



Paddle Against Cancer Making a Difference in the World

By Betsy Judge

Publisher's Note: I was asked recently what has most impressed me since buying this paper. I said it was all the people I've met and written about who were confronted with a huge life challenge and took it head on with grace and dignity. This is about Gene Evans, a stage 4 cancer survivor. He did just that.

"I got a second chance at life, but the giving back, I think, is even more fulfilling, because I know I'm helping others who are going through the same thing that I went through," says Gene Evans in a video after receiving the Moffitt Cancer Center Spirit of Philanthropy Award in November.

Evans, a Treasure Island resident and founder of Paddle Against Cancer, has raised \$215,000 for research at Moffitt in the past six years through his event.

"I know this sounds funny," he says taking a deep breath, "I was supposed to get cancer. I kept telling myself, I'm never going to ask myself, 'Why me?' I figured I got it for a reason and it will all become clear at some point, and maybe I got it because I'm strong enough to get through it, and I can help other people, so that's why we've done this."

He thought he was going to die when he received his diagnosis in 2009. "I kept telling myself, 'I just need a fighter's chance. I just need a fighter's chance, if I can just have a chance,'" The docs gave him that chance noting he was in excellent physical condition with the exception



Paddlers take their boards to the water at the start of the 2016 Paddle Against Cancer. In it's seventh year, the event has raised \$215,000 for cancer research.

of cancer and that they would patch him up so he could get on with life.

With five surgeries and two bouts of radiation behind him, he's done that and more. And not only has Paddle Against Cancer raised great amounts of money, check out the photos of last year's event on Facebook; it looks to be loads of fun, which Evans confirms.

"It's not a race, it's a fun paddle and a lot of people that do competitive races really like coming out, because it's just fun," he says.

The fun is May 27 at the Club at Treasure Island which has hosted the event each year. Evans says it's their largest and last year they had 304 paddlers and about 1,000 party goers.

Participants come from as far away as Venezuela and Brazil and may use anything they can paddle to navigate either a 3, 5 or 7 mile

PADDLE continued on page 5

Company Founders Have a Story to Tell

By TIR Staff

The founders of a small company recently established on Treasure Island are ordinary people, with diverse backgrounds but a singular focus: to build a company that is more than a business making money. They envision an endeavor that is a social enterprise to improve the quality of the lives of people they impact and is a positive force in the community. They also believe in the benefits of medical marijuana and educating others.

Tom Murphy was a successful businessman who, like many people, chose this area to retire.

But he got bored quickly and wanted something to do.



"Twelve years ago the love of life my life, my wife, was taken from me by ovarian cancer and it was very challenging, and in the same year my mom was taken by pancreatic cancer. The

stuff that happens to people from chemo and radiation is terrible—it's heart wrenching and gut wrenching," he says. He attributes that experience to his passion for his company Gulf Coast Canna Meds (GCCM) and the burgeoning cannabis industry.

His business acumen told him it was also a very logical thing to do. "I talked to some friends that are in the cannabis business in Colorado and California, and they sent me some information. I flew out and spent some time in Colorado doing due diligence," he adds. The numbers were very good.

Oscar Mouton, a Marine vet and career law enforcement officer who first met Murphy in his college days in Maryland, lives here now and chanced upon Murphy at Publix. He was aghast when Murphy asked him to work for GCCM.



"He asked me if I'd consider doing security," says Mouton. "I asked for what, and he said for his marijuana business. Here I've been a cop and I'm not about to provide security for someone to get high—it goes against my ethos," he recalls. "Murphy insisted it was for medical reasons, and I didn't buy that; I was a true cynic." He thought it was just another excuse for people to get high. "That was the day that my education started," he adds.

He says it is ironic that he is now a true believer. "There's no doubt in my mind that medical marijuana is the way forward for a lot of people, not everybody, but for a lot of people.

"I can tell you, I've buried way too many of my

CANNABIS continued on page 7



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Photograph by: Peter Clark, Tierra Verde

I lucked out with this, a chick (left) branching out to see Mom.



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



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From the Publisher

By Betsy Judge

Coming up with a lead for a feature story is often the most difficult part of writing one. I wrestle with leads each month and prior to deciding on one for a story, all I have is thousands of words staring at me from the paper... uhh computer screen. Once I come up with a lead, they all seem to flow into a logical sequence behind it...at least I hope so.

The same holds true for this column; sometimes I just stare at the screen or walk around the house wondering what to write about for the next issue. This morning my husband Joe suggested I write about Mother's Day, and as he said that, I realized that it was 20 years ago this month that my mom passed away. I think about her often and even say, "hi mom," when I stop to really look at one of the many photos we have around the house with her in it; I do the same for my sister Vickie, Joe's mom Peggy and now my Dad.

Benjamin Franklin is credited with noting the only thing certain in this world is death and taxes, and I'm no longer sure about the latter. Death is certainly inevitable, and I find myself commenting

now when I hear about someone older dying, that while sad, they seemed to have a good, long life...whatever that means. But it breaks my heart when I think about people dying before what I consider their rightful time. But of course it is not ours to determine what time is right.

In "Hacksaw Ridge," an incredible movie about an Army medic who refuses to carry a weapon and is awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic effort to save 75 soldiers during the Battle of Okinawa, determined it was not their time to die. He worked in a shipyard and could have gotten a deferment, but he literally had to fight to serve in WWII.

