

# The Island Reporter

The Premier Paper of South Pinellas County

## Tierra Verde Finally Slated for New Bridge

By Betsy Judge

Photos courtesy of FDOT

It took 14 years, but the money is finally available to build a new Structure E, the bridge that connects Tierra Verde to the mainland.

Beautiful is how Kevin Lee with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) described how it would look to members of the Tierra Verde Business Partnership at a recent meeting.

The \$52 million project was funded in 2016; the design and build team will be selected this year and construction is projected to begin in 2018 with anticipated completion in 2022. The project includes rebuilding the seawall on the east side of the roadway across from Century 21, building the bridge itself, and resurfacing Pinellas Bayway South (State Road 679) to the intersection with State Road 682 which goes over the bridge (Structure C) to St. Pete Beach.

"It is basically going to mimic Structure C. It will be almost identical," said Lee repeatedly in response to concerns about the height of the bridge including a rumor that it would be the steepest bridge in the state. "It will be identical in slope to Structure C, so if you don't have issues driving Structure C, you shouldn't have any issues with this bridge." Clearance for boats under the bridge will be the same all well.

The bridge will be a single lane in each direction with a 12 foot wide trail on the east side and a five foot wide sidewalk on the west, both of which will continue to State Road 682. The bridge also has 10 feet of shoulder in each direction to allow emergency vehicles to pass vehicular traffic if necessary, but it will not alleviate concerns about packs of bikers taking up the road; they will still ride there.

The department has held meetings with the community to determine the aesthetic qualities



This rendition shows the concept for the proposed new bridge to Tierra Verde. It will be very similar to Structure C, the bridge to St. Pete Beach in terms of height and slope.

of the bridge including decorative elements of the support structure, lighting and the walls. Structure E will have the same design features as Structure C with the exception of the lights which have to be located on the outside of the lanes vs. in the middle.

In addition to concerns about the height, the inclusion of a roundabout at the intersection of the Bayway and Madonna Boulevard was a issue.

"The roundabout looks like the one in Clearwater and in high traffic like in February, the congestion makes it hard to get home. Can you guarantee it won't get congested?" asked a participant.

Another member chimed in, "I know statistically you can move more traffic through a roundabout than you can an intersection. I've seen the studies. But you don't live here on Sunday."

**BRIDGE continued on page 8**

## Software Holds Data Ransom

By TIR Staff

The use of ransomware, a malware that gets into a device (computer, smartphone, tablet, etc.) and encrypts data locking the user out until they pay a ransom, is on the rise.

According to a February article at Forbes.com, a report by SonicWall, a cyber security firm, estimates attacks in 2016 at 638 million—more than 167 times the number in 2015. Last fall, the FBI urged victims to report the incidents citing new variants emerging regularly.



This graphic representation of the effects of ransomware is an FBI image. They encourage anyone who is attacked to report it immediately to the Internet Crime Complaint Center.

"In addition to holding data hostage, it can lead to possible identity theft," says EJ Liggieri with Quarterdeck Technologies, a St. Pete Beach-based IT and telecom consulting firm. He also says the statistics are woefully underestimated because people are hesitant to report it.

"So you don't know how bad the damage really is," says Liggieri, "it's definitely a lot of money." Like \$1 billion in 2016 as estimated by ZDNet.com, a 24/7 technology news site.

As with any hostage situation, a key question is do you pay? "But what happens if it's your kids' pictures since they were three? How devastating would you be if you had ripped up all the old ones and just had them digitally? You might pay it," he adds. Payments are demanded via anonymous currency accounts like bitcoin, and paying the ransom is no guarantee the data will be restored.

Ransomware and other malware is spread via phishing attacks, browsing the Internet and installing unsafe applications.

Liggieri says, "90 percent of computer problems are caused by clicking on links in email." It starts when someone receives an email with a request to click on a link to get something: a file, photos, a special deal. It can be from someone you know which might not make you suspicious, but they could have been hacked. He suggests running the mouse over the link which pulls up the address so you can see where they are trying to get you to go. If you don't recognize it, don't go there.

Senders should also put specifics in the subject line or in the email so the recipient has a level of

**RANSOM continued on pages 5**



**PHOTO OF THE MONTH**

Photograph by: Carol Walker, St. Pete Beach  
Reflections on a sunset on St. Pete Beach.



Participants are allowed to submit one photo per month by the 10th of the month for the next contest. Submit to: [info@theislandreporter.com](mailto:info@theislandreporter.com)



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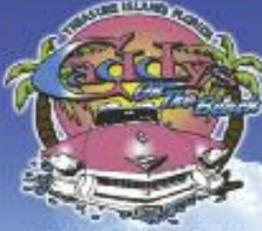
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# Government Update In Case You Missed It

By Doug Mason

## St. Pete Beach

The estimated completion date for the first phase of the Pass-A-Grille Way reconstruction project is now late June, possibly early July, according to City Manager Wayne Saunders.

"I don't have the final date, but I think with the changes and weather days we're up into the end of May or first part of June as far as official days," Saunders said at the Mar. 13 city commission meeting. "But there are some other days due to some conflicts we've had that haven't been addressed. So there will probably be some additional days beyond that. I think if we're looking for a (total) completion date we're looking at June, possibly the first of July."

City Commissioner Ward Friszolowski said he has been receiving a number of email queries about the project from residents and suggested updating the city's website with a new projected

completion date.

"I think one thing that will help people see light at the end of the tunnel is that in our meeting last week, Nelson (Construction) stated that toward the end of this week we would actually see the surface work starting at the north end," said Saunders "It's what they call boxing out for the lanes to get the new sub-base in, which will be followed by some concrete work, curbing and sidewalks."

Following the completion of the first phase, which extends from the Don CeSar Hotel south to 19th Avenue, the second phase will begin, from 18th Avenue south to First Avenue.

In a related action, commissioners approved two change orders on the project totaling \$31,007. One covers work Nelson did on Duke Energy infrastructure and the other is related to

**GOVERNMENT continued on page 4**

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# From the Publisher

By Betsy Judge

I have only lived in this area for 10 years, but I've heard about Tierra Verde getting a new bridge since my first days as a resident of that island. I live in another slice of unincorporated Pinellas County now, so I don't have to contend with draw bridge lifts and backed up Ft. DeSoto traffic to get to and from the grocery store, but I've done that, so I am thrilled that a new bridge is finally on its way for the island community. The projected completion year seems like an eternity, hopefully things will go as well as when they built Structure C.

While on the subject of new, we have been working and continue product improvement on [www.theislandreporter.com](http://www.theislandreporter.com). The new site will be updated with news and information more frequently than before. It also has an interactive events calendar where visitors to the site can add upcoming events, subject to approval by our editorial staff. Add yours today.

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Happy April everyone.



## GOVERNMENT continued from page 3

potable water service connections. The city will be repaid for both by Duke and Pinellas County, respectively.

### Treasure Island

A request for a reduction in a city lien on a home at 13 Treasure Lane was turned down Mar. 7 by city commissioners.

Kaushal Rathi of Altisource, a real estate services provider, was seeking a reduction in a \$13,400 bill from 2008 when the home was owned by an out-of-state resident and fell out of compliance due to tall grass, weeds, debris and stagnant water.

City officials assessed a \$100 per day lien for over four months. The property, which went into foreclosure and is currently owned by Capital One Bank Florida in Jacksonville, is now in compliance. No interest is accruing on the lien.

"I see no reason to give any reduction," said Commissioner Ken Keys.

"I think it sends a bad signal to reduce it," said Commissioner Larry Lunn. "I think if we start this

process, there will be no end to it. If we don't get compliance, that's the only hammer we've got. I'm not in favor reducing it a dime."

In other action, Mayor Bob Minning announced that a lengthy lawsuit over cracks in the Central Beach Trail had been resolved. The city has agreed to a \$850,000 settlement with Phil Graham Landscape Architecture.

The city will use the settlement to build a new trail, which stretches nearly a mile from Gulf Front Park to 119th Avenue. Minning said engineering and design for the new trail would be the next step. Requests for bids would follow.

Two months after the \$1.2 million trail opened in 2013, cracks appeared in the walkway and wall.

In another move, city leaders gave initial approval to a request by Spencer LaBarbera and Ryan Barca to enter into an agreement with the city to operate a beach gear valet service, which will provide transportation of tourists' beach items from a parking lot or hotel to the beach, using wagons with pneumatic tires.



## Publisher Betsy Judge

Graphic Design Lorrie Bellinger

### Regular Contributors

- Ellen Capitosti, Beverage Beat
- Doug Mason, News
- Jackie Minniti, Florida Author Series, Pride & Joy
- Bruce Norris, Cartoonist
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pride & Joy .....	11
Florida Author .....	12
The Old Professor .....	13
Wayne's World .....	20
Beverage Beat.....	20
Business Beat.....	22
Notable Achievements.....	22
Island Toons .....	23
TIR Puzzle Page .....	24
Local Events .....	25
Business Card Directory .....	26
TIR Picture Page .....	27

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**RANSOM continued from front page**

confidence that it is safe. "Click here to download the photos," is very general and should trigger a flag. "Click here to download the photos from the chamber event on Tuesday," should give the recipient more confidence that it is a valid email.

For periodic newsletters, be suspicious if they came out on a different day than normal or the formatting looks different.

"If you are on a network that's public, like a guest Wi-Fi where you don't have to login, it's wide open so anybody can go on and tap into your device and see if you've got antivirus, anti-malware and firewall protection. If you don't, there are a lot of tools out there that can be used to break into devices," says Liggieri.

"Make sure you have firewall, antivirus and anti-malware software installed," he adds. A suite with all three should be adequate for most people. Also, make sure to check for and download updates to the operating system and other programs. Those updates have patches created specifically to counter the most recent cyber threats.

Users also should back up their data to mobile or removable media. When a system is hacked, it will infiltrate anything that is attached to it. And don't look to the cloud for help. Data stored on remote servers accessed from the internet are designed to replicate files each time the data changes. When data is

hacked, it changes and it will be replicated in the cloud storage. Also keep in mind data can be lost during floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters too.

If you are hacked Liggieri suggests doing the following:

- Immediately disconnect from wifi and the internet to limit the attack to one device if possible.
- Wipe or reset your system to factory defaults.
- Reinstall applications and data from offline copy of backup.
- Seek professional help for further advice and assistance.

And report the crime to the Internet Crime Complaint Center, at [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov).



This image from Quarterdeck Technology hammers home the idea that losing your data is not the sole purview of computer attacks and users should back up their data on mobile or removable media.

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# Toastmasters Team with Local Students for Grant Prep

By Betsy Judge

Toastmasters is about individuals becoming more effective communicators and leaders. At the Downtown St. Petersburg club, some of the members are using their experience to help a group of young entrepreneurs in the BETA program at Gibbs High School.

The Business, Economics, Technology Academy (BETA) program is a magnet program at Gibbs that focuses on providing students with a college-preparatory education to prepare them for a real-world business environment. For some students in the BETA pathway that means running Gibbs Bucks, a coffee business within the school. It also means a chance to compete for a Next Generation Entrepreneurs grant for \$10,000, \$3,500 or \$1,500.

This is where Toastmasters comes in. They have been mentoring the students for about six weeks in preparation for the grant presentation using proven Toastmaster methodology.

The students together with their teachers chose the coffee business in hopes of preventing kids from arriving late to school because they stopped to buy coffee.

"If they are late (or on time) they are still walking in with coffee, so we wanted to solve that problem by providing it on campus," says Anthony Knox, a member of the BETA pathway faculty. He says their goal is to produce coffee that tastes as good as commercial competitors, but is cheaper. "They've evolved so much from the first day till now; they've done a great job," he



Student Ke'Aisha Singer (left) with Gibbs Bucks talks with attendees at a Ford Next Generation learning event hosted at the Tradewinds about their company and product.

