. It moved to its 4-acre site on Land O' Lakes Boulevard in 2011, and the following year added plumbing services. In 2014, it expanded again with electrical services.

Spears credits her company's growth to its commitment to outstanding customer service, and also because its employees exemplify her company's values.

"We hire people who are genuine, honest, trustworthy, clean-cut, and live their life with good ethics and morals," said Spears. "Most employees are local people who live in our

service area, and they are very committed to their work and community."

The company has developed its own training program for employees to become certified in its trade areas. Fifteen employees have successfully completed these training programs, receiving numerous industry certifications, and now work as highly skilled tradesmen. Currently, three employees are enrolled in the Cornerstone training program.

"We're always looking for eager, hardworking men and women with a good attitude and mechanical aptitude," Spears says. "We're successful because we've built our business on reputation and trust, which begins by hiring great people."

Cornerstone phones are answered 24/7, and technicians are available around the clock, including weekends and holidays. Call (813) 949-4445 anytime, day or night. For more information, visit their website at CornerstonePros.com.

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Minaca Family Loves Its Ashton Woods Home in Asturia

Many factors led the Minaca family to buy an Ashton Woods home in Asturia.

"We wanted a home where I could picture my family cooking together in the kitchen, and one that would be perfect for holiday celebrations," said Nicole Minaca.

When Nicole and her 16-year-old son, Jordan, walked through Ashton Woods' Elm model, they knew they had found just the place.

"We both loved it the minute we walked in the door," said Nicole.

In addition to a floor plan that worked well for the family of four, the home was also located in Asturia, the family's first choice among the many master-planned communities along the State Road 54 corridor.

"Asturia's developer did a very nice job laying out the streets so it doesn't look like a cookie-cutter community," said Chris Minaca. "We liked how different builders are intermingled – Ashton Woods homes placed next to homes built by David Weekly Homes and ICI Homes. That's something you don't typically find."

Chris and Nicole were looking for a larger home for their family, which includes two teenagers. The two-story Elm model gave the family lots of space, plus it was located on a corner lot with a spacious side yard they could fence for their two large dogs.

"We just loved the openness of the floor plan, and how nicely the rooms flowed for our family," adds Nicole. "Plus, there is so much storage!"

In addition, the Minacas appreciated the Elm's floor plan that puts the garage at the rear of the home.

"It was actually our 16-year-old son, Jordan, who pointed out that our family would soon have four drivers," said Chris. "This house gives us plenty of parking in the back, as well as parking in front of the house."

Jordan and his 15-year-old sister, Brooke, are students at J.W. Mitchell High School in New Port Richey, and



The Minaca family in front of their new Ashton Woods home in Asturia: 16-year-old Jordan, Nicole, Chris and 15-year-old Brooke.

the kids wanted to stay at Mitchell if they moved.

"It was very important that the community we moved to was zoned for Mitchell," said Chris. "That was one of the most important reasons why Asturia was such a desirable community for us."

The family also liked the community because their new home was located across from Asturia's Amenity Center.

"We couldn't be any closer to the gym and pool," said Chris. "Plus, we like the unique, modern look of the Amenity Center and the open park area that surrounds it."

Before moving to their new Ashton Woods home in March, the family lived in Trinity's Longleaf community. They decided to list their Longleaf house in February, and it sold within a few weeks.

"Our house sold much faster than we thought it would, which meant we did not have time to go through the building process," said Nicole. "We had already met Allen Johnson at Ashton Woods in Asturia, and he was very kind and informative. So when our home sold so quickly, Allen



showed us several inventory homes, and we fell in love with the Elm model."

Allen Johnson, Ashton Woods' community sales manager, has worked in Asturia since the community opened two-and-a-half years ago.

"People like how our homes are not on top of each other, with a minimum of 15 feet between homes," said Johnson. "Buyers also like that Asturia is a smaller community of just 550 homes, and that construction will not be going on for years."

Johnson adds that Asturia's lower CDD and HOA fees, especially when

compared to other planned communities, is attractive to many families. The CDD is between \$1,600 and \$2,100 a year, and its HOA is just \$76 a year.

Ashton Woods offers affordable, beautifully finished, inventory homes beginning at \$279,990 in its charming Grove and Evergreen series of alley-load homes. These spacious, one and two-story homes have over 2,000-square feet of living area and feature three to four bedrooms, two to three baths and two-car garages. Three quick-sale homes are available in three floor plans.

"To get into Asturia for under \$300,000 in a 2,000 plus-square-foot home is an excellent opportunity for someone wanting a new home with top-quality construction and premier home finishes," said John Reny, Florida president for Ashton Woods, the nation's largest privately held homebuilder.

In addition to its alley-load homes, Ashton Woods also has six inventory homes available in traditional floor plans with the garage in front of the house, on 55- and 65-foot home sites.

"Our goal is to always have a good supply of quick move-in homes in every price range, because so many families need to move fast," said Reny. "Many buyers have sold their existing home sooner than expected, or they are renting and do not want to renew their lease while a new home is being built."

Ashton Woods is known for its commitment to personalized design, and every home comes with the same standards of top-quality construction and finishes. It was named the 2017 Builder of the Year by Builder and Developer Magazine, and for the fourth consecutive year, was ranked among the top three for Most Trusted Builders in America.

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14603 Trails Edge Blvd.	0905	Truman G	55' Heritage Series 3 beds / 2 baths / 2-car garage / 1,961 sq. ft.	\$368,105	SOLD
14945 Renaissance Ave	1601	Milan	55' Classic Series 4 beds / 2.5 baths / 2,722 sq. ft.	\$430,606	\$424,990
2465 Claymore Street	0112	Arlington	36' Grove Series 3 beds / 2.5 baths / 2-car garage ALLEY LOAD / 2,003 sq. ft.	\$285,920	\$279,990
14831 Trails Edge Blvd	701	Truman G	55' Heritage Series 4 beds / 2 baths / 2-car garage / 1,962 sq. ft.	\$339,059	\$329,990
2514 Portico Street	0219	Blackwater	45' Evergreen Series 4 beds / 2.5 baths / 2-car garage / 2,309 sq. ft.	\$355,092	\$349,990
14580 Trails Edge Blvd	1007	Lincoln D	55' Heritage Series 4 beds / 2.5 baths / 2-car garage / 2,368 sq. ft.	\$380,025	SOLD

Schedule a time to see these quick-move-in homes today.

813.734.7271 / ashtonwoods.com/asturia

ASHTON  WOODS.

*Must contract on select quick-move-in home by May 31, 2018 to receive incentive of HOA and CDD paid by Seller. Total Value of offer is \$2500. Cannot be combined with any other offer. © 2018 Ashton Woods Homes. Ashton Woods Homes reserves the right to change plans, specifications and pricing without notice in its sole discretion. Square footage is approximate and floorplans shown are representative of actual floorplans. Window, floor and ceiling elevations are approximate, subject to change without prior notice or obligation, may not be updated on the website, and may vary by plan elevation and/or community. Special wall and window treatments, upgraded flooring, fireplace surrounds, landscape and other features in and around the model homes are designer suggestions and not included in the sales price. All renderings, color schemes, floorplans, maps and displays are artists' conceptions and are not intended to be an actual depiction of the home or its surroundings. Basement options are available subject to site conditions. Homesite premiums may apply. While we endeavor to display current and accurate information, we make no representations or warranties regarding the information set forth herein and, without limiting the foregoing, are not responsible for any information being out of date or inaccurate, or for any typographical errors. Please see Sales Representative for additional information, including current floorplans. This is not an offer to sell real estate, or solicitation to buy real estate, in any jurisdiction where prohibited by law or in any jurisdiction where prior registration is required, including New York and New Jersey. 518 CGCI525320

Families and Pets Enjoy Dog Day Afternoon At Asturia

In between rays of sun and on-and-off misting of rain, Dog Day Afternoon was a “barkful” of fun last Saturday in Asturia, a master-planned community in Odessa on State Road 54.

It was an afternoon of curious dogs, creative activities for youngsters, and treats of all kinds for canines and their human friends. About a dozen pet-friendly companies exhibited and helped raise money for Vets4Pets, an organization that provides high-quality, low-cost veterinary care to low-income households.

Dozens of dog owners sat, stayed and played with their pets as they chatted with exhibitors. Children enjoyed a massive bounce house and slide, squealed as they had their faces painted and patiently waited as a balloon artist constructed their favorite shape.