"I was in good health, and I felt like it would be an honor to serve God and country," he said in an interview in 1987. This is one of the two months of the year where we honor the hundreds of thousands of veterans who fought and died for this country, but much like our deceased loved ones, we should honor them each and every day.

Happy May, Happy Mother's Day and Happy Memorial Day.



Publisher Betsy Judge

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Kayla Billeter of Treasure Island was the winner of the 2016 promotion. When she subscribed she wrote: "Thanks for hosting a \$100 gift card drawing. ... I mostly enjoy receiving the hardcopy version of TIR but the www info pop will be greatly appreciated."

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PADDLE continued from front page

route on the Intracoastal. Gene and wife Kate's vessels of choice are paddle boards which they first tried in the Outer Banks in 2008. He refers people who need to rent boards to Suncoast Surf Shop or Island Action Sports.

They ask for a minimum donation of \$35 to register. "We make most of our money through the sale of T-shirts and hats and tickets for the auctions and the drawings," says Evans. "And we'll have people that donate the day of that hear my story. We've had some very generous folks out there and Moffitt has been really good." He says they will have some boards to give away along with some other good things.



Gene and Kate Evans show how it's done. Gene was glad he got a second chance at life, but giving back and helping others is the best.



Party goes bat around a ball at the post paddle party at the Club at Treasure Island which played host to about 1,000 people last year.

Entertainment is provided by Tony Wagner as well as Big Brother Band. "Marcus (Big Brother) was on fire last year; he was so good," adds Evans.

Three years ago he started recognizing someone who has or is battling cancer on the paddle of the event logo, designed each year by Rob Chapin owner of RC Design Studio. This year it's Anna Hipp who works with Evans and is battling breast cancer. "So that's my little nod to her; she's toughing it out," he adds.

"We've been very fortunate," he says. "We've been blessed all around. There's a reason that I'm still here."

For more information or to register go to www.paddleagainstcancer.org or find them on Facebook.

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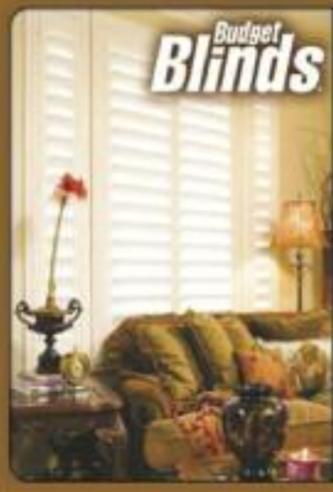
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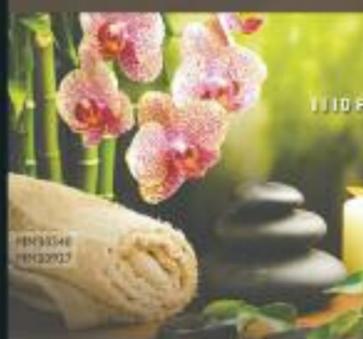



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CANNABIS continued from front page

own, not just on the military side," he said, "but on the law enforcement side, because suicide is law enforcement's dirty little secret as well." Some PTSD sufferers report relief from their symptoms taking medical marijuana.

Mouton was also injured in the last of four tours in Afghanistan and spent a year undergoing surgeries and physical therapy, so he can relate to vets who want to use it for pain relief as well.

Linda Colindres is a registered nurse who spent her career in pediatrics at All Children's Hospital. She became an investor and works for GCCM because she believes in it.



"It helps children with seizures, children that have intractable seizures which means they have seizures all the time." She says many of them are already neurologically damaged, but it could help them do some basic things to improve what quality of life they have.

"Cannabis is a neuroprotective so it also helps with Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and other things," she adds.

She has joined The American Cannabis Nurses Association, a national organization dedicated to expanding the knowledge base among nurses of endo-cannabinoid therapeutics, and has taken online courses and attended seminars. She is also a cancer survivor with her own pain issues.

At a spring meeting of the Veterans of South Pinellas County another believer and company founder Dr. Andrew E. Hano, a retired a hematologist/medical oncologist, talked about the relief cannabis

**"You know us,
you are us;
our hurt has been
your hurt."**



has provided for patients in legally prescribed forms. His experience dates back to his fellowship in Detroit in the early '80s, when it was used for a brief period for chemotherapy induced nausea. His wife is also battling the disease.

Before Amendment 2 passed in November, GCCM worked as advocates for the law. It took effect Jan. 3, but the details for implementation are being hammered out in Tallahassee during the ongoing legislative session. Murphy characterizes the restrictive House Bill 307 like going back to prohibition and strongly favors Senate Bill 614.

Gulf Coast Canna Meds does not dispense any products; they are focusing on raising capital and education and advocacy. Once legislation is passed, it will drive how they proceed.

Murphy says there are only seven companies currently allowed to provide medical marijuana in Florida. He says the lack of competition drives up prices and limits availability to people who need the drug. He and the other founders at GCCM hope that more competition from companies like theirs will drive down prices and increase availability so the relief it provides may be available to any qualifying patient.

With more than 71 percent of Florida voters approving Amendment 2, Mouton hopes Tallahassee has gotten the message.

"A couple years ago I was armed with an M4, and now I'm armed with pamphlets," Mouton says about his current advocacy role, "but we are slowly taking the beachhead. I just hope Tallahassee sees it the way the people voted."

For more information go to www.gulfcoastcannameds.com.