TIR staff photo.

says about the students. "Now we have the process down." He says they are seeing results and the option to pre-order and pre-pay helps ensure students show up for their coffee.

When the opportunity to apply for the grant came up, Knox reached out to the Toastmasters. "I knew what they are about; I've had people in my life that were Toastmasters. I actually did it in Gulfport, Mississippi." He wanted to take advantage of the professional way they could teach his students to speak publicly, "which they struggle with, so I gave them a call."

On a March afternoon, four Toastmasters from St. Petersburg gathered in the lobby of the school then proceeded to the classroom.

Olivia Mansion, a business and mindset coach for women, joined the group in November. She explains what they have been doing.

"The session here is a little bit over an hour, so we divide it into four segments with an educational portion where we may address giving speeches or talk about business in general, then we break into groups of about 5 to 10 students and ask questions and give prompts." After that students go to the

**STUDENTS continued on page 10**



Toastmaster volunteers serve as mentors for students who made a pitch for a Next Generation Entrepreneurs grant in late March. The club members worked with the students once a week for seven weeks prior to the competition.

TIR staff photo.

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**BRIDGE continued from front page**

"I understand," adds Lee, "but we used Sunday traffic volume, and we used the last five years of traffic volume. When I put my engineering hat on, what makes more sense, to make this feasible coming down from the bridge, is a roundabout."

There will be flash beacons giving drivers a heads-up about the roundabout while they are on the bridge. There are also two curves coming down from the bridge to slow traffic so cars should be traveling between 15 and 20 mph when they enter the circle.

Comparisons with the traffic situation at the Clearwater roundabout were somewhat diminished with further discussion about the elements of the design that would require traffic to slow and the lack of anything at the center of the circle

which allows drivers to have a better sense of where the traffic is in the roundabout.

In response to concerns about emergency vehicles making it around the circle. Lee noted the project was developed using design vehicles that represent everything from passenger cars to firetrucks and fuel tankers that have to maneuver to get in and out of the gas stations.

Lee says he has three priorities for the project: the safety of the drivers, the safety of the pedestrians and the safety of others, like cyclists, using the road.

The two entrances from the Bayway into the plaza at the base of the bridge will be closed; access to it will be from Madonna only, and the existing draw bridge will remain in place and usable during construction.

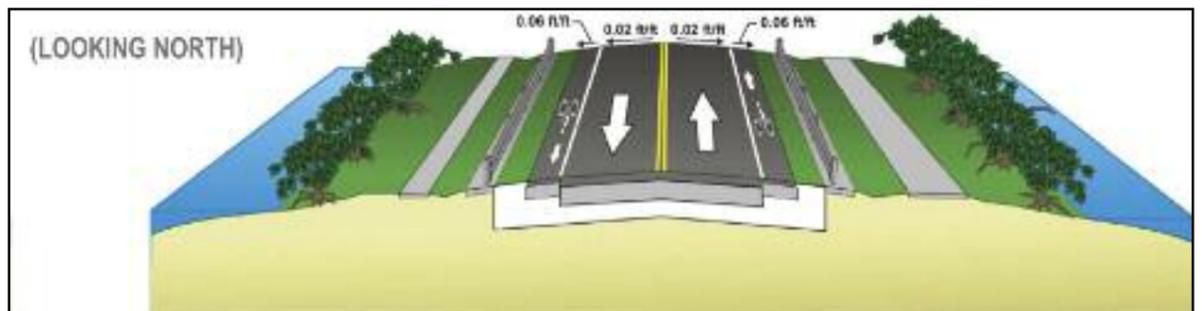
FDOT is not involved in the current construction that according to one individual is hurting business already.

"We won't be here until another year from now, and we will have a public workshop letting you know we are coming. The department is very good when it comes to doing what we are going to do," adds Lee.

A copy of the presentation is available at [www.theislandreporter.com](http://www.theislandreporter.com).



The community was involved in selecting the design elements of the bridge including the support structure, the lights and what to include on the walls. With the exception of the lights, it will have the same design features as Structure C.



This cross section shows the sidewalk on the west side of the roadway and the trail on the east side. Both will go all the way to the intersection by the entrance to the Isla Plaza. Cyclists in groups will still use the roads.

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The project includes rebuilding the seawall on the east side of the roadway across from Century 21 (1), building the bridge itself (2), and resurfacing Pinellas Bayway South (State Road 679) to the intersection with State Road 682 which goes over the Structure C to St. Pete Beach (3).



The roundabout concept was a big discussion item. FDOT representative Kevin Lee assured the audience that it is the best alternative for the intersection at the south end of the bridge and that design features have been included to help slow traffic before entering the circle.

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**STUDENTS continued from page 7**

front of the class individually to answer questions. "The last portion is what we call table topics where it's just random questions, but you're in front of the group. You get to feel what it's like to know the content, but still feel a little nervous."

She says they were given information about Gibbs Bucks and the grant presentation requirements then took their Toastmasters material and blended the two.

"We critique as we go along and ask them what they did well and what they could have done better."

On this, their next to last session, they break the routine and Toastmaster Mitchell Rabsatt, a mechanical engineering student who has been with the club about a year, gives a speech he developed for international competition.

"The students will evaluate him, what he did well and where he could improve," says Mansion. "We want them to see someone who is dressed up, knows his content and is comfortable."

"For their last week what we will end up doing," says 10-year Toastmaster Robert Wilson, "is helping them though the actual presentation they will have to do for the grant. It includes a one minute elevator speech, a five-minute presentation about the program and then 10 minutes of Q&A." They intend to get new volunteers the students do not know to serve as a panel. "We will go through the whole thing, give them suggestions and then have them come in and do it again."

Student Kelci Holloway from Pinellas Park appreciates the Toastmaster effort. "It's good; and it helps us get ready for the competition and speaking out in the real world."

Keyon Chance, a 10th grade student from St. Petersburg agrees. "It helps me keep better eye contact with everybody. Usually I'd be fidgeting when I speak to people, but now I keep eye contact." He is also a frequent volunteer to speak.

St. Petersburg student Kayla Egulf serves as the



Students and teacher Jennifer Tuazon listen as Toastmaster Mitchell Rabsatt gives an emotional speech about how his relationship with his father impacted him while growing up. Afterwards, students asked questions about his preparation process.



A Gibbs Bucks entrepreneur pours coffee which has or will be sold to students as part of their in-school business to help prepare them for a real-world business environment. Photo from www.pcsb.org.

vice president of Gibbs Bucks. "Toastmasters has helped by getting me out of my shell, because I'm a very shy person, so it has helped me to be able to present and speak in front of my peers."

Jennifer Tuazon, a member of the BETA staff serves as Knox's back-up. She turned to teaching after a successful business career. "I think it's been great," she says about the Toastmasters' involvement, "because our kids are little bit younger (than other Next Generation Entrepreneur competitors) and that couple of years makes a difference. To see them progress has been amazing."

Andy Bustamante with Toastmasters kicks the session off by reminding the students who they are and why they are there. He introduces Rabsatt. "Mitch Rabsatt will give his international speech; a speech he prepared and intended to use in competition. He has spent countless hours practicing, writing, and fine-tuning it and is presenting in full attire. We have talked about the amount of preparation time that goes into creating a speech or preparing to present to a group of people; to control your body movement; to

control your intonation and your voice. You'll see all that today, so this is as authentic as it gets."

Mitch gives an emotional pitch about the rocky relationship he had with his father before he died and how it impacted him growing up. Then one by one the students were called upon to ask him questions about how he prepared and how it felt to give the speech.

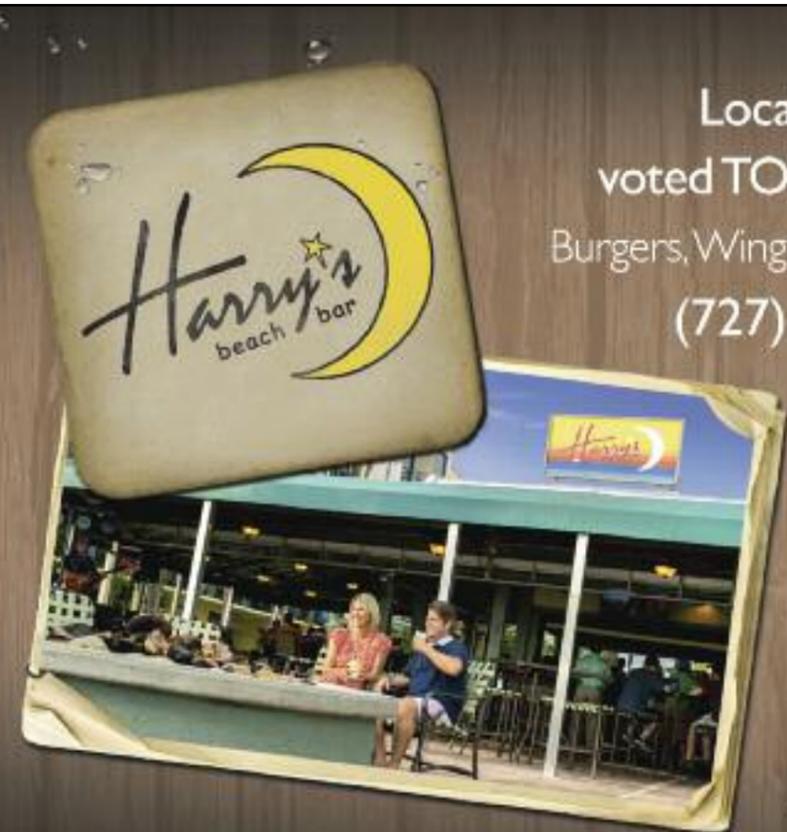
The hour flies by as the Toastmasters direct the activities and the students ask or respond to a variety of questions or critique themselves or others. It ends with the students having an opportunity to ask questions of the Toastmasters.

Toastmasters International is a leader in communication and leadership development with than 345,000 members who improve their speaking and leadership skills by attending one of the 15,900 clubs in 142 countries. There are 19 clubs in South Pinellas County. For more information go to www.toastmasters.org.

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# Pride & Joy Learning About World Affairs

By Jackie Minniti

Willi Rudowsky describes herself as “big on internationalism.” According to this St. Petersburg resident, “I’ve worked overseas, and I’m very interested in international relations and their impacts. And I’m interested in intellectual things – the thinking side of people.” So it isn’t surprising that she would become involved in the St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs (SPCWA).



Willi Rudowsky has turned her post-retirement spare time into volunteer time including serving on the public relations committee for the St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs. Their annual conference, which includes a variety of speakers on critical issues of the day was held in February.

The SPCWA is the venture of a group of civic-minded St. Petersburg residents with support from the University of South Florida/St. Petersburg. Each year, this non-profit organization brings together panels of diplomats, military, media and academic experts to speak about critical issues of the day. The three-day conference, now in its fifth year, is open to all interested guests, and admission is free.

Willi moved from San Francisco to St. Petersburg in 2000, something she calls “the best move ever.” After retiring from her job at the Poynter Institute in 2014, she got involved in volunteering. “In San Francisco, I was so busy I didn’t get to see people outside my circle,” she says. “When we moved here, I met so many interesting people. The sense of community in St. Petersburg is amazing.” She spent some time as a helper in the Pre-K program at the Museum of Fine Arts and joined the Sunshine Street Team, a group of downtown St. Pete residents who act as walking information booths to aid visitors to the city.