“There’s always something fun to do in Asturia, and Dog Day Afternoon was especially fun,” said Carla Luigs, marketing coordinator for Hines, the developer of Asturia. “Events like this bring our residents together to have fun and get to know each other, and also invites new people to Asturia so they can experience all that Asturia has to offer.”

Most events are held inside or on the lawn of Asturia’s award-winning Amenity Center, which is located at the community’s entrance. In addition to a magnificent resort-style pool and impressive fitness center, Asturia also has pocket parks and playgrounds, and miles of paved trails that meander through wetlands as they connect individual neighborhoods.

Asturia’s builders — Ashton Woods, David Weekly Homes and ICI Homes — offer a variety of home sizes and prices, designed for families looking to buy their first home, homes for growing families with school-age children, and seasonal residents and empty-nesters looking for the latest in technological upgrades.



Braxton is a black lab owned by Lacy Quirk of Lace Ventura Pet Sitting Service.



Butterball with owner Brian, who works at David Weekly Homes.

Learn more about Asturia by visiting its models, registering at the community’s website, AsturiaFlorida.com, or by calling (813) 227-4148.



Ziggy, an Italian greyhound, and Bella, a Chihuahua, stopped by at the David Weekly Homes booth looking for treats and water.



A marmoset monkey added to the fun at Dog Day Afternoon.



Cory and her beagle, Maddie.

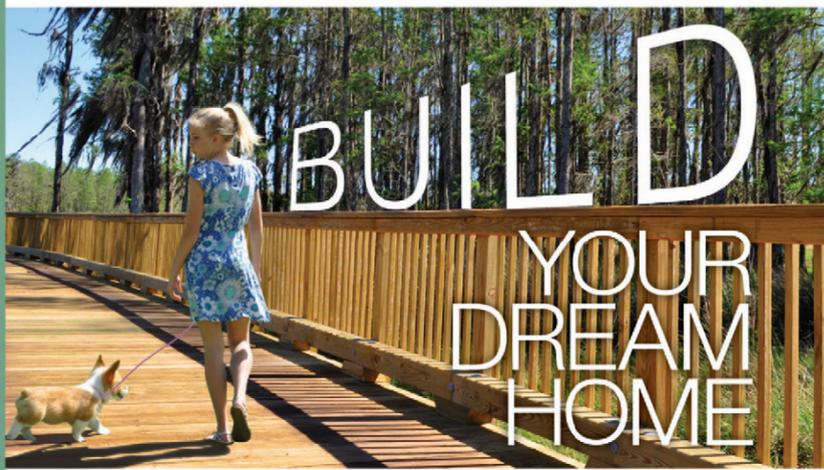


Princess and her people, Bill and Emily.

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ICI Homes Specializes In Affordable Customization

Many people would love to build a custom home for their family, but do not have the time or knowledge to properly oversee its construction, or arrange for construction loans needed in advance of closing.

Instead, they compromise what they really want, and end up going with a traditional production builder that allows minimal customization of their floor plans, which often is expensive, and the builder does reluctantly.

But now, Tampa Bay homebuyers have a third option — ICI Homes, which brings together a buyer's specific custom requests with the resources of an established and reputable production builder.

"ICI Homes is truly unique among all production builders. We fill a custom niche that buyers won't find anywhere else," said Ron Ferguson, division manager of the company's West Florida Division.

Ferguson explains that ICI Homes even goes as far as moving walls with plumbing, stretching exterior room dimensions, adding bonus rooms and expanding outdoor living areas.

"We routinely do structural changes that other builders will not do," said Ferguson. "Because we have been customizing homes for over 40 years, we have the processes in place that encourage customization. In fact, that's what our entire production philosophy is based on."

And, because ICI builds hundreds of homes a year, the efficiencies of being a production builder brings the cost of customization to a very affordable level.

"We save buyers thousands of dollars for a home that's uniquely theirs, compared to hiring a private contractor to build a similar home," said Ferguson.

In addition, since the builder is



ICI Homes, the buyer does not need to secure a construction loan, which is always required with a private builder.

"The financial risk is on us, the builder — not the homeowner," said Ferguson.

As an established homebuilder, ICI Homes pulls building permits faster and completes construction on most homes in just six to eight months. That compares to a year or longer for an individual custom home to be built.

ICI Homes got its start 40 years ago in Daytona Beach. The original founder still owns the company, and over the years expanded into Jacksonville, Orlando and Gainesville. It entered the Tampa Bay market in 2015 in Fishhawk Ranch in south Hillsborough County.

The company moved into Pasco County two years later as one of the original builders in Bexley in Land O' Lakes. Then, in late 2017, it added Asturia in Odessa to its growing list of communities. It also sells

homes to buyers wanting to build on their own lot.

The process to customize an ICI home begins with a meeting between the buyers and the company's architectural designer, who is based at the division's Wesley Chapel office.

"One of the first things our buyers do is meet with our architectural staff to discuss the custom features they want added to their plans," said Sales Manager Leah Turner.

ICI's staff then helps buyers select design features, finishes and colors to personalize their home.

"Our architectural design team works closely with our buyers so they can focus on what they want in their dream home, without worrying about the thousands of details that go into planning their home's layout and construction," Turner adds.

ICI Homes has hundreds of floor plans that have been customized over the past 40 years. It's this experience that enables the company to affordably replicate the most popu-

lar custom elements.

"We call these bubble options, because they can be easily added to a plan without causing delays to the construction process," said Ferguson. "And, because they have already been engineered, the cost for bubble options is reasonable."

Because everybody wants their home to be unique, ICI Homes has over a dozen floor plans for buyers to choose from. It also has model homes in Asturia and Bexley that are open daily for tour. The Serena model recently opened in Asturia, and more models are planned for later this year in both Asturia and Bexley.

Prices begin at \$290,900 for a 1,789-square-foot home in Asturia, and \$419,900 for a 2,565-square-foot home in Bexley. Many home sites back up to conservation and water, and all offer privacy. Home sites are 55- and 65-foot lots in Asturia, and 70-foot lots in Bexley.

Open concept floor plans are very popular with families building ICI Homes, as are outdoor living areas with kitchens, grill pads and pavers, according to Sales Manager Turner.

"Our buyers are building their private outdoor oasis," said Turner. "Our home sites in Asturia and Bexley are some of the most pristine along the State Road 54 corridor, and outdoor living and recreation is a huge attraction for our families."

ICI Homes is one of Florida's most premier builders, and for many years has been ranked in the Top 100 Builders in the nation by Builder Magazine. Established in 1980, the company has built over 4,000 single-family homes in Florida, and is the recipient of several prestigious awards for design and innovation.

The Asturia sales center for ICI Homes is at 15134 Aviles Parkway in Odessa, (813) 359-0264. At Bexley, the sales center is at 16754 Courtyard Loop in Land O' Lakes, (813) 530-9069.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

call (813) 252-1108 or visit www.ICIHomes.com



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Santa Maria — 3161 Satilla Loop
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\$456,015



Costa Mesa — 15404 Aviles Parkway
4 Bed / 3 Bath / 3 Car / 2,565 sq. ft.
\$454,130



Pamela — 16725 Courtyard Loop
4 Bed / 3 Bath / 3 Car / 3,089 sq. ft.
\$547,900

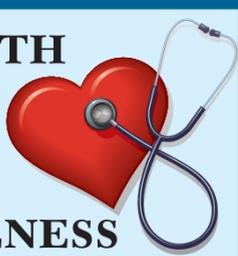
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allow for immediate access to tourniquets and other basic first aid supplies necessary for bystanders to administer in intervention during an event.

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The Medical Center of Trinity has recognized Sally Jones, RN, as the hospital's 2017 HCA Awards of Distinction Frist Humanitarian Employee Award winner.

The award honors outstanding individuals for humanitarian and volunteer services, named in honor of the late Dr. Thomas Frist Sr., founder of HCA.

Leigh Massengill, CEO of the hospital, said, in a release, "During Sally's 40 years at Medical Center of Trinity, she has never wavered from making each and every patient she interacts with feel as if they are the most important person in the hospital. She works cohesively and collaboratively with her colleagues throughout the hospital."

Jones also is involved in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, serving as the team captain for the hospital.



Sally Jones

DIABETES ACADEMY

The Hugh Embry Library, 14215 Fourth St., in Dade City, will offer a "Diabetes Academy" May 24 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For information, call (352) 567-3576.