- Card 1:** Marijuana is addictive
- Card 2:** If you legalize marijuana, kids will have easy access to it
- Card 3:** Marijuana is for getting "high" and has no health benefits
- Card 4:** Eating fresh marijuana will make you high

Part of the mission of Gulf Coast Canna Meds is education. They pledge to spend their time, money and energy to provide educational seminars, bona-fide information and reliable research data about medical marijuana. This screen capture from the bottom of their homepage dispels myths about cannabis.

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Back Off Takes First in Class

The historic St. Petersburg - Habana Race in late February was laden with casualties. Of the 80 boats that entered the 284 nautical mile adventure, only 21 finished. For the crew of Back Off, a Sovrel 33, their ability to start the race was in question even before it began.

The mid '80's boat was purchased by St. Pete Capt. Tony Barrett just months before the race. "It needed some attention," recalls captain Jim Marvin a member of Barrett's crew of eight. "He worked on it on land for several months and just got it into the water the week before the race."

Their shakedown cruise the day before the race was cut short when they couldn't raise the mainsail more than a quarter way up the mast. "We were doing some very intensive work preparing the boat," adds Marvin. "It was amazing, but the morning of the race we were actually ready."

So where hundreds of other boats that flocked to the start on Feb. 28. Sitting along the seawall of the St. Petersburg Marina, Marvin points to the water and says, "It was a sea of mass all over the horizon. There were spectator boats, there were dignitary boats, there were yachts, small vessels and press boats; there were schooners and the tall ship Lynx. It was a big launch."

A lack of wind forced the start south of Pinellas Point. Back Off did well and was making her way to the Skyway Bridge when everyone ran into a strong current sweeping into the bay. "The massive flooding current with a lack of wind put the brakes on the entire fleet," Marvin says.

They finally got some wind and off they went—a crew that had not all sailed together, sailing a boat they had never sailed.

They stayed close to the rum line (the shortest course between two points) and experimented constantly with the sails. "It was a matter of keeping the boat moving as fast as possible over a long stretch of time and not losing focus," says Marvin.

Some boats had state-of-the-art technology and could track their competitor's progress, not so for Back Off with just a small GPS and chart plotter, but it was an advantage. "Since we couldn't worry about the competition, we focused on getting the most out of the boat."

They made their way around the keys by the Dry Tortugas, then the wind died. Marvin was on watch that night with fellow crew member and girlfriend Katherine Tyriver bobbing around while the sails whipped back and forth. "That's really torturous for racers; that's really bad."

The wind picked up the next morning, but kept changing direction. Finally it came




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By Betsy Judge

around from the North and once in the Straits of Florida, they could actually use the spinnaker as a spinnaker. "We had a consistent wave pattern from the stern and we were dialed in. We could finally see what that boat could do. We were starting to see the competition fall behind us," Marvin says relishing the memory.



The Back Off crew (upper right photo) included: Tony Barrett, (top left), Brian Kennalley, Kim Stininger (red hat), Larry Hogan (sitting), Katherine Tyriver (white hat), Jim Marvin, Brian Kaczor and Brian Davies (foreground). Next under Back Off nears the Skyway. The arrow in the map links Back Off to info about their position. Other shots are from Cuba courtesy of Jim Marvin.

"By mid evening, we could see the lights of Havana on the skyline. It was amazing to see our destination."

Twelve miles out they called in as required and started monitoring the VHF radio to see who else was calling. Marvin was most worried about Grant Dumas on Warrior, a Trip 38. "It was an excellent boat and he's an excellent skipper. I thought he is probably sitting at the bar having a rum drink." They were within an hour of reaching the finish when they heard a call from Dumas at the 12 mile point. "We were all cheering and slapping hands—we knew that we had to be in a lock for first place."

They still had to navigate the channel with shallow coral on either side in the dark, and they searched desperately for the safe water mark they had to pass to port. "We decided to slow down and douse the spinnaker with all eyes watching for this thing," says Marvin. "Closing in, I see it! 'Oh my God it's on starboard,' I yelled." The captain orders a jibe before the preventer line was removed which made for a very "un-elegant jibe," but they made it and got in about 10:30 p.m.

It had taken them two and a half days, about 12 hours longer than anticipated. They were not first over the line, but their handicap got them first place in their class, Spinnaker B. "In a boat that was not ready to go the day before the race, with people who had never raced before," says Marvin.

A front from the North with winds up to 25 knots whipped the seas into a frenzy and delayed everyone's departure a couple days. They became tourists and saw some of the island. Some crew members flew home and Marvin and Tyriver helped take the boat back. The adventure continued as they hit seas of up to 15 feet in the Florida Straits with the main reefed, and Marvin at the helm for the first time. "I was getting to know the boat in the heat of the moment. Once I got the hang of it, she did respond very well. I thought as long as the rig stays up, we should make it."

They got into Key West about 2 a.m. and rented a car to drive to St. Pete the next day.

"I was really proud we pulled it out amongst our competition, because they had good, fast boats and their crews had worked together, but our guys had a lot of heart; it was almost a Zen thing; every second in a distance race like that can make a difference."

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Honoring Mom

By Sally Yoder

Photos courtesy of the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum.

It's May and time for stores to offer specials on candy, flowers, and gifts only a mother could love.

The tradition of honoring mom goes back to Boston housewife Julia Ward Howe who, in 1870, launched an effort to encourage uniting families after the Civil War and called it "Mother's Friendship Day." The "tradition" continued for over 10 years, but stopped after Howe died.

In 1907 Anna Jarvis of Grafton, West Virginia held a private party to celebrate the memory of her own mother, Ann Jarvis.