Willi first learned about the SPCWA three years ago. “My husband was the founder of a grassroots volunteer group, and we got a call from the founder of the conference,” she says. She was drawn to the group because of its focus on local issues with global impact. She believes that, in

order to better understand others, it’s important to become familiar with other countries and their societies. Willi experienced this firsthand when she worked overseas. “When I used to go to Manhattan, I was afraid to get into taxis with drivers who looked like they came from overseas because I was frightened by how they drove,” she recalls. “Then I went to their countries and saw the conditions they drove in. I thought that if they could drive in those conditions, they were pretty special.”

It’s this kind of international understanding that Willi believes the SPCWA will help promote. Some of

this year’s panels included “Canada and America: Are we brothers or distant cousins?,” “The Arab Spring: Is it now December?,” “Africa: Are its states on a firm footing?,” “NATO: Your grandfather’s great idea,” “Music and Art: How their impact overpowers political borders,” “International Education: Who wins and who loses?,” and “Arab-Israeli Peace: Any bets on near-term progress?”

As a member of the public relations committee, Willi is tasked with helping craft the message and get the word out about the SPCWA. She also makes herself available during the event to greet visitors and answer their questions. “There are really good programs that are open to anyone,” she says. “And since the conference is free, everyone can come and learn something regardless of your age or economic status.” She also believes that the conference is a good thing for St. Petersburg. “It proves that St. Pete isn’t a backwater place,” she says. “There are interesting things going on here.”

For more information go to [www.stpetersburgintheworld.com](http://www.stpetersburgintheworld.com).

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## Florida Author Writing From Experience

By Jackie Minniti

Any writer will tell you that the first rule of writing is, "Write what you know." Orlando writer Susan Koone ( S.K.) Nicholls has had enough unusual experiences to fill a book – in fact, enough to fill two books so far. And she's just getting started.

A native of Pine Mountain, Georgia, Nicholls always loved writing. After her mother's death, she spent time in foster care and a children's group home. In high school, her teachers discovered and encouraged her writing talent, and she was awarded a scholarship. She planned to attend college and major in English, but an unplanned pregnancy put an end to that dream.

After spending some time in New York, she returned to Georgia and went to work in a hospital. When the hospital offered to pay for her nursing degree, Nicholls decided to change career paths. She waited tables to support herself until her nursing license came through and then began her new profession. But her desire to become a writer never disappeared.

In 1992, the discovery of a mysterious ledger in the walls of her aunt's house refueled her urge to write. It contained information about women who had undergone illegal abortions given by a town doctor in the 1950s and '60s.

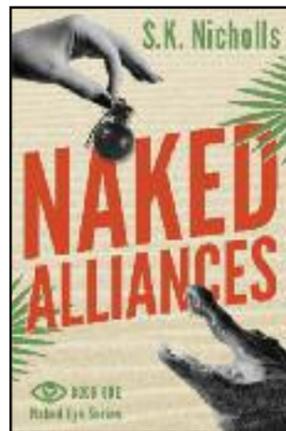
"I wanted to write a book based on it, but my father disagreed because so many of the people were still alive," she says. So she put the idea on hold.

In 2007, Nicholls' life took another unexpected turn. "I went through some life changes and ended up divorced and homeless," she says. "My cousin had a cottage near a resort his family owned in Kissimmee, so I packed the car and hauled everything there." The resort just happened to be Cypress Cove, one of the oldest and largest nudist resorts in the country. "People have a misconception about nudist resorts," she says. "It's not about sex. It's about uninhibited relaxation, with freedom from the status associated with clothing." Her experiences in Cypress Cove would come in handy later.

After retiring from nursing, Nicholls had the time to pursue her dream. Encouraged by her



Susan Koone ( S.K.) Nicholls always loved writing, but an unplanned pregnancy and the breaking up of her marriage left her homeless delayed her from realizing her dream until she retired. "Naked Alliances" is her second novel and the first in what will become her Naked Eye Series.



cousin, she finally wrote a novel inspired by the ledger she'd discovered so many years ago. "Red Clay and Roses," published in 2013, is a historical novel that chronicles the trials and tribulations of characters grappling with inequality and injustice in the Jim Crow South. Writing the novel left Nicholls depressed, so her "wonderfully supportive" husband, Greg, (a rocket scientist who also serves as her alpha reader and a frequent contributor to her works) suggested she write something lighter. This provided the impetus for her next book, "Naked Alliances."

Nicholls describes "Naked Alliances" as character-driven Florida Regional Crime in the tradition of Tim Dorsey or Elmore Leonard. It's the story of Richard Noggin, a private investigator in Orlando who becomes an unwilling participant in a tangled web of sex trafficking, political intrigue and murder. "I wanted to expose the sex trafficking that's so rampant along the Orange Blossom Trail," Nicholls explains, "and I wanted to integrate a nudist resort as a safe haven to correct the misconceptions people have

about that lifestyle." Peopled with unforgettably quirky characters, "Naked Alliances" will keep readers amused and engaged until the final page.

Nicholls is already working on a sequel that will become the second book in the Naked Eye Series. This one will have Richard Noggin investigating a murder connected to the Seminole Tribe. "All my books involve social issues," Nicholls says. "This one will look at how casino money has affected the Seminoles." Nicholls hopes her books will entertain readers but will also make them think seriously about societal problems they might not have given much attention.

When Nicholls is not writing, she enjoys fishing, boating, tracking down Snorlax while playing Pokemon Go, and spending time in city parks with the homeless. This should provide her with a wealth of experiences that will help her to continue writing what she knows.

For more information go to [www.sknicholls.com](http://www.sknicholls.com).

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# In Praise of Truck Stop Waitresses

By The Old Professor

*Sing the gals who sling the hash.  
Bestow the laurel wreath.  
Laud the ladies sweet and brash  
in hamlet and in heath.*

As a lad I rode with my parents on many a trip. We would often stop at truck stops. "Truckers know good food," my Dad would say. We could refill the car, stuff ourselves and drain our bladders all in one stop.

Dad never explained how the truckers knew good food. I don't think many of them worked for Duncan Hines. Maybe he figured they traveled a lot and shared information even before CB radio. The fact of their expertise was received wisdom, not textbook truth.

It was at these stops that I first saw truck stop waitresses. Now I know that political correctness dictates that, in the name of gender equality, I call them "servers." Some such admonitions are too much. Really? I'd be happy to be correct, but I have never seen a male in that role. I don't think we guys can cut it. The truck stop waitress is always on the move from customer to kitchen to serving station and back again. She may not run, but she doesn't stroll. I don't think a man could keep up.

Truck stop waitresses are seldom young. They have been around. They carry a worldly, wise aura. Though they may share a little silliness, they brook no nonsense. They're in charge, and you don't have to ask to know that.

A good truck stop waitress speaks truth. Recently the professor asked one if the sugarless syrup were good. "No!" was the brief and useful reply. "Darlin' you don't want ta order that," is not unheard. She doesn't want you to be unhappy. It hurts her tips. She is an agent of satisfaction.

There is no standard attire for truck stop waitresses. Some wear uniforms of a kind. Others sport casual fashion, maybe even jeans. Never shorts. They're no longer young and with hot stuff around it's wise to protect the lower limbs.

Supportive shoes are a must. I suspect that if they bothered with pedometers, we'd see big numbers at the end of the day. One local eatery requires its help to wear tee shirts with two fried eggs in strategic places. I think it's demeaning. But when I ask the wearers they say it causes conversation and elevates gratuities. The offended probably just quit.

I wonder where these ladies of nutrient distribution come from. I imagine a National Truck Stop Waitress Academy where they take Hash Slinging 101 through Polite Rejection Of Come Ons 410. You don't get smart with these gals or they will cut you to the quick with only mildly obscene invective. That skill has to be learned, not just acquired. Flo of Mel's Diner TV fame is the prototype. She probably graduated summa cum laude and created "Kiss my grits." in her senior thesis.

But truck stop waitresses are no longer just in truck stops. They now appear in our city in so-called family restaurants. For unfathomable reasons these not-necessarily-greasy spoons usually bear single first names: Jack's, Johnny's, Christina's, Nick's, Trip's, and the like. I don't know if one needs a special certificate from the academy to work in urban locations or not. I suspect it might be possible online. Maybe the University of Phoenix has bolstered its academic standing by adding a major in family and truck stop waitressing. They have a stadium, but no football team. So they don't have to have their own eatery. The waitresses work so hard because they have big students loans to pay off in addition to families to support.

So on behalf of Americans everywhere who seek out comfort food at modest prices and conviviality, not just on the road but down the street, let me express appreciation for the industry of the women who connect us to our sustenance. They do good work and deserve our plaudits. Huzzah!

"Can I warm that up for ya hon?"  
*Hashed up by David H. Smith, PhD., retired professor.*

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# Remembering Dick Misener

By Sally Yoder

Photos courtesy of the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum

When researching local beach development, there are a lot of references to the men and women who shaped the government, built homes and resorts, and struggled to have a reliable infrastructure while building towns with a solid foundation for the future. One gentleman, Richard (Dick) T. Misener, is at the top of the long list of productive “doers” of his time.

A resident of Michigan City, Indiana he married Mary Jane Mathias in 1937 beginning a 50-plus year relationship of love, adventures and hard work running multi-million dollar enterprise. In their first year of marriage, they lived on an 18 foot sailboat they had built in his family’s garage. But a desire to have more time on the water drove them to Florida towing “Tonga,” their sailboat in 1939.

Dick’s strong interest in boats and the water lead them to St. Pete Beach. It seemed a good place to begin a business. Over the next years he formed Misener McEvoy Marine Construction with his friend and beach resident, Carl McEvoy. Between the 1940s and the ‘70s, the company built 480 miles of seawalls along the beaches and fingers of pumped

sand in Boca Ciega Bay.

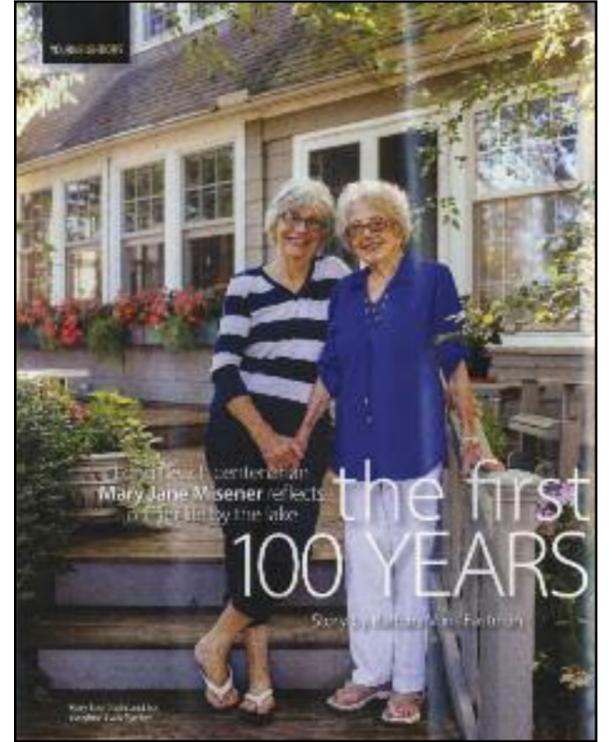
Dick, Mary Jane and daughter Sue Ann loved the island community and the people. He soon became politically active and was very involved the city’s growth serving two terms as mayor from 1970-1974. They belonged to both the St. Petersburg Yacht Club and the Pass-a-Grille Yacht Club where Dick served as its commodore.