SMOKING CESSATION

The IQuit Smoking Cessation program will be offered at the Zephyrhills Public Library, 5347 Eighth St., May 25 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Participants can learn strategies for quitting all forms of tobacco, learn about nicotine replacement therapy, and receive free NRT patches, gum and lozenges, while supplies last.

To register, call (813) 929-1000.

NEWBORN CARE

St. Joseph's Hospital-North, 4211 Van Dyke Road in Lutz, will offer a newborn care class May 26 from 9 a.m. to noon, in Garden Classroom A.

This interactive class will cover various aspects of infant care, including feeding, diapering, bathing safety, signs of illness and newborn characteristics.

The cost is \$25, which covers the expectant mother and a support person.

For information and to register, call (813) 443-2046.

CAR SEAT INSPECTIONS

St. Joseph's Hospital-North will sponsor free car seat inspections, done by a certified child passenger safety technician, May 29 from 9 a.m. to noon, at the AAA Auto Club, 20315 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., in Tampa.

To register for a 45-minute inspection, call (813) 443-2046.

SENIOR HEALTH

The Lutz Senior Center, 112 First Ave., N.W., will offer a health and fitness Jeopardy game and chair yoga May 30 at 11 a.m., to celebrate National Senior Health and Fitness Day.

For information, call (813) 264-3804.

DENTAL STUDIO 4 KIDS OPENS

Dental Studio 4 Kids and Oral Surgery and Implant Specialists will partner to celebrate a grand opening of a newly constructed building at 4675 Van Dyke Road in Lutz on May 31 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Denisse Lasanta of Dental Studio 4 Kids will be the first pediatric dentist in Tampa Bay to employ the Solea (no-needle) dental laser, according to a release.

Dr. Alejandro Caribas of Oral Surgery and Implant Specialists will treat patients with the goal of being a narcotic-free oral surgery practice.

The first 25 children younger than age 6 will receive a free ticket to the Glazer Children's Museum.

The first 25 kids older than age 6 will receive a ticket to Xtreme Adventures Laser Tag.

There also will be food, refreshments and a strolling magician.

For more information about the grand opening, which includes a ribbon cutting by the Carrollwood Area Business Association, please call (813) 591-2200, visit DentalStudio4Kids.com, or send an email to info@dentalstudio4kids.com.

BALANCE FOR SENIORS

The Lutz Senior Center, 112 First Ave., N.W., will offer a "Matter of Balance" class June 1 at 10 a.m.

Participants can learn practical strategies to manage falls and reduce falls at home.

For information, call (813) 264-3804.

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Pasco offer a NAMI Family Support Group the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Atonement Lutheran Church, 29617 State Road 54 in Wesley Chapel.

The group is open to family members and caregivers of someone with a mental illness diagnosis.

For information, call (727) 992-9653, or visit NAMIPasco.org.

STOP THE BLEED

The Pasco Board of County Commissioners recently recognized Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point for the facility's extensive support for the county's implementation of the "Stop the Bleed" campaign.

The campaign was developed to improve civilian outcomes and survival in the event of mass casualty and active-shooter incidents. It provides civilians with basic first aid training before an event occurs, with emphasis on the use of direct pressure and tourniquets to control bleeding.

Pasco County adopted a policy to ensure that employees and visitors to county buildings are appropriately prepared for events.

The trauma center at Regional Medical donated 112 "Stop the Bleed" kits to Pasco County Fire Rescue.

In addition, Isabella Discepolo from Trauma Services attended the "train the trainer" session for the campaign and offered classes to the community.

The donated kits were dispersed to all AED stations in government buildings to

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VICE PRESIDENT NAMED

Saint Leo University's president, Dr. William J. Lennox Jr., has appointed Dr. Senthil Kumar as the school's vice president for the newly created Office of Global Engagement and International Affairs.



Senthil Kumar

Prior to this position at Saint Leo, Kumar served as vice president of enrollment management and dean of international programs at Bay State College, Massachusetts, and dean of enrollment management and director of institutional advancement at The National Graduate School of Quality Management.

Kumar also served as vice president (consultant) of global strategy at Juesheng Education Group, in China.

NEW DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Hillel Academy, the Tampa Bay area's only accredited Jewish school, has appointed Cantor Beth Schlossberg as director of Jewish Life and Curriculum.

Schlossberg comes to the academy after most recently serving as co-director for the religious school of Congregation Kol Ami, where she built a comprehensive, creative elementary and middle school Hebrew and Judaics curriculum.

In 2003, she enrolled in the Jewish Theological Seminary and began studies at the H.L. Miller Cantorial School.

After being invested, Schlossberg spent four years with Beth El Synagogue in Omaha, Nebraska.

Afterward, she and her husband, Michael, moved to Tampa to join Congregation Kol Ami.



Beth Schlossberg

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Pasco-Hernando State College is accepting applications for individuals who want to pursue a career in teaching.

The Educator Preparation Institute, an approved program by the Florida Department of Education, provides an alternative route to a Florida Professional Educator's Certification for those who already have a baccalaureate

degree and want to teach kindergarten through 12th grade.

The college will be training a new group of teachers this fall.

The deadline to apply and complete testing requirements is July 20. Classes start Aug. 20.

For information, call Melissa Burr at (727) 816-3471, or visit Educator-prep.phsc.edu.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Camellia Moors, a senior International Baccalaureate student and member of the National Honor Society at Land O' Lakes High School, was named one of 500 national semifinalists in the National Honor Society Scholarship program.

Moors was chosen from more than 11,000 applicants to receive a \$2,850 scholarship.

While at Land O' Lakes High, Moors has been founder of the Green Club, president of Model UN, and treasurer of the National Honor Society, while heading several service projects, including bringing county libraries to LEED status, a \$9 million bond vote and fundraising endeavor.

Moors plans to attend Princeton University to study global affairs and environmental policy.

FIVE BEST PASCO SCHOOLS

The U.S. News & World Report list of 2018 Best High Schools included five from Pasco County: Land O' Lakes, J.W. Mitchell, Wiregrass Ranch and Sunlake high schools, and Pasco e-School.

Less than 30 percent of high schools in the country qualify for the list.

Four of the schools earned Silver badges, an honor only 11 percent of the U.S. high schools can claim.

In Florida, Land O' Lakes was ranked 50th, based on its 87-percent graduation rate and 53.5 ranking for college readiness.

J.W. Mitchell ranked 90th with an 85-percent graduation rate and 44.5 college readiness ranking.

Wiregrass Ranch came in at 117 with a 91-percent graduation rate and 37.4 for college readiness.

Sunlake's 86-percent graduation rate and 37.3 college readiness score ranked it 119th.

Pasco e-School earned a Bronze badge, with a 100-percent graduation rate, but had no college readiness ranking. Only 16 percent of U.S. schools fall into the Bronze badge category.

For more information, please visit USNews.com/education.

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Memory Lane Cottage is a state-of-the-art assisted living facility for persons with Alzheimer's and dementia related disease. Designed as a luxury estate home it features just 20 furnished private suites with full bathrooms and a community core typical in the resident's prior home—kitchen, dining room, living room, activity space and outdoor patios. Memory Lane Cottage includes a huge, walled-in courtyard with extensive walking paths and water features. The luxury home environment is barrier free with advanced technology to assist in monitoring the resident.

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NORTH TAMPA
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

MEETING, from page 1A

"We want to hear from people if something is missing and should be added," Moore said, noting the study is quite detailed.

A power-point presentation will be made at the meeting. Afterward, people will be able to look at maps, and ask questions one-on-one with consultants and county staff members.

Residents can go online now to peruse all 450 pages, and make comments through June 15. An online survey will be posted in the future to get a consensus on which road projects residents want to see completed.

No decision on recommendations is anticipated from the Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization until September. A final decision would be left to Pasco County commissioners, who also will need to identify funding sources for future projects.

The issue of establishing a connection between Kinnan and Mansfield resurfaced recently when developers of K-Bar ranch filed an application with Tampa to build more than 700 new homes, south of Mansfield.

The Tampa City Council postponed a vote on the project until June in hopes that an agreement could be reached regarding connecting Kinnan and Mansfield.

Hillsborough and Pasco have been at odds over the connection for more than a decade.

In 2017, the Hillsborough County Commission approved \$250,000 to pay for the project.

The study presents four alternatives, including a no-build choice.