This social happening was so successful it sparked a move to organize a Mother's Day Work Week to promote good health care and cleanliness. Her efforts caught the attention of Philadelphia businessman John Wanamaker and with his financial assistance, a large social was held to celebrate mothers at the Anderson Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton. Today this is claimed to be the real birth of the Mother's Day celebration and the church has a National Historic Designation Award.

In 1910 the state of Virginia declared the second Sunday in May as the official Mother's Day



Mrs. Charles M. Gray and children Charles and Mary enjoying the beach in 1912.

celebration. Soon other states followed suite and in 1914 the U.S. Congress declared that the second Sunday in May be known as Mother's Day. Commercialism soon took over and in her last years Anna Jarvis used her fortune and notoriety to try to prevent it. She never wanted any kind of commercialism connected to Mother's Day.

It remains one of the most revenue producing days on the calendar. Florists declare it to be their best alongside Valentine's Day. Cards run a high second to flowers, and candy, gifts, dinners out and trips are also popular.

Experts suggest the effect your mother has influences how you live your life in all aspects; sometimes good, sometime not so good, but she remains your mother and age often soothes any harried times. My sister and I would say, "When I have kids I won't do that like mother does!" Humm, wonder how that worked out?

Your mother may no longer be around, but there are still many ways to remember her. Maybe Ann Jarvis ended up not liking what she so thoughtfully began, but we thank her and are happy to continue to pay tribute to these amazing women known as mother, mom, ma, mommy, mama, nana, or whatever special name.

My own mother would not tolerate being called anything other than mother. My sister was called Mom in her children's early years, but later changed to mother. I, on the other hand, have always preferred just simply mom. Happy Mother's Day to all and thank you, mother.



Alice Lucas enjoying the beach and being a grandmother in 2013.

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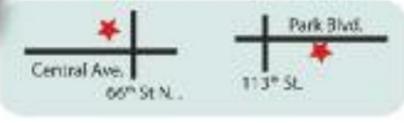
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Pride & Joy Lessons in Literacy

By Jackie Minniti

Literacy is one of the key components of a successful life. Children who aren't reading proficiently by third grade have an increased chance of dropping out of high school. So what can be done for children who, because of poverty or lack of opportunity, are in danger of falling through the cracks? Diana Schwarz of South Pasadena discovered an innovative non-profit that addresses this problem - Parents & Children Advance Together (PCAT) Literacy Ministries, Inc.



Diana Schwarz, a South Pasadena resident drives about an hour to volunteer for PCAT, Parents & Children Advance Together operating under Literacy Ministries, Inc. a nonprofit. Volunteers have helped 1,500 at risk students advance to the next grade, hoping to nip illiteracy in the bud.

Founded in 2003, PCAT is an after-school program whose mission is to instill literacy as a value and break the intergenerational cycle of non-readers. Operating under the auspices of PCAT Literacy Ministries, Inc., this

501(c)(3) is designed to reinforce reading skills in primary grade (K-2) Hillsborough County students who are at risk for school failure. These students, who are recommended by their teachers, are given one-to-one instruction by trained volunteer tutors. All services are offered free of charge.

Diana, who has spent her career in the financial services industry, learned about PCAT while attending a luncheon through the Christian Chamber of Commerce. "I met Christene Worley, the founder of PCAT, who told me about the program," Diana recalls. "Literacy is a big thing for me, so when I heard that PCAT was staffed by volunteers, I thought this would be a huge opportunity to work with an age group I hadn't worked with before." So Diana began taking the weekly hour-long commute to Sulphur Springs in Tampa where she would spend the afternoon helping young readers hone their skills.

"I was a little intimidated at first," Diana admits. "I was out of my comfort zone." But the academic coordinator gave her some helpful hints - like helping a kid with writing by putting her

hand on theirs and guiding them to draw a letter, or giving a tap on the shoulder and making eye contact when she wanted to tell them something important. Before long, Diana was teaching like a pro. "I started to really enjoy connecting with the kids," she says. She recalls working with a little girl who was having trouble learning sight words. Diana helped her practice with flashcards and monitored her progress as the weeks went by. By the end of the term, the girl had mastered all the words. "I realized that kids are little people. They're intelligent, creative, and have a lot to say. I also realized I could learn so much from these kids, and I could see their potential."

In addition to individualized reading and software instruction, the weekly after-school reading program is integrated with art and dance using the elements in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). This year, Diana is involved with the art program which uses literacy through art activities to improve comprehension skills. Families are encouraged to participate. PCAT has produced measurable results - since its inception, the program has assisted 1,500 at-risk students, and between 95 and 100 percent have been promoted to the next grade.

Diana's enthusiasm for PCAT has led her to accept a position on the organization's board and this year as the board president. "Literacy is the key to success," she says. "Reading and comprehension broaden your scope, and PCAT gives kids the tools to do that. They might not be getting those tools anywhere else, but what they get from the time spent in this program will stay with them forever."

For more information go to www.pcatliteracyministries.org.