When the Don Cesar Hotel looked to be doomed in 1970, Dick joined others and was a driving force to save the structure and helped to restore and refurbish it resulting in the Don being listed in 1975 on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

And his business grew. “I realized that waterfront property was Florida’s basic asset,” he once said. The company expanded its operation becoming Misener Marine Construction Inc. and replaced the walls of a 400-year old Spanish castle, replaced the Seven Mile Bridge in the Florida Keys, and built barriers to protect the center supports of the new Sunshine Skyway. The first span of the Skyway from the St. Petersburg side is named after him in honor of his marine construction efforts. Other projects include building ports in Belize, Barbados and the Dominion Republic along with pipelines in Puerto Rico and Mexico.

In 1981 Misener took a six year leave from his company to explore a life outside of the business world. The couple had owned many boats, but in 1983 he and Mary Jane moved to Monnickendam in the Netherlands to keep check on the construction of his new 103-foot yacht also named the Tonga, which means “Friendly Island.” It took nearly two years for the building of the steel vessel with an aluminum superstructure, two 432-horsepower diesel engines, a Jacuzzi, many other luxury items and trimmed with teakwood.

Once they set sail, they stopped at many ports finally arriving at their home on St, Pete Beach. Dick hired a Dutchman,



Mary Jane Misener (right) poses with daughter Susie Tomion for a cover in Lakefront Neighbors, a Best Version Media publication. The companion article about her first 100 years was written by Barbara Voris Eastman

Willem Racke, to help plan a cruise around the world. However health issues and an undiagnosed lung problem took Dick’s life in 1987. He told Mary Jane he knew Racke would be fine to take the trip they had planned. And she did, cruising the world aboard the Tonga for the next six years.

Several months before his death, Dick resumed the presidency of Misener Marine offices and yards in Tampa. It was now a multi-million dollar corporation and one of the largest marine builders in America, building marinas world-wide and other projects including a cruise-ship port in Miami, two Virginia jobs, a 13.6 million Navy pier along with a 57.3-million bridge. A long cry from a little seawall company in St. Pete Beach.

Mary Jane recently celebrated her 100th birthday and now lives with daughter Susie Tomion and son-in-law Jon. She has three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They spend summers in Indiana, returning to a cypress beach cottage on the bay in Pass-a-Grille for the winters.



Dick Misener with his hard hat (top left). Dick and early partner and friend Carl McEvoy stop for a photo (top right). The Misener & McEvoy Marine Construction Company is pictured circa 1950 (bottom). It was located on two lots west of the Corey Bridge on 75th Avenue. Under Dick Misener’s leadership and a name change, it eventually became a multi-million dollar company with projects all over the world.

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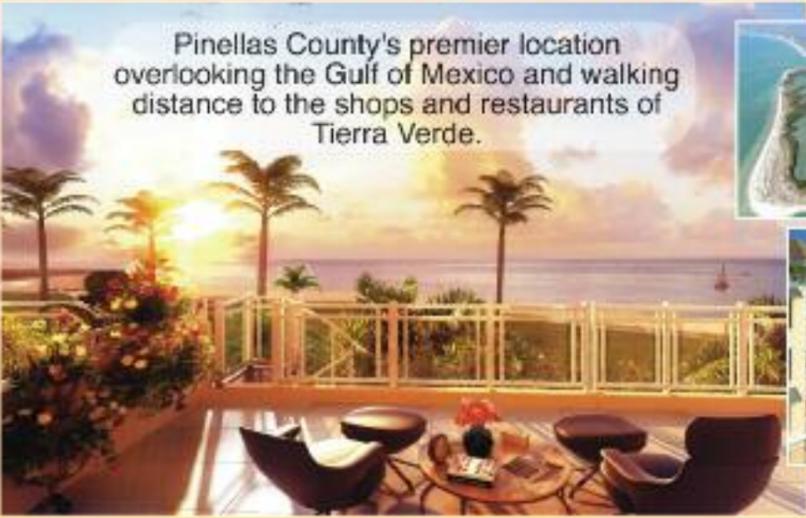
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# Veterans Group Partners with City for Annual Salute

Story and Photos by TIR Staff

The Veterans of South Pinellas County (VSPC) and the City of St. Pete Beach are partnering for the 7th Annual Salute to the Military on May 6 at Horan Park. It is one of several annual events the city is supporting in honor of its 60th anniversary throughout 2017.

Unlike 2016 when the heavens opened up on the event, the president of VSPC, St. Pete Beach resident Harry Metz, is predicting warm weather, no rain and clear skies.

Activities kick off at 10 a.m. with vendors, an antique fire truck and military displays, a silent auction and opportunities to win 50/50 raffles throughout the day.

Opening ceremonies begin at 10:45 a.m. and include a special presentation of colors, and an induction ceremony where local young men and women will be sworn into the armed forces by Col. Mike Greiger USAF (Ret.).



Five teens raise their right hands and repeat after retired LtCol. Carol Barkalow who administered the oath of enlistment at last year's Salute to the Military. Despite closing the event five hours early the Veterans of South Pinellas County raised \$9,000 to support veteran-related charities.

The bands begin rockin' the park at 11:30 a.m. with The Boat of Us playing until 2 p.m. followed by Raizin' Jane until 4:45 p.m. The kids fishing tournament sponsored by Gulf to Bay Tackle on St. Pete Beach is from noon to 2 p.m., and a blood mobile will be there until 3 p.m.

The St. Pete Beach Fire Department will be cooking burgers and hotdogs and there will also be clam chowder flown in from New England, large hot pretzels, ice cream, pizza and adult beverages.

The St. Pete Recreation Center staff has been actively involved in coordinating the event.

"We are providing some logistical support as well as taking care of entertainment and sound," says Jennifer McMahan, director of the center. They are also helping the group

**SALUTE continued from page 21**

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# Facts on Filing Tax Extensions Without Paying a Penalty

By NAPS

There's good news, bad news and better news for people who can't file or pay their taxes on time.

The good news: Just because you can't file your tax return by the April deadline (the 18th in 2017) doesn't mean you'll be in trouble with the IRS. You can request an automatic six-month extension of time to file the tax return.

There are several ways to request an automatic extension. Tax professionals can file the application, which can be found on the IRS website (look for Form 4868), printed and mailed to the IRS or e-filed. Whether taxpayers use a tax professional or submit the application themselves, all or part of the estimate of the income tax due can be paid with a check, credit or debit card or by using the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System.

The bad news: But beware, there is a catch. An extension is just an extension on the time to file the return; it's not an extension on the time to pay.

Taxpayers are required to estimate the amount of tax that may be due with the tax return and remit payment with the extension to avoid Failure to Pay penalties. These penalties, plus interest, could accrue until the tax is paid, regardless of the extension. If a

balance is still owed when the actual tax return is filed, at least the penalties and interest will have been minimized.

If it turns out you owe more money than you can pay, try to file on time or file for an extension and remit as much as possible to minimize penalties. Payment plans may be worked out later.

If you get a notice from the IRS at any time, contact your tax preparer immediately. If you didn't have someone prepare your return, you should contact a licensed tax professional.

The better news: You can get help before and after you file from the only federally licensed tax practitioners, enrolled agents (EAs). EAs, considered America's tax experts, have unlimited rights to represent you before the IRS. Enrolled agents are so called because one can act as your "agent" before administrative levels of the IRS and talk to or meet with the IRS in your stead. EAs must abide by a code of ethics and complete many hours of continuing education each year to ensure they are up to date on the constantly changing tax code.

To find an enrolled agent nearby, visit the searchable "Find a Tax Expert" directory at [www.eatax.org](http://www.eatax.org).



You may not have to file your income tax form in April. Professional preparers can help you get an extension.

**Jackie Minniti**  
**JACQUELINE**

"Jacqueline's timeless story of hope, faith, and the enduring bond of friendship will linger with you long after you reach the end."  
 — Diane Capri  
*New York Times* and  
*USA Today* Bestselling Author

When ten-year-old Jacqueline Falna hears her mother's scream, she is unaware that the axis of her world is about to tilt. Her father's plane has been shot down by German fighters. In the midst of poverty, food shortages, air raids, and the grinding hardship of daily life under Nazi rule, "Jacqueline" is a tale of family, faith, unusual friendships, and the resiliency of the human spirit set against the backdrop of occupied France in 1944. With the drama of fiction and the authenticity of personal history, "Jacqueline" is both a story about family and a family's story.

Available at **amazon.com**, **BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS**, **iBooks**, **kobo**, **Headwaters**

**ANGELS AGAINST ABUSE**  
 CORTIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

*Blue Ribbon Gala*

WHERE WE'VE BEEN... WHERE WE ARE... AND WHERE WE ARE GOING...

*Angels*  
 APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2017  
 6:30 PM

BALLOON OPENS AT 7:15 PM  
 HILTON ST. PETERSBURG CARILLON PARK  
 930 LAKE CHARLTON DRIVE | ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716  
 COCKTAIL RECEPTION & SILENT AUCTION - DINNER & LIVE AUCTION  
 DANCING WITH THE DAZZLERS  
 RSVP ENCLOSED  
 SEMI-FORMAL ATTIRE | BLACK TIE OPTIONAL

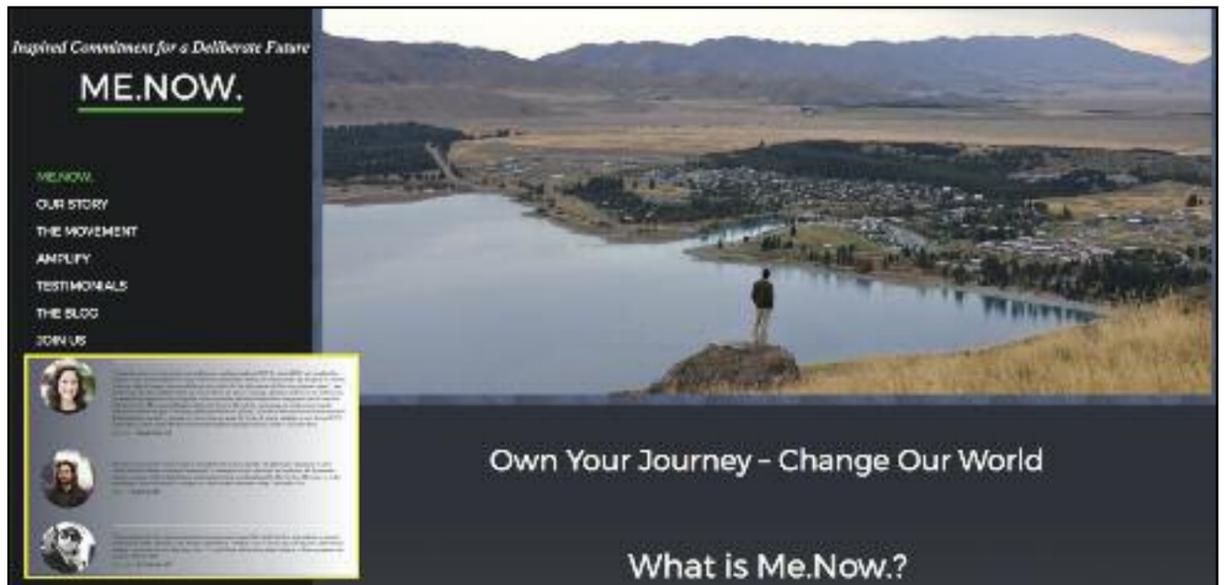
# Local Entrepreneur Helps Others Find Passion

By TIR Staff

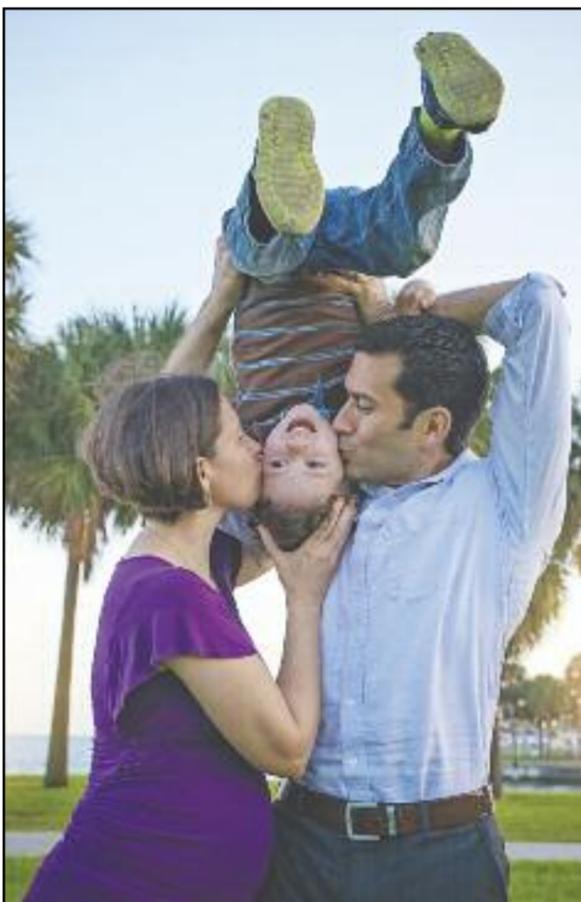
By all measures Andrew Bustamante has been very successful. He is one of the few college-bound students to get accepted into a military academy each year, he succeeded while serving in the Air Force and excelled as a CIA operations officer, but it wasn't enough. So the 37-year-old entrepreneur left it all behind, moved to St. Pete Beach and started Me.Now, a community of individuals committed to trusting their ambition, living their passion and creating an inspired future.