Potential road projects include linking Kinnan Street and Mansfield Boulevard, and building extensions of Meadow Pointe and Wyndfields boulevards from Pasco County into Hillsborough County.

If Pasco and Hillsborough elected officials are divided on where to link up their roads, so are area residents.

Nearly 140 people attended a public meeting in April 2017 to discuss opening roadways that divide the counties.

Oral and written comments gathered through the meeting showed Pasco residents split on joining Kinnan and Mansfield, with 36 people against it, and 37 in favor.

However, Hillsborough residents overwhelmingly supported the connection by a count of 63 for and two against.

Pasco looked with more favor on extending Meadow Pointe by a count of 40 to 6, and Wyndfields by 28 to 4. Hillsborough residents favored Meadow Pointe by 67 to 8, and Wyndfields by 50 to 18.

The study also took note of an agreement between the K-Bar ranch developers and the city of Tampa that says Wyndfields can't be extended until Pasco allows Kinnan and Mansfield to be linked.

For information, and to view the study, visit PascoMPO.net.



Thivierge's doodle, 'Inspiration,' features excerpts of his own poetry and music compositions, as well as scientific and mathematical innovations, surrounding a map featuring unique geographic landscapes from each of the 50 states. The piece was designed entirely using colored pencils. The project took about 1 1/2 months to complete.

GOOGLE, from page 1A

He also researched images of other regions and learned how to correctly draw mountains and stalactites.

"The landmarks are one thing, but even with the simple things like little plants or fields are nice, as well," Thivierge said of the types of nature that inspires him.

Though the project "took a long time," Thivierge said he enjoyed the entire process and its challenges along the way.

Said Thivierge, "The most difficult one was (Montana) because I had to draw the snow in negative (drawing something by drawing around it). I'm proud of that one. I liked (drawing) Texas, as well, and Florida."

Every year, children and teens from around the country submit illustrations to the Doodle 4 Google contest with the hopes of having their drawing end up on the homepage of the popular search engine.

An estimated 200,000 submissions were received nationwide by the March 2 deadline.

Doodles were judged on artistic merit, creativity and theme communication.

They were grouped and judged across five grade groups — kindergarten through third grade; fourth and fifth grade; sixth and seventh grade; eighth and ninth grade; and 10th through 12th grade.

Submitted pieces were voted on by a panel of judges and Google employees.

Google representatives informed Thivierge's family in April that he was chosen as Florida's winner.

He was then recognized with a surprise

ceremony on May 3 at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, in Land O' Lakes, where he is a member of the parish's Life Teen and homeschool programs, and also serves on the Tech Team ministry and a lector.

A Google representative was at the ceremony, which attracted more than 100 people from the parish.

The Google representative presented Thivierge with a Chromebook, a tote bag and T-shirt imprinted with his doodle.

"It's an honor," Thivierge said of having the top doodle in the state. "It was out of sight a little bit. I hadn't been thinking about it every day, but it came as a surprise."

It's the third year Thivierge entered the Doodle 4 Google contest, but fell short of a state award in his previous attempts.

"He didn't give up. He persevered," said his mother, Elena Thivierge.

"Hopefully it inspires others that if you want something to pursue it," she said.

As the top doodle in Florida, Thivierge has advanced to the national finalists round of the Doodle 4 Google contest, where only five state and territory winners will be selected for the final round. Voting for that portion closed on May 18.

From there, a national winner will be decided and will receive a \$30,000 college scholarship, a \$50,000 technology grant to a local nonprofit organization, a trip to Google headquarters in California, and the opportunity to have the doodle featured on the Google homepage for one day.

The four national finalists who do not become the national winner will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship and a trip to Google headquarters, among other prizes.

SHELTER, from page 1A

ministrators for public services, and Don Anderson, chief executive officer of The Homeless Coalition of Pasco County, led the discussion.

Pasco County Commissioner Kathryn Starkey also attended.

She said she came to listen and learn. "This is not a subject I know a lot about," she said.

Anderson defended the decision to operate a families-only shelter.

"We believe families are highly motivated to get into housing because of the number of children," said Anderson.

The shift also would save the expense of hiring 24/7 security guards, he said.

The goal would be to place families in permanent housing within 30 to 60 days, with an average stay at the shelter around 45 days.

An additional six to 12 months of services would be provided after families leave the shelter.

Families are defined as one or two adults, with at least one child under age 18.

A year ago, another public meeting was held to discuss the initial proposal for a homeless shelter for adults.

"We felt it was time to update our citizens," Pearson said.

The shelter, if approved, would be housed in one of two buildings at 8239 Youth Lane, off Little Road in Port Richey. The second building would become the offices of the homeless coalition, which currently operates in a mixed residential and commercial neighborhood on Pine Street.

The Youth Lane address formerly was home to the Boys & Girls Club, which vacated the site in 2016.

The updated presentation included a video and a power point slide show. As many as 70 social service agencies and organizations are partners with the homeless coalition, and support the Youth Lane shelter.

PASSIONS RAN HIGH

More than 40 people spoke during public comment.

Opponents who live near the shelter site said they worry about increases in crime and a loss of property values.

Ann Archer Corona found it troubling that the shelter plan seems to change "minute-to-minute. We all feel threatened. I find it to be a big threat."

She said housing values would drop significantly, if the shelter was to open.

Some who supported the initial plan to aid single men and women objected to the new focus on families.

"We are losing out on all those opportunities for the chronically homeless who are at risk of dying on the street," said Kassie Hutchinson. "We're ignoring a huge part of our population. Once again, we're renegeing on something we promised."

Anderson said the coalition and its partners planned to increase outreach efforts for homeless adults. While no single adults could stay at the shelter, he said efforts would be made to find housing resources for them. But, he added, "There are limits to what we can do."

Pearson said it is still a goal in the future to fund a homeless shelter for single adults. "They won't be forgotten," she said.

Other members of the audience supported the new concept as a step in the right direction.

"Housing is the only known cure for homelessness," said Daniel McDonald.

Every homeless person is someone's son or daughter, sister or brother, he said. Leaving people homeless, he added, costs taxpayers money for providing public services.

"This (the shelter) is a bargain for taxpayers," McDonald said. "It's money well spent."

The homeless coalition's new proposal also found support from a once skeptical source — owners of an adjacent retail plaza, anchored by Hobby Lobby.

Sarasota attorney Robert Lincoln, who represents the shopping center's owners, said, "We've been concerned about the project since it started moving forward last year."

The budget for the initial plan didn't seem adequate, and the space at the site too small to handle up to 75 adult men and women, Lincoln said.

Housing families seems to address most issues, including public safety, he said. "We're continuing to work with the leadership (at the homeless coalition) to make sure we know who the families are," Lincoln said. "They have been very responsive. We will continue to work with them."

Starkey said the county should be compassionate but also tough on some issues, such as panhandling.

"I have to bring a hammer and I have to bring a heart," she said.

Anderson said the cost to remodel the two buildings on campus would be about \$700,000. The coalition has about \$680,000 from a federal neighborhood grant, with an additional \$100,000 from Pasco County's United Way.

Annually operating costs are estimated at about \$350,000. All but \$145,000 is already funded, Anderson said.

Additional grants and private donations will be sought, he added.

The Pasco County Housing Authority has pledged 50 housing vouchers, which can be used anywhere in the county as part of the Section 8 housing program.

Pasco has about 2,600 homeless people, based on the most recent count. More than 700 are individuals, with more than 1,800 in family relationships.

Shandi Vargas was among a handful of people who put a face to the plight of Pasco's homeless population. She escaped an abusive marriage, but ended up homeless. She currently lives in a rented room and has found an internship.

She is working toward living again with her three children.

"I'm a single mom trying to fight for her children," Vargas said.

A homeless shelter for families probably would have kept her family intact, she said.

Even as she struggles with her own situation, Vargas said she volunteers to help other homeless people, and people at risk.

"Let us come together and figure out a solution, and stop thinking all homeless are criminals," she said.

The Pasco County Planning Commission, which makes recommendations on land use issues, will review the proposal on June 6 in New Port Richey.

The final decision is up to the county commissioners, who will hold a public hearing on the matter June 19, also in New Port Richey.

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CDS baseball reaches first state final four, seeks title

By Kevin Weiss

kweiss@lakerlutznews.com

It's been a season of milestones for the Carrollwood Day School varsity baseball program.