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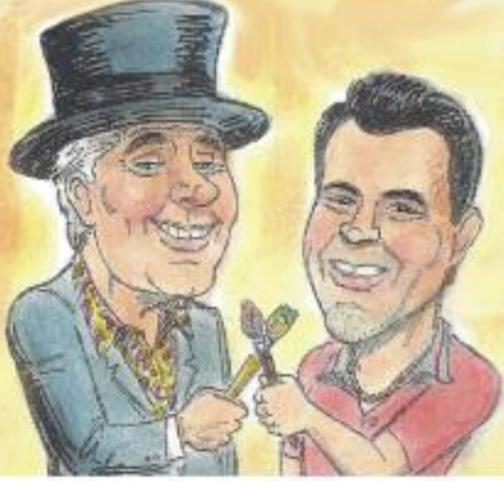


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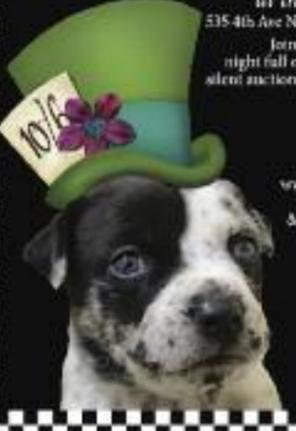
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Florida Author Sojourn Into the Supernatural

By Jackie Minniti

When Jane Jordan was a school-girl, she wasn't all that interested in writing. While she enjoyed reading, her preferences leaned more toward art and biology.

"I thought that it took real inspiration to write a story," she says. Little did she know she'd someday find that inspiration on a vacation trip to her native England.

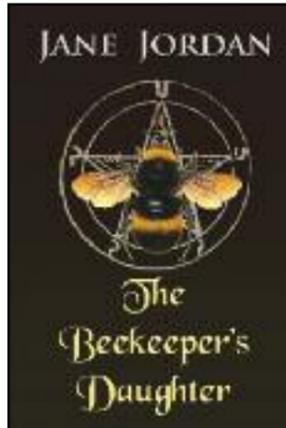
Jordan was born in Essex, a town southeast of London. In 1992, her husband's job necessitated a move to Michigan. A few years later, she moved to Englewood in Florida. After nearly 15 years in America, they returned to England. Jordan was surprised to find it difficult to adjust. "I'd become Americanized," she explains. "I felt like a foreigner in England." During this time, her interest in biology and love of gardening led her to study horticulture, and she eventually took a job as a horticulturist for a botanical garden. In 2013, she returned to the states, settling in Sarasota. Jordan kept busy gardening and helping her husband with his business. She also began writing articles for Florida Gardening Magazine. But a trip to England in 2004 was the catalyst that sent her life in a new direction.

Jordan and her husband had rented an ancient house in the town of Exmoor, and she became bewitched by the place. "Something happened that's hard to explain," she recalls. "We were driving down this narrow lane between high hedgerows when the road suddenly opened up and we were confronted by this magical house. There was something about it that captured my imagination. I fell in love with it."

Jordan began researching the house's history and learned that Samuel Taylor Coleridge wrote his famous poem "Kubla Khan" there. She also discovered that the house had some other-worldly residents. "The house had this haunted feeling about it," she says. "On the first night, I was in the bedroom at the dressing table, and the closet door



Jane Jordan could be one of her gothic, Victorian characters in this mystical black and white photo. The author, who moved to the states from England with her husband, was not inspired to write until a return trip landed her in a bewitched house in Exmoor, England. The experience prompted her to write her first haunted love story, "Raven's Deep." "The Beekeeper's Daughter," is her fourth and she is working on a fifth novel.



just opened behind me. A few other weird things happened. The caretaker told me that others had weird experiences there. All these things set my mind in motion and inspired me to write a haunted house story." That story would become her first novel, "Raven's Deep," a dark romance that combines vampire lore with a modern love story.

"Raven's Deep" spawned a gothic vampire trilogy. "Blood and Ashes" takes the characters from Exmoor to London in a tale Jordan calls, "a mixture of love, revenge and horror." The final book, "A Memoir of Carl," tells the story of a man who, after being bitten by a vampire, allows the love of his life to believe he is dead rather than expose her to his true nature.

Jordan's latest release, "The Beekeeper's Daughter," actually started out as her second novel. "I began writing it years ago, but the other books got in the way," she says. "When I got serious about writing, I wanted to write a witchcraft story set in a different time period." It tells the story of a young girl growing up on the English moors in the 1860s who, unbeknownst to her, possesses special powers inherited from her mother, a beautiful witch. She becomes ensnared in a dangerous love triangle which culminates in a battle between good and evil. "The witchcraft element was powerful and intriguing," Jordan says. "Writing this book took me on a creative journey with lots of twists and turns."

Jordan is currently completing her fifth novel, "Whisht Hall," a book she describes as "a darkly romantic thriller set in southwest England and New

Orleans." Like her other novels, the story has a Victorian, gothic quality and explores the darker side of human nature. Jordan hopes her readers will enjoy their journey into the supernatural and will want to return again and again. "For me," she says, "the biggest compliment is when someone asks, 'What else has Jane Jordan written?'"

For more information, go to www.janejordan.com.

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Beverage Beat May is for Celebrating!

By Ellen L. Capitosti

"April showers bring May flowers," but May also ushers in a great deal of celebrations. There's Cinco de Mayo which contrary to popular belief, is not a celebration of Mexican independence, rather, a relatively minor holiday that celebrates the 1862 Mexican defeat of the French at the Battle of Puebla. The U.S. celebrates with greater gusto than Mexico often with mariachi bands, parades and tequila. A delicious new option to try is Suerte Tequila (available in blanco, reposado, or añejo). Suerte means "luck" in Spanish, and if you need luck, this just may help.