His son Sina, now 4, was his inspiration. "It became apparent when I was a new dad that my own life had been largely a series of decision where I was faced with what I wanted to do versus what I thought was the right thing to do," he says adding the right thing was defined by what others' expected; his mom, his dad, the military and society at large.

"All my decisions were based on a matrix of what was required by the military. It led to a career in the



This screen shot shows the home page of Me.Now. The inset photo at bottom left is a capture of the testimonials written by members about their experience with Me.Now, a community where members are encouraged to identify and make their passions a priority.



Andrew Bustamante, former Air Force and CIA officer frolics with wife Jihi, also a former CIA officer and son Sina, who inspired him to start Me.Now.

government where again I'm doing what's expected ..." He realized his successes were not giving him any internal joy. "I get promotions, I get the awards, I get the assignments, but it's not enough to compel me to pursue great ambition; I just keep trying hard enough to get the next little bang."

Watching his son, he saw Sina's passion to explore and learn about the world that he once had as a kid. "And that I carry with me even still today under layers of responsible decision-making. I decided as he grew up, I had to do something different otherwise he would just follow the same path that I was representing."

He and wife Jihi, also with the CIA, left their government careers to pursue their passions; to pursue a life they wanted. It led them to Florida and to the beach. "We built a life here. We took a chance and it worked out for us."

Me.Now. is not much of an income producer at the moment, so Andrew is an executive advisor for a Fortune 500 company. True to his new philosophy, he took the job because it met all his requirements: to work remotely from home with a salary and days off that he wanted. "I was able to negotiate ...I'd never tried to do that before, but now I have this ideology that I'm going to direct my own course. It gave me the courage to try."

Giving others the courage to try is what Me.Now. is about. He says it is community where

people can find positive support for pursuing the things they care about.

"It all springs from the idea that when you do what you love to do, that's what you're best at. We have become a culture where what we want to do comes second to what we need to do. Responsibility takes priority over passion and, as a result, we make decisions based on that."

Members have finished books that had stalled, prioritized their activities in order to pursue an early passion they had left behind, and one member changed careers becoming a creative consultant using his passion for photography and writing to make a living.

Andrew is passionate about using the skills he learned in the CIA to manipulate people to motivate others. "What I found is when you live in a world where manipulation is a fundamental pillar, all relationships become manipulative relationships. My manager was not motivating me he was manipulating me, we were not motivating our peers we were manipulating them."

"Me.Now. is a catalyst for new thinking. I'm trying to get people to realize we are all susceptible to manipulative ways of thinking, but we can very easily apply the same concept in a positive manner and build something instead of being torn down," he adds.

To learn more go to [www.livemenow.com](http://www.livemenow.com).

WWW.THEISLANDREPORTER.COM

## Hello MEDICARE

Come to a neighborhood meeting to learn more about your UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plan options.



**Candace Reistrom**  
Licensed Sales Agent  
727-434-1803, TTY 771  
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**April 6 & 27 at 10 a.m.**  
**Panera Bread**  
1908 4th St N. St Petersburg, FL 33704

**April 24 at 1 p.m.**  
**Dunkin Donuts**  
1200 Pasadena Ave S., S. Pasadena, FL 33707

Don't wait! If you are turning 65 or new to Medicare, call me today!

This is an advertisement ADXCMEN000 0VSP1 4188Y0006 130719\_13 0705 Accepted 5D265FB8

Plans are insured through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company and its affiliated companies, a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in the plan depends on the plan's contract renewal with Medicare. A sales person will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call 727-434-1803, TTY 711.





What to do if you're in an accident.





**Frank P. Marsalisi, P.A.**  
Motorcycle - Auto Injury  
Offices: St. Petersburg - Tampa  
[MarsalisiLaw.com](http://MarsalisiLaw.com)

# Jenson

— By Sabrina O'Donnell

The doctor told me that the human heart never stops beating, but the day I watched Jenson fall out of the tree I would've sworn my heart did just that.

I remember the terror spreading up and down my whole body as I watched the branch he was standing on snap. He was right next to me one second and then gone in the next. Just like that.

With a crash I watched him land on the ground. I couldn't get out of the tree fast enough. I was practically falling myself.

I remember crying and crying on my driveway when Jenson wouldn't wake up. I just sat there next to him on the ground shaking him and praying that he was going to be okay.

The doctor told me that if we don't eat lots of food we'll run out of energy, so as I dragged Jenson up the driveway and into my house; I was really glad that I had chosen to eat a big breakfast that day.

I plopped him onto the couch and held onto his arm. I yelled his name over and over, but he wouldn't even open his eyes.

The doctor told me that sometimes splashing cool water on someone's face can wake them up if they pass out, but I splashed handful after handful on Jenson and he didn't budge.

It felt like hours. What would my parents say when they found out? They always warned me not to climb up too high in the tree, and now look what happened.

The doctor told me that sometimes when people are unconscious they can still hear you, so I didn't stop talking to Jenson even though he wasn't responding to what I was saying.

I told him how much fun I have playing with him and going exploring. I talked about how happy I get when we play pirates, because most boys don't think a girl can play pirates, but he always tells me I can do anything I want.

When my parents came downstairs and saw me crying on the floor next to the sofa, they rushed over to see what had happened.

"What is it?!" My mom screamed.

"Are you hurt?!" My dad yelled.

The doctor told me that sometimes when people die instantaneously, like one would if they hit their head too hard, they don't feel any pain.

"I..." I stuttered. "I think he's dead. I think Jenson's dead."

Mom and Dad both took a step back. I watched my mom grab my dad's arm, but Dad looked more angry than sad.

"He..." I continued. "He fell out of the tree out front. I warned him about going too high. I'm so sorry."

"It isn't your fault honey," my mom knelt down next to me cautiously.

"Yeah," my dad yelled angrily. "Yeah we can just all pretend that this is okay!"

Dad stormed out of the room and I started crying again. Everything was falling apart.

The next day my parents wanted me to go visit someone. She was a very nice doctor lady who wanted to talk to me all about Jenson and what had happened.

I told her I already knew a lot about what doctors know; about your heart not stopping and about splashing cold water on peoples' faces when they're passed out. She told me she wasn't that kind of doctor.

She made me sit down and asked me a lot of questions that I had to really think about the answers to. When she looked at me her eyes looked sad.

She told me that Jenson didn't die, that he isn't real, and that he never was.



## Wayne's World

# Russia Building North... Fighting Mosquitoes - Maybe... and More...

By Wayne Shattuck

Russia Building North... The old nuclear icebreaker Lenin, once the pride and joy of the Soviet Union's Arctic activities, now lies at perpetual anchor in the frigid water there. A relic of the Cold War, it is now a museum. But nearly three decades after the Lenin was taken out of service to be turned into a visitor attraction, Russia is again on the march in the Arctic and building new nuclear icebreakers. It is part of a push to firm Moscow's hand in the High North as it vies for dominance with traditional rivals Canada, the United States and Norway as well as newcomer China. Interviews with officials and military analysts and reviews of government documents show Russia's build-up is the biggest since the 1991 Soviet fall and will, in some areas, give Moscow more military capabilities than the Soviet Union once had. Under President Vladimir Putin, Moscow is rushing to re-open abandoned Soviet military, air and radar bases on remote Arctic islands and to build new ones, as it pushes ahead with a claim to almost half a million square miles of the Arctic. It regularly releases pictures of its troops training in white fatigues, wielding assault rifles as they zip along on sleighs pulled by reindeer. The Arctic, the U.S. Geological Survey estimates, holds reserves equivalent to 412 billion barrels of oil and about 22 percent of the world's undiscovered oil and gas. The build-up, which echoes their moves in Crimea and Kaliningrad, has been noticed in Washington. U.S. Defense Secretary James Mattis described Moscow's Arctic moves as "aggressive steps" and pledged to prioritize developing a U.S. strategy. The Russian actions are causing jitters elsewhere. Some 300 U.S. Marines landed in Norway in February for a six-month rotational deployment, the first time since World War Two that foreign troops have been allowed to be stationed there.

Fighting Mosquitoes - Maybe... Pay attention to the ingredients of bug sprays and other repellents, because they're not equally effective at warding off

mosquitoes that carry diseases like Zika virus, researchers say. Products with DEET or oil of lemon eucalyptus, which contains an ingredient known as PMD, are more effective at repelling the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito that carries Zika, chikungunya, yellow fever and dengue, researchers found. Wearable devices advertised as mosquito repellents should largely be avoided, their data suggests. In their study, researchers purchased and tested 11 products and altogether they tested five wearable devices, five sprays and one candle, using human volunteers who had not bathed or used deodorant for at least 15 hours before the experiments. Without any type of device or spray, about 89 to 91 percent of the mosquitoes were attracted to the volunteers. Of the five wearable devices, only one - the OFF! Clip-on - significantly reduced the number of mosquitoes drawn to the participants' scents. The attraction rate was only about 27 percent when people were three feet from the cage. The device uses a fan to disperse an insect-repelling chemical known as metofluthrin. The other wearable devices included a speaker to repel mosquitoes and three bracelets that emitted different oils and none had any effect on reducing attraction. And like many of the wearable devices, the candle that contained citronella oil did not significantly reduce the number of mosquitoes attracted to participants' scents. But, all of the spray-on repellents significantly reduced the number of mosquitoes attracted to the participants, with attraction rates varying from about 30 percent to about 79 percent. The tested spray-ons generally used DEET or oils like lemon eucalyptus. The researchers wrote in the *Journal of Insect Science* that consumers may feel a false sense of comfort that they are protected by some of these devices when they actually are not.

But That's Not All. "Iron Clad Contract" came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.

## Beverage Beat

# A Ham, a Lamb, a Vino!

By Ellen L. Capitosti

Easter, is right around the corner. Time to gather with friends and family around the table and celebrate. Perhaps you are ending the Lenten season with something you gave up for Lent? If so, it is the time to respectfully indulge in the luscious bounty you have forsaken in the previous 40-plus days.