First 20-win season. First district title. First regional win. First regional title. First final four.

And, they're seeking yet another this week — a state championship.

The Patriots (24-3) will face Tallahassee North Florida Christian (24-3) in the FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association) Class 3A state semifinal on May 23.

The winner will play for the Class 3A crown on Thursday against either Fort Myers Canterbury School (25-5) or Fort Pierce John Carroll Catholic High School (19-7), from the other state semifinal matchup.

All contests are played at Centurylink Sports Complex - Hammond Stadium in Fort Myers.

Following a stellar regular season, the Patriots have cruised through postseason play, most recently beating Lakeland Christian 4-0 in the Class 3A regional final on May 15.

With an eight-day layoff between games, the team has maintained its regular practice schedule in preparation for its biggest tests of the season.

Despite extra time off, Patriots first-year head coach and longtime assistant Ken Akins said, "there's no concern at all" about rust leading into the state semifinals.

"We had decent time in between the two regional games...so we're used to it, but to be honest that doesn't bother me one bit. We will continue to do what we do. We will continue to stay loose," Akins said.

"The thing that we have really worked on, and I told them at the very beginning of the season, I'm going to teach you kids how to play loose. When you get tight in this game, you fail, and if you can just stay loose, stay relaxed, everything's going to go our



COURTESY OF CARROLLWOOD DAY SCHOOL ATHLETICS

The Carrollwood Day School Patriots (23-4) will play in its first-ever state semifinal on May 23 against Tallahassee North Florida Christian. If they win, they play for a Class 3A state title on May 24.

way.' And, it has to this point, which has been fantastic, so why change it now? We're going to continue to do the absolute same things that we've done in the past."

The mindset has proven true all season long for Carrollwood Day, winning 11 games by a margin of one or two runs.

The string of narrow victories is a credit to the team's defense and pitching staff, which has combined 1.30 ERA and a 3:1 strikeout to walk ratio.

Among the Patriots' top pitchers is a trio of seniors who've been reliable all season — Gabriel Partridge (0.64 ERA, 11 wins), Andre Hevesy (1.06 ERA) and Frank Furey (1.96 ERA).

"We have always put pride in our pitching and our defense," Akins said.

"This entire tournament we've played error-free baseball, so it's what has got us in this position. You look back at the amount of won one-run games that we've had, and the key to that is the kids and the trust, and being relaxed and being able to throw

strikes — and they have done it all season long."

Another strong showing on the mound will be imperative against North Florida Christian, which has a .352 team batting average and 18 team home runs.

Its top three sluggers are hitting .450 or better — juniors J.D. Tease (.521 batting average, 37 RBIs) and Carson Neal (.452, five home runs, 33 RBIs) and senior Matthew Dickey (.464, three home runs, 30 RBIs).

The Patriots are ready for the challenge, Partridge, the team's ace, said.

"We're looking forward to it, not backing down, and we know it's going to be a good game..." Partridge said.

Besides pitching and defense, Carrollwood Day has benefitted from stellar hitting from the likes of Furey (.378, two home runs, 24 RBIs) and Hevesy (.308, six doubles, 16 RBIs), as well as senior Rodrigo Montenegro (.373, 31 runs) and junior Blake Hooker (.337, 23 RBIs).

Team speed (94 stolen bases) is another

asset for Carrollwood Day.

However, runs may be hard to come by against an opposing group that sports a 2.34 team ERA and strikes out an average of 1.42 batters per inning.

"We have an idea of what we're going to go up against, but the bottom line is they're going to put nine guys on the field, we're going to put nine guys on the field, and I trust my guys and believe in my guys so much that everything's going to be left on the field, and hopefully we come out on top," Akins said.

It's been a steady progression to the Patriots' best season in program history.

Last year the team went 17-10 and lost in the first round of the district tournament, under former head coach Nick Rodriguez.

Its next best campaign came in 2015, when the squad went 14-10.

The team mainly hovered around .500 in other seasons.

Partridge said the Patriots are "actually playing together" compared to last year — his first season with the team after transferring from Miami's Immaculata-LaSalle.

Also a more experienced group, the Patriots have 16 upperclassmen (six seniors, 10 juniors).

"We're more of a team," the pitcher said. "We're treating each other like family, and that's good. It's helping us. We play like we know we got each other's backs and, if we make a mistake or do something wrong, we know that we'll pick each other up for everything — and that's the difference between this year and last year."

And, as one of six seniors, Partridge is relishing every moment of the best season in program history.

"I'm glad to be a part of it. It's awesome," Partridge said. "You see how happy guys are, all around the dugout, all around the school, congratulating us and everything. It's pretty cool to be a part of the first time the team (has reached the state final four)."

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COURTESY OF SADDLEBROOK PREPARATORY SCHOOL

From left: Saddlebrook Preparatory School's Myu Tezuka (tennis), Hina Nishisha (tennis), and Kevin Lin (golf) signed athletic scholarships on May 3 as part of the spring national signing period.

LOCAL ATHLETE SIGNINGS

The national spring signing period opened in April for athletes to sign their national letters of intent to respective colleges and university. Here is a list of athletes from The Laker/Lutz News coverage area who participated in the spring signing period, making their college commitments official:

SADDLEBROOK PREPARATORY SCHOOL GOLF

- **Kevin Lin** — Webber International University (Partial Athletic Scholarship)
- **Alex Chen** — Penn State-Behrend, Pennsylvania (Academic Scholarship)
- **Kihei Hayashi** — Old Westbury College, New York (Academic Scholarship)
- **Mai Intanant** — Drew University, New Jersey (Academic Scholarship)
- **James Parker** — Chapman University, California (Academic Scholarship)
- **Matthew Singer** — Drew University (Academic Scholarship)

TENNIS

- **Myu Tezuka** — Bradley University, Illinois (Full Athletic Scholarship)
- **Hina Nishisha** — University of Hawaii-Hilo (Partial Athletic Scholarship)
- **Lillian Cameron** — DePauw University, Indiana (Academic Scholarship)
- **Ryu Kozuki** — Fairleigh Dickinson, New Jersey (Academic Scholarship)
- **Dennis Moses** — Stetson University (Academic Scholarship)

- **Maciej Sobolewski** — Florida Institute of Technology (Academic Scholarship)
- **Victor Stoyanov** — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York (Academic Scholarship)

FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

- **Kristina Calixto** — Santa Fe College

TRACK

- **Navarra' James** — Saint Leo University

WRESTLING

- **Alex Kiestler** — George Mason University, Virginia

STEINBRENNER HIGH SCHOOL

- **Sophia Piniella** — University of Florida

FOOTBALL

- **Daniel Craig** — Jacksonville University

LACROSSE

- **Madison Ulvenes** — Florida Institute of Technology

SUNLAKE HIGH SCHOOL

- **Elizabeth Moran** — Mary Baldwin University, Virginia
- **Mary Moran** — Mary Baldwin University
- **Kasia Ramirez** — Lees-McRae College, North Carolina
- **Andrea Wallace** — Saint Petersburg College

FOOTBALL

- **Jeremiah Baker** — Carthage College, Wisconsin
- **Bryant Beacham** — Carthage College
- **Justice Goodloe** — Maryville College, Tennessee
- **Ibrahim Saunders** — Saint Vincent College, Pennsylvania

SOCCER

- **Grant Presson** — Shorter University, Georgia

VOLLEYBALL

- **Elizabeth Spalding** — Mars Hills University, North Carolina

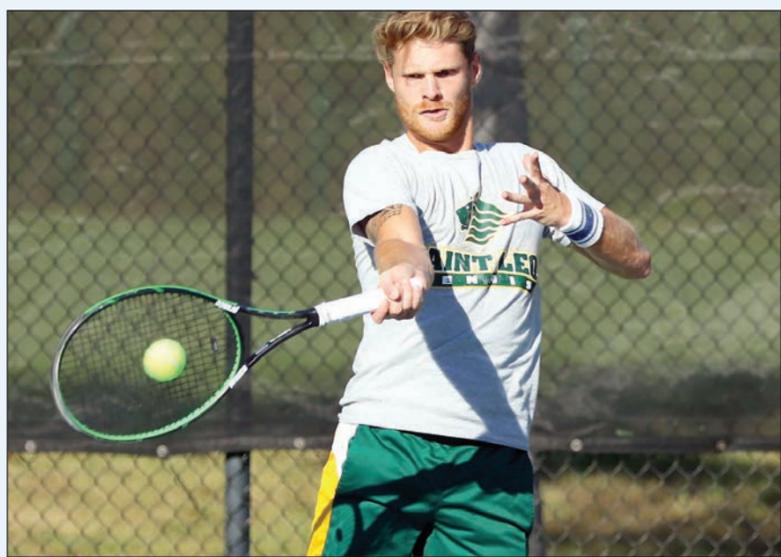
WIREGRASS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL

- **Cameron Douglas** — North Carolina Wesleyan

BASKETBALL

- **Val Garcia** — Ave Maria University

CROSS-COUNTRY



COURTESY OF SAINT LEO ATHLETICS

Saint Leo's Thomas Grinberg

National tennis player of year

Saint Leo University's men's tennis standout Thomas Grinberg has been named Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Senior Player of the Year.