The Kentucky Derby is just down the backstretch and if it is more your style, don your fancy hat and pick your favorite Bourbon to celebrate. Choose straight and neat or add ice to cool it down. The traditional Old Forester Mint Julep is the go-to drink of the day. Bring two cups each of water and sugar to a boil for five minutes. Cool and add 6 to 9 fresh mint sprigs and refrigerate overnight. Fill a cup with crushed ice, adding one tablespoon mint syrup and

2 ounces Old Forester Kentucky Whisky. Stir rapidly with a spoon to frost the outside of the cup, garnish with a sprig of fresh mint, sit back and enjoy the race!

Mother's Day is on May 14 and while originally created to honor mothers, these days it may also include honoring others like a mentor or favorite aunt. Mother's Day is typically a time for brunching while enjoying a mimosa (orange juice and sparkling wine), bellini (peach nectar or puree and prosecco) or a beautiful bottle of rosè to go with a meal of grilled shellfish, light pasta or salad.

The month ends with Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Keeping the memory of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, so that we may live in peace, is the best way to honor their legacy. So celebrate and honor; keep their memory alive!

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

Fitness

The Right Way to Fall

By Carol Hollenbeck

It happens to most of us eventually, we trip, stumble, or fall. Hopefully we bounce back, possibly with a deflated ego; brush ourselves off and quickly assess for injuries. Usually it's not serious, just a bruise or small abrasion. But according to the Centers for Disease Control, every second of every day an older adult falls. In 2014, that meant 29 million falls leading to 7 million injuries. It is estimated that falls cause more than a third of emergency room visits for all adults due to injuries such as a fractured wrist, hip or concussion.

Healthcare professionals spend time treating fall injuries or preventing them, but there is a "right way to fall" to minimize the risk for serious injury by decreasing the impact and potential injury to the body.

Volleyball players learn how to dive and roll towards the floor to protect their body as part of their defense strategy to return a hard, low hit.

Here are some tips these athletes and experts use. Try not to tense your muscles fighting the fall. Stay relaxed and flow with the momentum, shifting your bodyweight to break the impact of

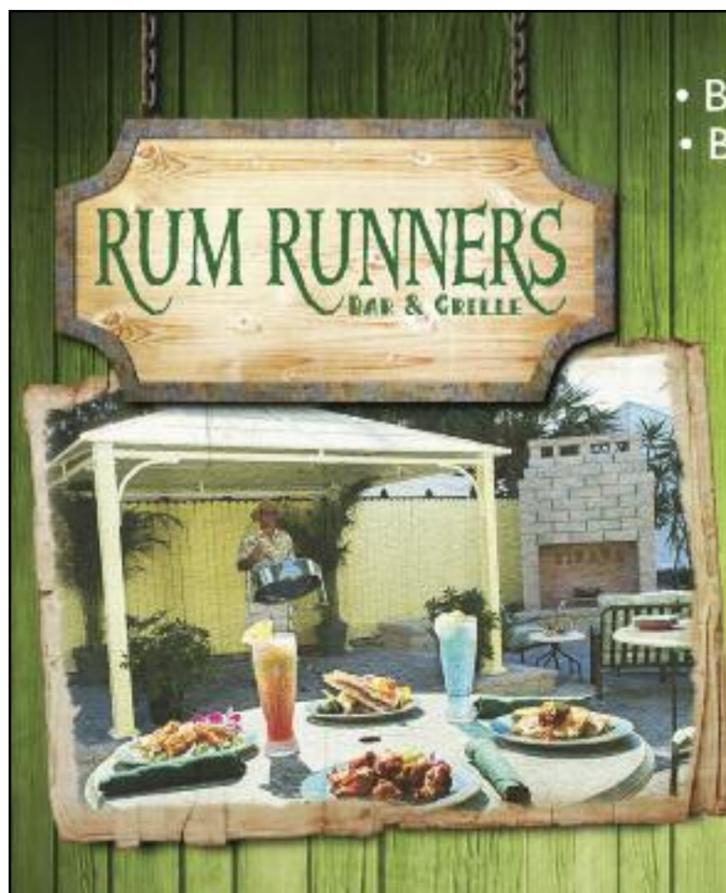
the fall over multiple areas of your body. This is what martial arts and stuntmen practice; they may land on the front of their body then roll onto the shoulder and hip finishing on their back.

Try not to flail a leg or arm straight out rather keep your elbows and knees bent to protect them. Bracing a fall with an outstretched arm known as "foosh" (falling onto outstretched hands) increases the risk for breaking a wrist, elbow or shoulder.

Finally, protect your head by tucking it in slightly when falling. This will keep it from taking the impact and then rebounding into whiplash.

As you are falling keep your arms down and try to land on your side over the fleshy areas of your body; the thigh and upper arm. Then quickly roll with momentum onto your back and butt with your head tucked. This is a safer way to fall and will hopefully keep you out of the emergency room.

Carol Hollenbeck is a physical therapist in St. Pete Beach and owns Fit For Life Fitness Center. (727) 367-0075 or www.iamfitforlife.com.



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Ours

By Sabrina O'Donnell

Sit up straight, put your glasses on
Do not be late, was that a yawn?

Where have you been? It's five to ten
It's not that hard to get up at dawn

Did you want my mind down here?
Where everybody lives in fear?
Where normality pollutes each town?
Did you really think that I'd come down?

Where people shout, and babies cry
Where students pout, and teachers lie

I'd rather sleep my entire life
Not make a peep my entire life

Do you desire my feet be planted?
My mind made dull and un-enchanted?