A grand Easter tradition is ham. Whether your pork is fresh and marinated in mojo; smoked or salty country, ham is often the main meat event for Easter. It sticks to the ribs after a morning spent munching on Easter candy and the occasional hard boiled Easter egg. Ham also provides a base on which to build the balance of the dinner, as well as a foundation for the wines which should be served to complement the fine springtime fare. For highly textured and less sweet smoked ham, try medium-bodied fruity reds that have moderate acidity such as Grenache-based reds, Primitivo-Negroamaro, Valpolicella, and Secco lambrusco. Pinot noir, as a red with low tannins and high acid, slices perfectly through the spirals of a sweet and sour baked ham glaze. Depending on your taste, a sweeter wine may

be called for to go with a glazed ham. Fruity options on the drier side would be riesling, chenin blanc or a white zinfandel/merlot. If you are feeling a bit more adventuresome in fruit, some great options to try with a glazed ham are new world reds, such as Australian shiraz, South African pinotage, or American petite sirah.

Lamb is another luscious Easter main meat favorite and it is a supremely wine-friendly meat. Rack of lamb, roasted or grilled, when paired with a Pinot Noir is a classic. Lamb is a strong flavor which also lends itself well to pairing with a high tannin, full-bodied cabernet sauvignon. If branching out, cru Beaujolais, dry rose, and even vintage rose Champagne work well with a rare, to medium rare, young spring lamb.

Easter is a time of new beginnings and re-birth. No matter what the meat is on the table, be adventuresome with the wine pairings. Try something new, perhaps it will become a family favorite?

*Ellen Capitosti is the owner of Tostis Spirits & Fine Wines.*

**SALUTE continued from page 17**

by paying for two off duty police officers, waiving the permit fees and park rental fees and assisting on the promotion and marketing of the event.

“I actually think it is a great event with a great cause and purpose. I am happy to be involved,” she adds.

“This is a family event and there is something for the young and old to enjoy,” says Metz. “The silent auction has many items to choose from like a flight to Key West where you can spend the day and fly back watching the beautiful Florida Sunset or spend the day at the beautiful Feather Sound Golf Course enjoying a foursome round of golf.”

Sponsorships are available and all donations from sponsors, vendors and advertisers are tax deductible and support Pinellas County veterans. For general information or to become a supporter,



As volunteers worked feverishly to pack things up at last years Salute, the entertainment continued keeping the “troops” morale up.

please call 727-322-5217 or visit VSPC on Facebook at Veterans-of-South-Pinellas-County-Inc.

The VSPC is a 501(C)(3) charity and has given more than \$135,000 in cash and in-kind donations to a variety of nonprofit groups that support veter-

ans. This year’s named benefactors are Support The Troops and Heaven on Earth for Veterans. They also fund two scholarships to local colleges, and members provide assistance to veterans in immediate need as things arise.

## 7th Annual Salute to the Military

**Saturday, May 6, 10 AM – 5 PM**  
**Horan Park, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr., St. Pete Beach**



- Color Guard
- Military Induction Ceremony
- Military Exhibits
- Antique Firetruck Display
- Food and other Vendors
- Kids Fishing Tournament
- Live Music
- 50/50 Raffles
- Silent Auction

This years Salute to the Military is May 6 in Horan Park and will feature a military induction ceremony, music, food, exhibits, auctions and raffles.

W W W . T H E I S L A N D R E P O R T E R . C O M

### Sunday Service

8 am & 10 am  
Children’s Nursery Provided  
Age 3 1/2 and under

Adult Sunday Bible Study  
9 am

Lighthouse Children’s Church  
10 am

Wednesday Evening  
Service  
Prayer Meeting and  
Bible Study

*Dr. Mike Wetzel,  
Pastor*



### EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

at  
East Beach  
Fort De Soto Park

April 16th  
6:45 am

**EASTER EGG HUNT** March 15th - 10 am  
at the Tierra Verde Ballpark (just south of the Fire Station)

*1271 Pinellas Bayway, Tierra Verde, FL 33715*  
[www.theislandchapel.org](http://www.theislandchapel.org) \* 727-866-7362

# Business News

## TIMB Chamber Hosts Senate Staffer

Susie Perez Quinn, chief of staff for Senator Bill Nelson, listened to concerns and updated local business leaders and elected officials from Treasure Island and Madeira Beach at a meeting hosted by the Treasure Island and Madeira Beach Chamber. Topics were far ranging from tourism, offshore drilling, beach nourishment and flood insurance to health care, infrastructure, jobs and education. Photo courtesy of TIMB Chamber.



## Marine Max Celebrates Changes



Marine Max St Petersburg unveiled their renewed facility on Boca Ciega Bay with a grand re-opening and ribbon cutting. They have added more inventory and expanded their storage capacity with more slips and lifts. Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber members and guests enjoyed live music, hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. Info at [www.marinemax.com](http://www.marinemax.com).

Photo by Bob Schlesinger, Tropical Focus.

## All Seasons Landscaping Hosts Mixer

The owner and staff of All Season Landscape and Nursery in St. Pete turned their grounds into the perfect place for a cozy Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber spring mixer. Chamber staff passed out Buy Beaches First T-shirts, an effort to promote local businesses and reinvest in the local community keeping money closer to home. Food and an open bar was provided by All Seasons. Info at [www.allseasonslandscapingandnursery.com](http://www.allseasonslandscapingandnursery.com).



## You Want to Paint What?

Carol Hayes and husband Troy, owner of Engine 29 advertising, recently started Lets Paint This. It offers patrons a chance to unwind, have fun and channel their inner artist. No experience required as their artists walk



people through each painting step-by-step. They supply the paint and the canvas and the venue supplies the drinks. This event was hosted by Mastry's Brewing Company in St. Pete Beach. Info at [www.letspaintthis.com](http://www.letspaintthis.com).

## Free Clinic to Expand



The St. Petersburg Free Clinic has acquired a new building for its health center thanks to a significant gift from retired business executive David Baldwin. The 7,000 square foot facility on 4th Street North will allow them to expand the health care services they offer to south and mid-Pinellas County adults who don't have adequate access to health care. Last year, they provided 13,000 free basic health and wellness services. Photo by St. Pete Free Clinic. Info at [stpetersburgfreeclinic.org](http://stpetersburgfreeclinic.org).

## Palms Brings Virtual Reality to S. Pasadena

Virtual reality came to Palms of Pasadena Hospital in mid-March during a free health fair. Participants had the opportunity for an immersive experience that made viewers feel like they were inside a human heart with three-dimensional, 360-degree video that showcases the heart in exquisite detail. See more on page 27. Photo by Palms of Pasadena Hospital staff.



# Notable Achievements

## Masons Sponsor Winning Team

The Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge recently sponsored the Celtics, a Madeira Beach Recreation youth basketball team, which won the league championship. Gulf Beach Lodge is dedicated to supporting the community and its youth programs in order to assist in building a positive outlet for our young people. The Lodge encourages other organizations and businesses to take part in supporting children and their sports teams throughout the year. Some notable Freemasons were George Washington (and 15 other US presidents), Ben Franklin, Henry Ford, Red Skelton, and General Douglas MacArthur. Info at [www.gulfbeachlodge.org](http://www.gulfbeachlodge.org).



## Soup-er Bowl Food Drive a Huge Success

This year's "Soup-er Bowl Food Drive for a Safe Home" held in January and February netted enough non-perishable food to feed CASA (Community Action Stops Abuse) clients for five months. As the official domestic violence center for southern Pinellas County, CASA is a vital safety net for people either trapped in abusive relationships or dealing with the hardships, trauma and danger that may exist even after leaving an abuser. More than 50 organizations volunteered to help, eventually filling over 200 large boxes with food including Tierra Verde's own Allen Collins Realty. Info at [www.casa-st.pete.org](http://www.casa-st.pete.org).



## Volunteers Help Save Marine Wildlife

Forty volunteers participated in Tampa Bay Watch's recent Mono Clean-a-thon cleaning 50 miles of line (22.72 pounds of fishing line) which will be sent to Berkley Fishing to be recycled into fishing equipment or fish habitats. The group sorted through it to remove debris and cut out hooks and lures. This line was collected from TBW's 170 monotubes or fishing line recycling stations around Tampa Bay. Monotubes encourage the proper disposal of line since it's a serious threat to birds and other wildlife. Planet Love Life donated eco-friendly raffle prizes including marine debris awareness bracelets. Info at [www.tampabaywatch.org](http://www.tampabaywatch.org).



# Summer Camp Registration Now Open

## Madeira Beach

The city's recreation department is hosting summer camps with weekly educational themes, special field trips and indoor and outdoor activities for kids who have completed kindergarten - 8th grade. Camp hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. The full session runs May 30-Aug 4 and is \$750 for residents and \$1,000 for non-resident. Half sessions are May 30 - June 30 or July 3 - Aug. 4 and are \$375 and \$500 respectively. A 10 percent sibling discount is available as are weekly rates. Info at [www.madbeachfun.com](http://www.madbeachfun.com).

## St. Pete Beach

The Academy of Performance Arts in St. Pete Beach has summer camps in varying lengths. Academy campers will be challenged with painting and drawing techniques, monologues and acting games, dance routines and many more arts-filled events. They also experience the technical side of productions, such as writing scripts, making scenery and costumes, running audio and lighting boards or even playing in the house band with occasional guest visits from local artists, actors and dancers.

Sessions are from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. with openings May 29-June 2, June 5-9, June 11-23, June 26-30, July 3-14, July 16-August 4 (features the BIG Show) August 7-11 and August 14-18. Two and three week long camps will conclude with performances on the last Friday and then outdoors live for the general public on the following Saturday night. The Single week sessions are \$175 each; Two week sessions are \$350 and the three week session is \$500. Info at [www.academy-of-performancearts.com](http://www.academy-of-performancearts.com).

The St. Pete Beach Recreation Department offers camps designed to develop campers' independence, self-esteem, and peer relationships. They teach the importance of a healthy, active lifestyle, develop an appreciation for the arts and outdoors, and develop creativity and free play. Camp runs from May 30 - Aug. 4 and is open to all children who have completed kindergarten through 6th grade. The camp is Mon. - Fri. from 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. with before care at 7 a.m. The weekly resident fee is \$80 for the first child and \$65 for siblings. Non-resident fee is \$100 per week and \$85 for siblings. Before care is \$5 and \$6 and after care from 5 - 6 p.m. is \$15 and \$18 respectively. Info at [www.spbrec.com](http://www.spbrec.com)



Campers at The Academy of Performance Arts (APA) Summer Camp last year participated in a range of art-related activities.  
Photo courtesy of APA.

## St. Petersburg

The St. Petersburg Museum of history is hosting a newly launched City Builders Summer Camp for 15 fourth through sixth graders June 12 - 16. Using the museum's resources, campers will learn about the history of St. Petersburg, architecture, preservation, and government to determine what it takes to make a great city. The camp is \$195. Info at [www.spmoh.com](http://www.spmoh.com).

## Tierra Verde

Tampa Bay Watch (TBW) is offering summer camps for children with an interest in marine science and who love going to the beach and finding animals. The marine ecology camps promise fun in the sun and the marine ecology of Tampa Bay and its inhabitants!

Sea Monkeys is for kids ages 6-8 and offers an introduction to the marine environment. There are openings in their full day camps:

June 12-16, July 24-28 and July 31 - Aug. 4; half-day sessions are open July 10-14 and July 17-21. Tampa Bay Discovery camp is a full-day for kids 9-14 and offers an in depth look at what makes Tampa Bay one of the most incredible estuaries in the world. They currently have openings June 26-30 and July 10-14.

Both camps are held at the TBW Marine and Education Center on the Shell Key Preserve. Info at [www.tampabaywatch.org](http://www.tampabaywatch.org).