Grinberg, a product of Vincennes, France, wrapped up a stellar senior campaign posting a 21-1 first singles record

— including an undefeated regular season singles mark — and a 20-3 first doubles record with junior Vincent Suillerot.

Last month, Grinberg was named Sunshine State Conference Player of the Year.

- **Gio Duran** — Tallahassee Community College
- **Kevin Jaquez** — Tallahassee Community College

FOOTBALL

- **Daniel Biglow** — Florida Atlantic University
- **Jacob Hill** — Baldwin Wallace University, Ohio
- **Devaun Roberts** — Ohio Wesleyan University
- **Adrian Thomas** — Thiel College, Pennsylvania

SOCCER

- **Ryan Alkhatib** — Florida College
- **Ian Flores** — Oglethorpe University, Georgia

TAMPA CATHOLIC CHEER CAMP

Tampa Catholic High Cheerleading team is sponsoring a three-day cheer camp June 6 to June 8, at the Tampa Catholic gymnasium, 4630 N. Rome Ave., in Tampa. The camp is open to children ages 5 to 14. Each camp

day runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost is \$75 and includes a T-shirt. Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase.

To register, download a registration form at TampaCatholic.org. For information, email Deviney Rodriguez at Deviney@mail.usf.edu.

SAINT LEO WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CAMP

The Saint Leo University women's basketball program will host a team camp on June 30 for varsity, junior varsity and travel teams, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Marion Bowman Activities Center at Saint Leo University, 33701 State Road 52, St. Leo.

The camp guarantees three games for each team participating. T-shirts will be given to every camper.

Registration is required at TotalCamps.com/saintleowomensbasketball. For information, call Megan Dzikas at (941) 224-9553.



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COURTESY OF LAND O' LAKES CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Second-graders in Christy Hoynoski's class wrote a book called 'If I Were An Animal.' The children are, (front row, from left): Savannah Wrenn, Laurelai Marano, Kylie Matkin, Sarina King, Kinsley Wooles and Esteban Lowe. The others (back row, left to right) are Hadasa Smith, Keenan Morais-Silva, Maya Vidal, ErikSebastien Capellupo, Isabelle Loscalzo, Colin VanderVere and their teacher, Christy Hoynoski.

Little authors are celebrated in a big way

By B.C. Manion
bcmanion@lakerlutznews.com

It's not every day that someone becomes a published writer — and that's especially true of second-graders.

So, staff members at Land O' Lakes Christian School weren't about to let the moment pass by without a good bit of fanfare.

The children in Christy Hoynoski's class were celebrated in a big way at a party in the school's lunchroom on the day their book, "If I Were An Animal," arrived at the school at 5105 School Road in Land O' Lakes.

There were balloons and a red carpet that was bedazzled by stars — each bearing the name of a child author.

Each of the 7- and 8-year-olds stood at a podium, reading their stories and showing off their illustrations.

Parents and grandparents came to the school to honor the children's accomplishment, and the party featured a book-shaped cake and snacks with literary themes.

It was a big day for the second-graders, and the glow was still showing weeks later, when they talked about the stories they wrote, with a visiting reporter.

Mrs. Hoynoski, as the children call her, came up with the idea of creating the book after hearing about a free publishing kit offered by Studenttreasures Publishing.

The idea was to make writing more fun, the teacher said.

The children considered a variety of possible books they could do, such as "Second Grade Inventions," "If I were a President" and "When I Grow Up."

In the end, they voted to create a book about animals.

Besides allowing the second-graders to practice their handwriting skills and showcase their artistic abilities, the project also gave them a chance to exercise their lively imaginations, too.

For instance, in this book, there's a zebra with rainbow-colored stripes and a white bunny with black polka dots.

The animals have interesting diets, too. There's a pig that eats candy, a whale that eats broccoli, a horse that eats grapes and an owl that eats ice cream.

The kids also thought outside of the box when naming their animals. There's a wolf named Snowflake, a bird named Jewel, a bobcat named Rosie and a cobra named Cutey.

The students said they enjoyed writing their stories and drawing their pictures, and, of course, they were pleased to see their work in print.

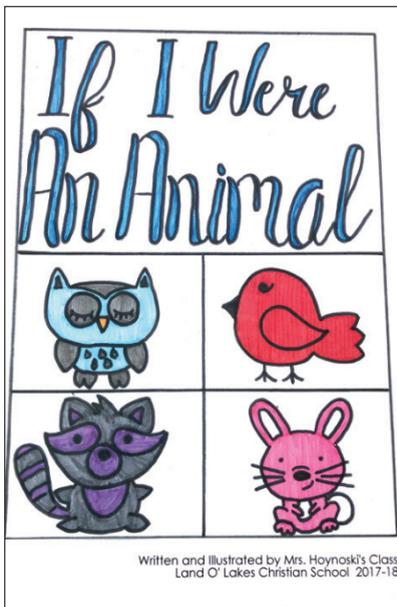
It's a project the second-grade teacher said she'd recommend to other teachers.

"It really got them excited about writing," she said.

Writing is an important skill, the teacher added, because it's a skill her students will need throughout their lives.



Second-graders make their way into the school lunchroom at Land O' Lakes Christian School to celebrate the publication of their book, 'If I Were An Animal.'



This is the cover of the book written by students in Christy Hoynoski's second grade class at Land O' Lakes Christian School.



ErikSebastien Capellupo shows off his illustration of a story he wrote about a cheetah, named Lightning, that can run 1 million mph.



Savannah Wrenn reads one of the stories she wrote for a book created by Christy Hoynoski's second grade class at Land O' Lakes Christian School.



Hadasa Smith shows off one of the stories she wrote and illustrations she did for 'If I Were An Animal.' She wrote about a zebra with rainbow-colored stripes and a bobcat named Rosie.

LOCAL WILDLIFE



Caught up in a breeze

Marjorie Hoffmann, of Lake Padgett Estates in Land O' Lakes, took this photo of a wind-blown snowy egret in Belleair Beach. During the breeding season, adult snowy egrets develop long, wispy feathers on their backs, necks and heads.

PET of the WEEK



Poised to play

Charlie is a Lhasa mix and is 1 1/2 years old. He enjoys playing with his owners' grandson, Carter. He also loves the water and chasing lizards. Charlie lives with his family, Jim and Cheryl Cole, in Land O' Lakes.

Send us a picture and information on your favorite pet!

Write a short paragraph about why your pet is special along with a photo and mail to: **Pet of the Week**, c/o The Laker, P.O. Box 479, Lutz, FL 33548 or email to mrathman@lakerlutznews.com, ATTN: Pet of the Week

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Pasco County Animal Services is in need of fosters. Anyone interested should send an email to adoptionpartners@pascocountyfl.net, and include your name, number and a preference for neonates, bottle babies or weaned kittens.

The adoption center is at 19640 Dogpatch Lane in Land O' Lakes, and is open Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6:30 p.m.

CATS NEED HOMES, TOO

The Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center is full of cats seized in a recent investigation, and shelter managers are asking the public to adopt from the dozens of available felines.

Animal Control officers took more than 300 cats from a woman running a pet rescue shelter near Plant City. Shelter officials have been working with partner agencies throughout Tampa Bay to house and adopt some of the cats, but more than 100 still remain at the Pet Resource Center.

Most of the cats are available for adoption, but some are still being treated for respiratory infections and other illnesses. When the treatments are finished and the cats are declared healthy, they also will be available.

Adoption is only \$20 for cats that have been vaccinated, registered, microchipped and spayed or neutered.