Did you assume I'd embrace the gloom?
Be okay taking my own brain for granted?

They say some follow; others lead
Many wallow; none are freed

Respectfully, I disagree
All are alike; boring as it be

They live afraid to be themselves
Print after print upon the shelves

Did you want me just another?
One more copy made without color?

One more dot to be controlled
Beaten down to fit your mold

Though it may seem you have everyone
We may be few, but we are still some

We will dance, and we will sing
We will prance and speak with a ring

And when the world is tired of fear
When they want smiles, when they want cheer

When they want light, when they want flowers
We will rise up, and it will be ours



When the Wind Blows

By The Old Professor

I have a pen pal in the antipodes. Recently he wrote of the threat from tropical cyclone Debbie that ravished parts of Australia and was headed his way. Buildings were wrecked. Lots of folks were harmed and some killed by Debbie. He wouldn't get the 160 mph wind, but much rain was on tap for his area.

Why didn't all the threatened Aussies evacuate? Have they no more sense than Floridians? I am always struck by the people who refuse to prepare for or flee from, the storms. Some have parties to ride them out. The booze consumed makes them insensible rather than its opposite. One Aussie kite surfed Debbie's big waves. I don't know if he survived. Even the frenetic hysteria of TV weather tellers can't motivate some people to take storm threats seriously. One long time local once told me he wouldn't put in storm proof windows because he'd never been in the center of a storm, and he had lived here for decades.

Maybe it's because the weather gurus choose the wrong names for storms. My friend's nemesis was "Debbie." Who would want to flee from her? Debbies are sweet, and often tilt toward the innocuous. Fists don't clench at the name. Tummies don't quease.

Those in control choose names well in advance. Would you believe they already have a list for 2022? Storm names that await us in the near future include Cindy, Bret, Don, Emily, Tammy, etc. These are nice names. They don't inspire fear. We do have a Jose in our future. It's about time we got an Hispanic name. After all, much of the damage from hurricanes comes in Latin countries. If wall building actually happens none of the these big blows may even make it to the USA. They may keep out the wet along with the wetbacks. They'd have to be pretty high, but then I suspect that they'll have to be high anyways to work.

What we really need are scary names for the

storms. People reluctant to batten down or flee Cindy, would be more likely to fear storms named Voldemort, Jezebel, Frankenstein, Belladonna, Cruela, Griselda, Hecate, Mordred, etc. I can hear the excitable weather tellers on the tube. "Hecate threatens to cause widespread damage in our area. Run away!" And I'd do it. Running away has always been at the heart of my hurricane plan. We're all supposed to have one. "Get the next plane out," mine says.

For weather folks big storms add some excitement to what must be rather dull day-to-day reporting. How interesting is to to say every day "The highs will be in the low eighties and the lows in the low sixties. Wind is out of the southwest at 8 mph. The chance of rain is 18 percent. Skies will be partly cloudy." Smiling faces stretch this 20 seconds of information into five minutes or more with music, fancy graphics and commercials. Klystron 9 sounds like something from an alien world. But the basic information is pretty much the same from day to day, not the most exciting thing to have for a career. When a storm comes along these folks get energized and stretch their time on camera. Makes dressing up and putting on all that make up worthwhile.

I've always marveled at the way we treat the statement, "There's a 30 percent chance of rain." as if it tells us much. Does it mean that it will rain 30 percent of time today? Does it mean that it will rain in 30 percent of the locations in the area? Thirty percent of the time in thirty percent of the places? It doesn't tell me if it will rain on me, nor when. I often see it rain across the street, but not on me. Should I carry an umbrella? Is it ok to plan a picnic? Klystron won't tell me that. But then I think Klystron is just prepping us for an invasion of creatures from outer space. I think they'll all be named "Debbie."

Huffed and puffed by David H. Smith Ph.D., retired professor.

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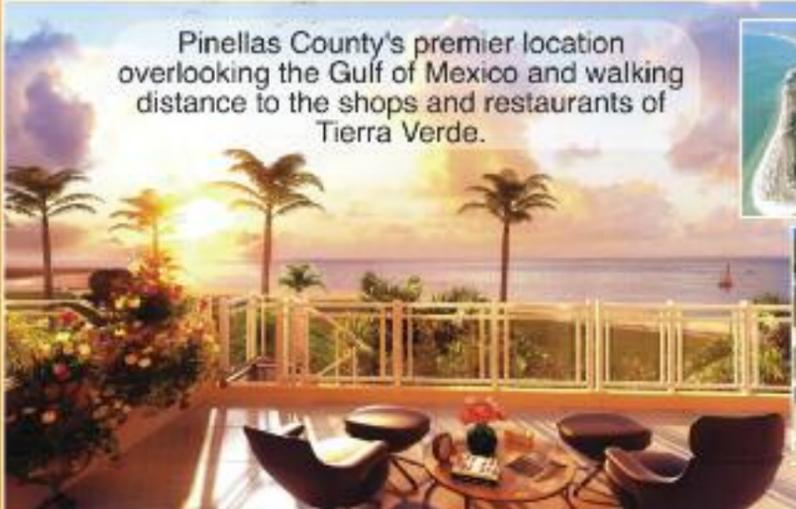
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A Club to Savor

By TIR Staff

There's a new club in town designed to save its members money when dining while simultaneously helping local restaurants and nonprofits grow based on the pay it forward concept.

Gator communications and journalism graduate, turned bar tender, turned night club manager, turned lawyer, turned legal continuing education director, turned night club investor Roger Curlin partnered with Jack Homsey to design the club based on what they learned while involved with a national member dining club that failed.