## Treasure Island

The City of Treasure Island Recreation Department will have two camps for children this summer. A 10-week recreational camp for ages 5 to 13 is May 30 through Aug. 4, with a mini-camp Aug. 7 - 9. Camp is 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Before and after care is available for an additional fee and there are family discounts. Activities include games, sports, arts and crafts, parties, guest speakers and entertainment, movies, field trips and much more. Registration begins Apr. 10 at the Recreation Department, 120 108th Ave. Info at [www.mytreasureisland.com](http://www.mytreasureisland.com)

Junior Tennis Camps for kids 8 years old through high school will be held at the Treasure Bay Golf and Tennis, 10315 Paradise Blvd., Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.- noon. Info at (727) 360-6062.



Students at Tampa Bay Watch (TBW) summer camps learn all about the marine environment and participate in restoration projects.  
Photo courtesy of TBW.

# ISLAND TOONS

By Bruce W. Norris

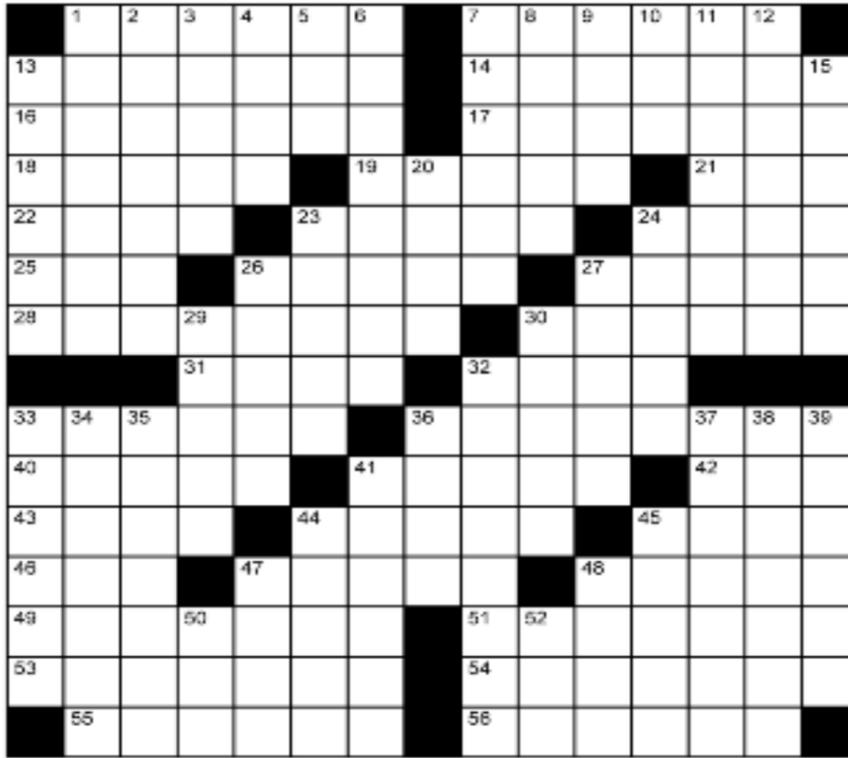
# The Island Reporter Puzzle Page

## The Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Mass confusion
- 7 Plato's "tenth Muse"
- 13 Help settle
- 14 Bleep
- 16 In pieces
- 17 Boat race
- 18 Break down
- 19 TV police oldie
- 21 Angle or athlete starter
- 22 Behind
- 23 Mine passage
- 24 Container for nitroglycerin
- 25 Make a scene?
- 26 Doctor's orders
- 27 Studio 54, for one
- 28 Protective layer
- 30 Written code
- 31 Dirty coat
- 32 Letter sign-off
- 33 Part of an atom
- 36 Cleric's residence
- 40 Like notebook paper
- 41 Range rover
- 42 Nobelist Hammarskjöld
- 43 Say for sure
- 44 Kind of salad
- 45 One of many in "The Pianist"
- 46 Film director's cry
- 47 Humdrum
- 48 Directory contents
- 49 Snobby sort
- 51 Better

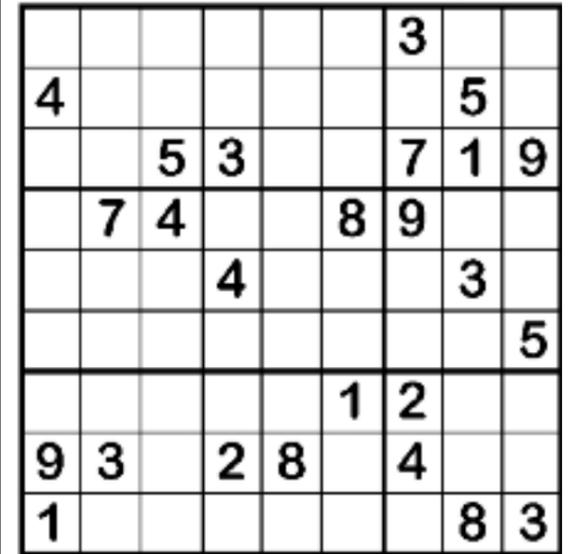


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- 53 Compunction
- 54 Learned ones
- 55 Word in an early Elvis song title
- 56 Gracefully trim
- DOWN**
- 1 Beg
- 2 Tell a thing or two
- 3 Kuwaiti cash
- 4 Kenny Rogers song written by Lionel Richie
- 5 Took the cake, say
- 6 Butcher or baker
- 7 Font flourishes
- 8 Quite proficient
- 9 Gluttons
- 10 Bake-sale org.
- 11 Getting up there
- 12 Run faster than
- 13 Summery fabric
- 15 Make fit
- 20 Pal around (with)
- 23 Grafting shoot
- 24 Deadly snake
- 26 Endured
- 27 Place to lounge
- 29 Fragrant compound
- 30 Brown shade
- 32 Lethargic
- 33 Gold Rush county in CA
- 34 Small stream
- 35 Erstwhile
- 36 Traveler's need, sometimes
- 37 Inflexible
- 38 Montreal newspaper
- 39 Breastplates
- 41 Playful talk
- 44 Out of style
- 45 Part of U.S.N.A.
- 47 Wren or hen
- 48 "Scream" star Campbell
- 50 Big load
- 52 Washroom, to a Brit

## Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.



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DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆

## Trivia

### First Lines of Novels

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1. "Happy families are all alike: every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way"  
(a) Ordinary People (b) Pride and Prejudice (c) Anna Karenina
2. "It was a bright cold day in April and the clocks were striking thirteen"  
(a) Animal Farm (b) 1984 (c) A Clockwork Orange
3. "All this happened, more or less"  
(a) Slaughterhouse-Five (b) The Stranger (c) Fahrenheit 451
4. "It was love at first sight"  
(a) A Farewell to Arms (b) Catch 22 (c) The End of the Affair
5. "It was a queer, sultry summer, the summer they electrocuted the Rosenbergs, and I didn't know what I was doing in New York"  
(a) The Bell Jar (b) The Tin Drum (c) Herzog
6. "Once upon a time, there was a woman who discovered she had turned into the wrong person"  
(a) Diary of a Mad Housewife (b) The Color Purple (c) Back When We were Grownups
7. "A screaming comes across the sky."  
(a) City of Glass (b) The Sound and the Fury (c) Gravity's Rainbow
8. Time is not a line but a dimension, like the dimensions of space"  
(a) Cat's Eye (b) Invisible Man (c) The Razor's Edge
9. "In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advise that I've been turning over in my mind ever since"  
(a) David Copperfield (b) The Great Gatsby (c) Ethan Frome
10. "There was a boy called Eustace Clarence Scrubb, and he almost deserved it"  
(a) Catcher in the Rye (b) Lord Jim (c) The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

Puzzlers can find the answers to all these brain teasers at [www.TheIslandReporter.com](http://www.TheIslandReporter.com) under "Puzzles"

## Word Search

All About "Me"

- ACME
- AUGMENT
- CAMEO
- COMET
- COMMERCE
- DIME
- EMERALD
- FAME
- GARMENT
- HELMET
- MEDAL
- MELON
- REMEMBER
- SEMESTER
- TORMENT
- AMEND
- CAMEL
- CEMETERY
- COMMENT
- DIAMETER
- ELEMENT
- ENAMEL
- FARMER
- HAMMER
- IMMERSE
- MEDIC
- OMELET
- ROMEO
- TIMER
- WOMEN

I J Q T S U Y D M R Z Y S S X H N  
 D G K E R T M N P O E P E G S A X  
 I B G D R T E E A U G M E N T M Y  
 Q E C L P N N M L K E Q I N F M Y  
 P R A A E E L A O S T H E T P E Z  
 C T M R G M R W T C Z M N I Z R O  
 O G E E S R A E Y R E T E M E C N  
 M Q O M W O R C E L L F S A Z E R  
 M V A E L T U M E E L R G S M U E  
 E M I D O E E L M E D A L O T F M  
 R Z P P R M H A Q R T I W N A I R  
 C N J M B A N C G N M C E M W Z A  
 E O Y E O E I T E M R M E W C W F  
 B L R A R D T M E C M O J N M X K  
 U E N C E Y R R U O X M M V X Y H  
 E M F M Y A S U C E T E L E M O G  
 G Z G E G E D I A M E T E R O R L

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

# Local Events, Activities & Announcements

## Gulfport

**Apr. 5 & 15: Gulfport Art-Walk**, 6 - 10 p.m. Beach Blvd. S., Waterfront District.

**Apr. 8: Latin Music by the Bay**, 1 - 9 p.m. Latin music festival featuring recording artists Orchestra Fuego, The Latin Jazz Knights, Freddy Montez, Victor J. Moreno with Esther Suarez, and Eddie Garrido. A portion of proceeds benefit Michael J. Yakes Foundation. Tickets are \$15 and discounted for military and first responders. Food and drinks available. Info at [www.gulfportcitylimits.com](http://www.gulfportcitylimits.com).

**Apr. 14 & 15: Springfest Garden Art & Faerie Festival**, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Family-friendly enchanted village inhabited by costumed faeries, sprites, gnomes, ogres and trolls. Activities and entertainment including a Good Friday Fish Fry and exciting carnival rides. Volunteers needed. Clymer Park, Gulfport Blvd. S. and Beach Blvd. S. Info at Facebook/GulfportSpringfest.

**Apr. 28 - 30: Gulfport Grand Prix**, Times and activities vary. Boat races featuring 120-mile-an-hour Formula Powerboats, vendors, antique boat show and pit area. Free to the public. Shore Boulevard. Info at [www.gulfportgrandprix.com](http://www.gulfportgrandprix.com).

**Gulfport Public Library:** Go to events at [www.mygulfport.us/gpl](http://www.mygulfport.us/gpl) for library events or visit at 5501 28th Ave S.

### Each Week

**Gulfport Fresh Market:** Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 3007 Beach Blvd. Info at 727-278-4285. Jan. 10 is Clothing Swap to Benefit CASA.

**Gulfport Toastmasters:** Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. Community Room, Gulfport Public Library. 5501 28th Ave. S. Info at 727-537-9098, [info@gulfporttoastmasters.com](mailto:info@gulfporttoastmasters.com) or [www.gulfport-toastmasters.com](http://www.gulfport-toastmasters.com).

**SoTangerine Market:** Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tangerine Greenway, 5022 Tangerine Ave. Info at 727-439-0164.

### Throughout the Month

**Gulfport Casino:** Dance Lessons. \$5 for members, \$8 for non-members. Gulfport Casino: 5500 Shore Blvd. S. Info at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us).

**Senior Center Events:** Calendar available at [www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org) or 727-893-1231.

## Madeira Beach

**Apr. 27- 29: King of the Beach Fishing Tournament**, times vary. Fishing tournament, live music and festival. Food and drinks, auctions and raffles, kids play zone and boat showcase. Free parking and shuttle. Info at [www.oldsaltfishing.org](http://www.oldsaltfishing.org).