The Pet Resource Center is the only open-admissions shelter in Hillsborough County, and accepts all dogs and cats regardless of age, breed, size or health.

The shelter is at 440 N. Falkenburg Road in Tampa, and can be reached by calling (813) 744-5660.

PET PAWS

\$20 ADOPTIONS

Pasco County Animal Services, 19640 Dogpatch Lane in Land O' Lakes is offering \$20 adoption specials for the month of May.

All dogs and cats are vaccinated, microchipped, spayed/neutered and heartworm/FIV tested at the time they leave the shelter.

The promotion excludes puppies and kittens age 6 months and younger, and adult dogs less than 25 pounds.

For information, call (813) 929-1212.

SHARE YOUR PET NEWS

If you have pet news about adoptions, walks or other events for pet owners and their pets, you can let us know by sending us an email. We just need the basics: who, what, when, where and why.

The information should be submitted two weeks prior to the desired publication date.

If you'd like to make a submission, send it to news@lakerlutznews.com.

Readers can now find Pets of the Week and Local Wildlife photos on our website at LakerLutznews.com, under the Pets/Wildlife link.

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Pet Loss Support Group

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Upcoming Dates: April 26, May 31, June 28 & July 26

Gulfside Center for Hospice Care
5760 Dean Dairy Road in Zephyrhills

Facilitated by Chaplain Mike Merritt

Our relationship with our pets is very special. For many of us, they are members of the family, and when the bond we share is broken, the resulting sense of loss and grief can be overwhelming. At Gulfside Hospice's Pet Loss Support Group, you can share your feelings with others who are going through a similar experience.



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NEW CARDIOLOGY OFFICE

Access Health Care Physicians announced the opening of a new office in Zephyrhills for cardiology services, at 7323 Green Slope Drive.

Dr. Vinod Raxwal will see patients at this address, as well as locations in Hudson and New Port Richey. Raxwal specializes in interventional cardiology and is board certified.

Raxwal has 22 years experience in cardiology. He also specializes in arterial and venous circulation. He completed an interventional fellowship and cardiology fellowship at Kansas University Medical Center, in Kansas City, Kansas.

He was a research fellow at Stanford University and completed a residency at Penn State University program at Lehigh



Dr. Vinod Raxwal

Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He also completed an internship at Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn.

He received his medical degree from Odessa State Medical University in the Ukraine.

He has authored 16 research-based publications and is director of the Heart Failure Clinic at Bayonet Point. He teaches basic life support classes three times a year.

For information, visit AHCPLLC.com/Dr-Vinod-Raxwal.php, or call (352) 688-8116.

PASCO'S VIBRANT PLACES

The Suncoast Section of the American Planning Association Florida will host a seminar, "Putting the Urban in Suburban: Building and Connecting Pasco's Vibrant Places," on May 24 from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2155 Northpointe Parkway, off State Road 54.

Guest speakers will be Karen Kress, director of transportation and planning with the Tampa Downtown Partnership; Rodney Chatman, planning division manager with Forward Pinellas; and a representative from Newland Communities, which is developing Bexley.

Following the presentation, tethered hot air balloon rides will be available for the first 50 preregistered attendees who want a bird's eye view of a portion of Pasco County. Time slots for the rides will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Tickets cost \$10.

To register, visit tinyurl.com/y6wqngsw

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING LUNCH

The North Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce will have its monthly economic briefing lunch May 24 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Hunter's Green Country Club, 18101 Longwater Run Drive in Tampa.

Guest speaker will be Ram Kancharia, vice president of planning and development for Port Tampa Bay.

The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

For information, call the chamber at (813) 994-8534, or email office@wesley-chapelchamber.com.

CENTRAL PASCO MIXER

Gulfside Hospice Thrift Shoppe will host a mixer for the Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce on May 23 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at 1930 Land O' Lakes Blvd., which is next door to the chamber.

The mixer will include networking, refreshments, a swag bag, and VIP access to shop for name brand items and new arrivals at the thrift shop.

Proceeds from the thrift shop help provide patient care for hospice recipients in Pasco County through Gulfside Hospice & Pasco Palliative Care.

Gulfside Hospice is a nonprofit that serves more than 350 patients daily. Gulfside employs more than 250 professionals and has more than 500 volunteers.

Please RSVP to Neveen Walker at (727) 845-5707.

KEYSTONE PLACE OPEN HOUSE

Keystone Place at Terra Bella will have an open house on May 24 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at 2200 Livingston Road in Land O' Lakes.

Keystone Place is a new rental complex for independent living, assisted living and memory care.

Refreshments will be served.

RSVP for yourself and a guest at (813) 388-2121 or (813) 695-6439, or visit KeystonePlaceAtTerraBella.com/OpenHouse.

NEW DENTAL PRACTICES

Dental Studio 4 Kids and Oral Surgery and Implant Specialists will have a grand opening on May 31 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at 4675 Van Dyke Road, Suite B, in Lutz.

Denisse Lasanta of Dental Studio 4 Kids will be the first pediatric dentist in Tampa Bay to use Solea dental laser, according to a news release from a marketing consultant with Coldwell Banker Residential.

Solea laser is needle-free and faster than traditional methods. It also can be used without anesthesia.

Alejandro Caribas of Oral Surgery and Implant Specialists will offer narcotic-free oral surgery. His practice avoids opioid prescriptions for pain relief, and relies on a three-day method of pain control without drugs. An All-on-4 technology can replace

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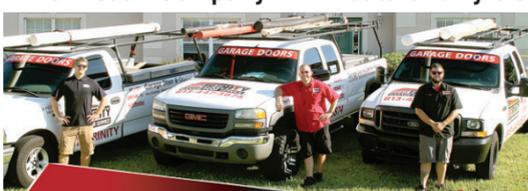
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The grand opening will be hosted by the Carrollwood Area Business Association, or CABA.

The first 25 children under age 6 will receive a free ticket to the Glazer Children's Museum, in Tampa. The first 25 children older than age 6 will receive a ticket to Xtreme Adventures Laser Tag.

There will be food, refreshments and a strolling magician for entertainment.

For information, call CABA, at (813) 591-2200.

WOMEN OF WESLEY CHAPEL NETWORK

Women of Wesley Chapel (WOW) will meet June 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., at the Beach House Assisted Living & Memorial Care, at 30070 State Road 56 in Wesley Chapel.

WOW is a women-only, networking

event held on the first Friday of each month.

Enjoy breakfast, networking, and a guest speaker.

April Barra, a Realtor at Florida Executive Realty, is the sponsor.

The cost is \$5 in cash, paid at the door.

For more information, please call Grace Martin at (813) 994-8534, or email gmartin@NorthTampaBayChamber.com.

BUSINESS BREAKFAST

The North Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce will have its monthly business breakfast on June 5 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., at Pasco-Hernando State College, 2727 Mansfield Blvd., in Wesley Chapel.

Guest speaker is Frank Morsani. The cost is \$15 in advance or \$20 for walk-ins and nonmembers.

Please register, as space is limited.

For more information, please call the chamber at (813) 994-8534, or visit NorthTampaBayChamber.com.

NETWORK BREAKFAST

The Wednesday Morning Network Group will meet June 6 at 7:30 a.m., at Hungry Harry's Family Bar-B-Que, at 3116 Land O' Lakes Blvd., in Land O' Lakes.

Each attendee will be able to present a 30-second pitch.

The sponsor is Architectural Signage & Printing.

The cost is \$7 for members, if preregistered by May 31; or \$10 at the door for



COURTESY OF SANDY GRAVES

Automotive center is full of heart

Members of the Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce turned out to congratulate Christian Brothers Automotive, and its owner Larry Giannone, for winning the 'Heart of Pasco Award.' The award recognizes a local business that gives back to the community, is committed to aesthetic upkeep, and lives up to the chamber's mission to 'aggressively advocate for the interests of the diverse business community by promoting business advancement, economic growth and job creation.'

members or guests.

You can register online at CentralPascoChamber.com.

For information, call the chamber at (813) 909-2722, or email office@central-pascochamber.com.

CHAMBER BREAKFAST

The Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of

Commerce will have its monthly business breakfast June 7 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., at the Golden Corral, 6855 Gall Blvd., in Zephyrhills.

The cost is \$8 for chamber members and \$10 for non-members.

For more information, please call the chamber at (813) 872-1913, or email Eleanor@zephyrhillschamber.org.