### Each Week

**Wednesdays: Madeira Beach Morning Market**, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open air market in downtown Madeira Beach. Info at [www.thebeachmarkets.com](http://www.thebeachmarkets.com).

## S. Pasadena

**Mar. 31 - Apr. 2: 30th Annual Artspring Exhibition**, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free art show featuring innovative and traditional artwork by over 100 local artists. City Hall, 7047 Sunset Dr. S. Info at [www.mysouthpasadena.com](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com).

## St. Pete Beach

**Apr. 8: Oral Cancer Foundation's Walk/Run For Awareness**, 6 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. race. Hosted by St. Petersburg College dental hygiene students and OCF. Entertainment, raffles, food and awards. Rain or shine. Hurley Park, 1500 Pass-A-Grille Way. Info at [www.oralcancer.org](http://www.oralcancer.org).

**Apr. 28 & 29: Beach Goes Pops**, 5 - 10 p.m. Two evenings of surf, sand and music. Free. Food and drink vendors, Saturday Chillin' on the Grille Lounge experience; tickets are \$100 or \$125 and include choice of food from 2 food trucks and tickets for food from any other vendor, unlimited beer, wine and Prosecco. Gulf Way & 9th Ave. Info at [www.beachgoespops.com](http://www.beachgoespops.com).

### All month

**60th Anniversary T-Shirts On Sale.** The city is selling commemorative shirts. Wear it the second Friday of each month all year for special promotion/discount by sponsors. Short sleeve, \$20; long sleeve \$25. St Pete Beach Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. Call 727-363-9245.

**May 6: Mark Your Calendar-7th Annual Salute to the Military**, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Music, vendors, food, beer, wine, military exhibits, military induction ceremony, kids fishing tournament. Hosted by the Veterans of South Pinellas County. Horan Park, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. Info at Facebook under Veterans of South Pinellas County.

### Each Week

**Corey Avenue Sunday Market**, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Open air market. Live music. Info at [www.TampaBayMarkets.com](http://www.TampaBayMarkets.com).

**St. Pete Beach Public Library.** Check the library section of [www.stpetebeach.org](http://www.stpetebeach.org) for the latest events.

### All Month

**Play Shuffleboard**, Games are Tues, Thurs. & Sat., 10 a.m. to noon. No experience necessary. PAG Shuffleboard Club at 10th Ave. Info at 727-360-1858 or 727-367-6937.

## St. Petersburg

**Apr. 1: 2nd Annual Rob Shingler, Sertoma Shuffleboard for Speech Tournament**, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Play shuffleboard and raise money to benefit Johns Hopkins All Children's hospital speech and hearing division. Sponsored by the S. Petersburg SERTOMA club (Service to Mankind). A donation of \$25 per person includes a double elimination tournament, lunch, a beverage, (You may bring your own) and cookies. Info at 727-433-3075.

**Apr. 4: 14th Annual "Unhappy Hour,"** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Local businesswomen mark National Equal Pay Day. Hosted by Business and Professional Women (BPW)/St. Petersburg-Pinellas. Ruth's Chris Steak House 131 2nd Ave. N. info at [www.new.bpwstpetepinellas.org](http://www.new.bpwstpetepinellas.org).

**Apr. 5: Nominate a Local Hero**, Nominations are being accepted through Apr. 5 for the "Local Heroes" Award, which recognizes three St. Petersburg residents for community service. The awards will be presented during the "Rock, Stars and Stripes" concert Apr. 14 at the Mahaffey Theater. Nominations may include anyone who deserves recognition for the work they do to benefit the community. Info at [www.rockstarsand-stripesshow.com](http://www.rockstarsand-stripesshow.com).

**Apr. 7: A Good Night's Sleep Dessert Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Commemorate the 40th anniversary of CASA and raise money to help them cover program and service expenses. Info at [casa-stpete.org](http://casa-stpete.org).

**Apr. 8: Second Saturday Art Walk**, 5 - 9 p.m. Take in the St. Pete arts scene after hours. Info at [www.stpeteartsalliance.org](http://www.stpeteartsalliance.org).

**Apr. 9: Violin Concert featuring Ryan Meehan**, 2 p.m. Free, public concert hosted by ASPEC at Eckerd College. Lewis House, 4200 54th Ave. S. Info at [www.eckerd.edu/aspec](http://www.eckerd.edu/aspec).

**Apr. 21: Developing Champions Breakfast**, 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Raise funds and learn about mentoring children. Special guest Mayor Rick Kriseman. Benefits the First Tee of St. Petersburg. Tickets \$50. Vinoy Hotel, 501 5th Ave. NE. Info at [www.thefirstteestpetersburg.org](http://www.thefirstteestpetersburg.org).

**Apr. 22 & 23: 31st Annual Green Thumb Festival**, Sat. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Garden Club of St Petersburg Flower Show, "BLAST FROM THE PAST," & Children's Plant Fair. 500 Sunset Dr, S. Info at [www.gardenclubst-petersburg.org](http://www.gardenclubst-petersburg.org).

**Apr. 29: Blue Ribbon Gala**, 6:30 p.m. Fundraiser for Angles Against Abuse. Cocktail reception, silent auction, dinner, live auction and dancing. Semi-formal attire, black tie optional. Hilton Carillon Park, 950 Lake Carillon Dr. Info at [www.angelsagainstabuse.org](http://www.angelsagainstabuse.org).

**May 15: Mark Your Calendar - First Tee Fishing Cup "Snook Tournament,"** 6 a.m. fishing starts. Prizes for longest fish. Benefits First Tee of St. Petersburg. Isla del Sol Yacht & Country Club. Info at [www.TheFirstTeeStPetersburg.org](http://www.TheFirstTeeStPetersburg.org).

### Each Week

**Mondays: Toastmasters**, 6:15 p.m. PARC, 3190 Tyrone Blvd. N. Info at: 727-422-8856.

**Saturdays: St. Petersburg Saturday Morning Market**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Open air market at Al Lang Field parking lot, First Avenue S. and 1st Street. Info at [www.saturdaymorningmarket.com](http://www.saturdaymorningmarket.com).

## Tierra Verde

**Apr. 15: 6th Annual Tierra Verde Car Show**, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. As many as 125 classic vehicles plus music by DJ Tommy Tunes, food from local restaurants and kids' activities. Sponsored by Tierra Verde Business Partnership to benefit Eckerd SAR. 1110 Pinellas Bayway S. Info at [www.tierraverde-businesspartnership.com/](http://www.tierraverde-businesspartnership.com/)

## Treasure Island

**Apr. 1: Annual Spring Salute Car & Truck Show & Benefit**, 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Cars, silent auction, 50/50 raffles, live music, food & beer. Free and benefits charity. Treasure Island Community Center, 154 106th Ave. Info at [www.islandneighborchamber.org](http://www.islandneighborchamber.org) under events.

**Apr. 12: A Salute to our Nation**, 2 p.m. Free patriotic concert by the South Pasadena Community Band. TI Community Center, 1 Park Place & 106th Ave. Info at [www.southpasadena-band.com](http://www.southpasadena-band.com).

**Apr. 22: Monte Carlo Night**, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Fundraiser hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Sunshine City. Games of chance, silent auction, food and drinks. \$25. Benefits high school youth programs. Treasure Island Community Center, 154 106th Ave. Info at Facebook under Kiwanis Club of Sunshine City.

### Each Week

**Thursday Bingo**, 6:45 p.m. Early bird, 7:45 p.m. Regular. Cash prizes. Snack bar & free coffee. Hosted by the Treasure Islettes. Treasure Island Community Center 1 Park Place and 106th Avenue.

### Seminars, Classes and Announcements

**Become a Lifeguard.** Participants must be 15 years or older and must complete a pre-test. Classes are 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. April 22, 23, 29 & 30 and May 13, 14, 20 & 21. Participates must attend all four days. \$160 for St. Pete Beach residents/ \$180 non-resident. St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center. Info at [www.spbrec.com](http://www.spbrec.com).

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 78 Safe Boating Classes**, 7 p.m., each Tuesday. A 13 week continuous cycle of classes; start at your convenience; includes 400 pages of materials. Arrive the first time at 6:30 p.m. to register. \$40 for 13 weeks (\$55 for couples sharing a manual). Call Jim at 727-360-4846, Warren at 727-321-7801, or Phil at 865-2226. 1500 Pass-a-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach.

**Apr. 4: Your "Highway" Signs**, Apr. 11: Rules of the Nautical Road, Apr. 18: Boating Safety, Apr. 25: Introduction to Navigation, May 2: Powering Your Boat

### All Month

**St. Pete Beach Recreation Center Classes**, Classes in art, dance, self defense for women and a variety of other topics throughout the month. Classes for kids too. Go to [www.spbrec.com](http://www.spbrec.com) for a complete listing or call 727-363-9245.

**Treasure Island Art Guild Workshops**, Info at [treasureislandartguild.org](http://treasureislandartguild.org).

### Each Month

**Suncoast Hospice Caregiver Education and Support**, Gain new skills, self-confidence and emotional support with Suncoast Hospice's caregiver programs. Info at [www.suncoasthospice.org/caregivers](http://www.suncoasthospice.org/caregivers)

### Golf Tournaments

**Apr. 21 & 21: PARC's 43rd Annual Golf Tournament**, Friday Night "Viva Las Vegas" themed party at NOVA 535, 535 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N., St. Petersburg. Live entertainment, casino tables, slot machines, food and limited open bar. \$100 per person. Saturday golf check-in at 11:30 a.m.; 1 p.m. shotgun start. Games, contests, food and libations on the course, followed by awards dinner. Bayou Club, 7979 Bayou Club Blvd., Largo. Info at [www.parc-fl.org](http://www.parc-fl.org).

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# The Island Reporter Picture Page

## Casino Royale Raises Money for Vets

The St Pete West Rotary hosted approximately 300 people at the Armed Forces History Museum for their 4th Annual Casino Royale for charity in March. Organizers estimate they raised over \$30,000 for Heaven on Earth for Veterans, Claybaker DUSTOFF Foundation and scholarships.

*TIR staff photos.*



## Island Festival Celebrates Milestone Anniversaries

St. Pete Beach teamed with the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum for the 2017 Island Festival, an annual fundraiser for the museum. The event honored the city's 60th anniversary and the centennial anniversary of the museum building. Performance by students from The Academy for Performance Art entertained the crowd. There was a car show, vendors and about 700 people went through the museum. The most ever in one day.

*TIR staff photos.*



## Palms Hosts Health Fair

Virtual reality came to Palms of Pasadena Hospital (Palms) during their third annual health and wellness fair. In addition to an immersive experience inside a virtual heart, there were K-9 demonstrations, first responder vehicles and information on fire safety along with blood pressure screenings.

*Photos by Palms staff.*



## Bay Life Art Steals the Show

Eight area artists were featured at this year's Bay Life Art Show hosted by Tampa Bay Watch (TBW). A portion of the proceeds from the art sales supports TBW's environmental restoration projects to restore the bay's ecosystem and children's educational programs.

*Photos courtesy of TBW.*



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**TREASURE ISLAND** - Walk to the beach from this 3BR/3BA waterfront townhouse with private elevator. \$559,900 MLS U7795606 Call Gabrielle Betting, Realtor 727-385-9017



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Huge kitchen, sunken living room, balconies all levels.  
Resort style amenities - gated. \$322,000 Judy Bader, Realtor 727-698-3831



Spacious Village Waterfront Townhouse  
2- 2 1/2 plus garage and bonus room.  
Huge kitchen, sunken living room, balconies all levels.  
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