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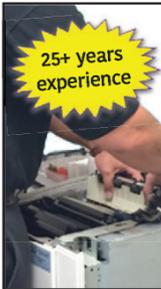
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Pasco-Hernando State College (PHSC) is now accepting applications. For more information and to apply online visit our website at www.phsc.edu/jobs. Application closing date is 5/31/18. The College is closed Fridays through August 10 and May 28 for Memorial Day. EOE/ADA Compliance

Inquiries: Belinda Adkins



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Donate new shoes and skate onto the Center Ice rink

By Kathy Steele

ksteele@lakerlutznews.com

San Antonio resident Janet Chubinsky is skating her nonprofit Shoes4Schools onto the ice rink at Florida Hospital Center Ice.

The skating rink will be hosting a "SkateForShoes" fundraiser for the charity on June 1. The charity collects donations of new shoes every year to give to Pasco County schoolchildren who need them.

From 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., individual admission to the rink will be the standard \$10 fee, with discounts for seniors, veterans and active military. Anyone who donates a new pair of shoes, however, won't have to pay the \$5 charge for renting skates. Shoe sizes for children through adults are needed.

Volunteers with Shoes4Schools will have display tables. Cash donations also will be accepted. Prize drawings are planned.

On the same day, Pasco County school administrators, including principals and vice principals, also will be at the skating facility to kickoff a summer conference.

"This is the first event we've done as a (single) event for a charity," said Morgan Novotny, of Florida Hospital Center on Ice.

Shoes4Schools has grown enormously over the years.

In total, the charity has distributed more than 7,000 pairs of shoes.

Chubinsky began the effort after she and



Thousands of new shoes are donated annually to help Pasco County schools who need them. The nonprofit, Shoes4Schools, began in 2013, and has given out about 7,000 shoes.

COURTESY OF SHOES4SCHOOLS

her husband moved from Tennessee to Pasco County.

A quiet retirement wasn't her style.

Her daughter suggested that she revive a

shoe donation program she had initially started in Tennessee.

After a visit to Raymond B. Stewart Middle School in Zephyrhills, Chubinsky

"SkateForShoes"

WHERE: Florida Hospital Center Ice, 3173 Cypress Ridge Blvd., Wesley Chapel

WHAT: Fundraiser to collect donations of new shoes for Pasco County schoolchildren. Sizes children through adults needed.

COST: \$10 rink admission; \$8 for seniors, veterans and active military, with valid ID; free skate rental for anyone who donates a new pair of shoes

INFO: Call Florida Hospital Center Ice at (813) 807-7372, or visit FloridaHospitalCenterIce.com; or Shoes-4-Schools.org.

was off and running, or at least, tooling around in a 2000 model SUV.

She slapped a magnetic logo on the vehicle's doors - a pair of sneakers. And, she delivered shoes, lots of them.

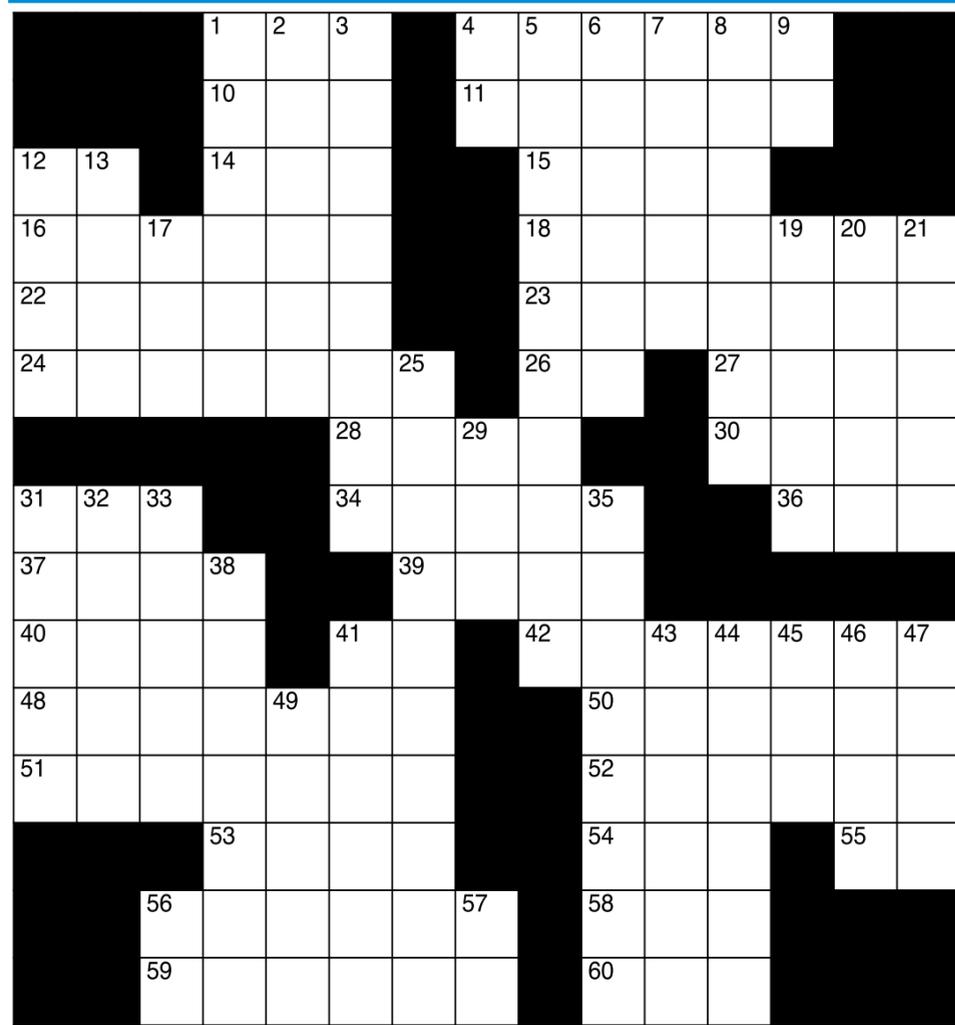
During Chubinsky's first year, the charity gave away 36 pairs of shoes. By the second year, Shoes4Schools put 900 pairs of shoes on the feet of Pasco schoolchildren.

Chubinsky has been on the move ever since, and the shoes keep piling up.

"She's a firecracker," said Novotny. "She's amazing."

For more information, visit online at Shoes-4-Schools.org.

The LAKER / Lutz News CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. Color
4. English prince
10. When you'll get there
11. Pivot
12. Actinium
14. Greek letter
15. Primordial matter
16. One of a Polynesian island
18. Most spacious
22. What you owe
23. Button-like ornament
24. Ancient city
26. Trauma center
27. CNN anchor Burnett
28. Enough (archaic)
30. Lebowski's nickname "The ___"
31. Printing speed measurement
34. Waterbirds
36. WWI airship
37. Sudden attack
39. Advice
40. Sacs where fungi develop
41. Where instinctive impulses are manifest
42. Schoolhouse implements
48. Brain parts
50. Borne by or suspended in a liquid
51. Of the desert
52. Starbucks size
53. Ancient Roman garment
54. In a way, set aflame
55. Samarium
56. Heavenly bodies
58. Water in the solid state
59. Exchanged
60. Int'l organization

DOWN

1. Regain
2. A colorless odorless gas used as fuel
3. Delicacies
4. Spanish be
5. Miami Heat great
6. More slick
7. Turn away
8. Made a second thrust
9. Where injured ballplayers end up
12. As quickly as can be done
13. Military disguise
17. ___ and Dad
19. Mythological wind (Greek)
20. Slides without control
21. Principle or belief
25. Unusually large
29. Naturally occurring solid material
31. Backsides
32. Large orange-brown butterfly
33. Old Testament prophet
35. Women's apartments in a Muslim palace
38. One who waters down
41. Made a visual representation of
43. Continent
44. Flat pieces of rock
45. Very long period of time
46. Radioactivity units
47. Fields of study
49. Distinctive, pleasant smell
56. The Constitution State (abbr.)
57. South Dakota

SEE SOLUTIONS, PAGE 6B

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TOPIC:

Wound Care

May 8



PRESENTER:

Scott Norwood, MD

TOPIC:

Trauma Program

May 15



PRESENTER:

Isabella Discepolo, RN

TOPIC:

Mechanism of Injury

May 22



PRESENTER:

Mike Imbimbo, PTA

TOPIC:

Falls

May 29

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