"The national company had some details they had missed ... but the core idea of a member dining club was too good to walk away," says Curlin.

They built a business plan, ran it past restaurant owners, consultants and anyone that wanted to take a shot at it.

CLUB continued on page 18

Club Savor founder Roget Curlin (right) talks with club director John Rosario (left) and Jo Brower executive director of Remember ■ Honor ■ Support in the lower level of the Iberian Rooster restaurant. The club helped establish a relationship between the business and the nonprofit with the goal to help both grow. Club members and a guest get half off entrees and their first alcohol drink at participating destinations.

TIR staff photo.



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CLUB continued from page 17

"Nobody really could, so we figured, 'Hey, we might have something here,'" he adds. Then they found backers.

The concept seems simple at first glance. Members pay \$29.95 a month to join and they and a guest get half off their entrees and their first alcohol drink at any of the now 32 participating restaurants they call destinations. And you can do it as many times a day, week or month as you want, even at the same location as long as there are at least three hours between visits. There is no contract, no cancellation fee, no blackout dates, and it's easy for snowbirds to freeze their accounts.

If the savings aren't enough, prospective members may want to consider the philanthropic, support local businesses aspect of the club—here is where it gets somewhat complicated.

Restaurants that want to participate are encouraged to partner with area nonprofits if they don't already.

"They don't have to, but we want partners, we want destinations that work with charities and that are socially responsible. We want partners that like to be involved in the community," says Curlin. He even checks lobby walls to see if a restaurant is supporting local teams or has won awards for community work.

Russel Andrade, "Lord & Master" of the four-month old Iberian Rooster was already supporting some nonprofits when he was approached to join Club Savor and partner with Remember • Honor • Support (RHS).

"I don't want to be a season restaurant and I feel if I invest in the community, they will invest in me. It becomes a healthy relationship," Andrade says about his motivation.

A potential member can join the club via the RHS website and both entities benefit.

"When destinations form that relationship with a charity, they give the revenue they would've received (for member signups) during the first month to the charity," adds Curlin.

Club directors like John Rosario are basically an extension of the destination's marketing effort.

"I work with them with for everything they need to partner with a nonprofit, creating events, bringing more people to their destination, providing value. Restaurateurs don't have time to network, they don't have time to get out in the community, so I play that centerpiece part for them."

"You can't, as a charity or civic organization, be constantly asking for money," adds Curlin. "We look to set up programs for our destinations and our charities that lets that outreach happen, that lets revenue and funding come in, and we are able to do it cyclically."

They only approach local, independent restaurants for potential membership. Curlin says with 2,500 restaurants in Pinellas County plus the "big one"—the kitchen, there is lots of competition out there and local, independents have a real challenge.

After four months, they have more than 400 club members and hope to have 50 restaurant destinations by the end of summer. They also plan to add other categories like beauty, travel and entertainment, and to expand geographically.

Their motto is, "Enjoy More" and, based on member feedback, they may expand it to include "Explore More." Members tend to try new restaurants or try a new selection at establishments they frequent. And patrons often order more than they would normally because they are saving money.

"Helping our destinations become bigger and more profitable and helping charity is the engine that people can use to grow. It's a win, win," adds Curlin.

For more information go to www.club-savor.com.



Wayne's World Name Game... Connecticut Robocops... Cellphone Death Wish... and More...

By Wayne Shattuck

Name Game... Well, it's just about that time again. We are getting very close to the official start of the 2017 hurricane season. All last year and into January we were in a La Nina phase (meaning generally drier conditions, but higher chances of hurricanes for us). Since February we have been in a neutral phase (evenly balanced between El Nino and La Nina). Latest word is that we have a 60 to 70 percent chance of sliding into an El Nino phase by late summer. For us that is usually good news (meaning generally more rain and fewer hurricanes) but remember, it only takes one tropical storm to ruin your day. With that said, here are the names of this year's storms from the National Hurricane Center: Arlene, Bret, Cindy, Don, Emily, Franklin, Gert, Harvey, Irma, Jose, Katia, Lee, Maria, Nate, Ophelia, Philippe, Rena, Sean, Tammy and Whitney. As always, let's hope we don't get very deep into the list!

Connecticut Robocops... Connecticut would become the first U.S. state to allow law enforcement agencies to use drones equipped with deadly weapons if a bill opposed by civil libertarians becomes law. The legislation, approved overwhelmingly by the state legislature's judiciary committee this spring, would ban so-called weaponized drones in the state, but exempts agencies involved in law enforcement. It now goes to the house of representatives for consideration. The legislation was introduced as a complete ban on weaponized drones, but just before the committee vote it was amended to exclude police from the restriction. Civil libertarians and civil rights activists are lobbying to restore the bill to its original language before the full House vote. But if Connecticut's Democratic-controlled house passes the bill it will move to the senate, which is split evenly between democrats and republicans.

Cellphone Death Wish... U.S. pedestrian

deaths rose sharply for the second year in a row in 2016, according to a study released in late March, a trend experts said mirrors increased driver cellphone use and distracted driving. Last year saw an 11 percent rise in pedestrian deaths over 2015, making it the largest increase in the 40 years that national records have been kept, according to officials with the Governors Highway Safety Association, which represents state highway safety offices and commissioned the research. This followed a 9.5 percent increase in 2015. The study's author, Richard Retting, called the results, "frankly quite startling," adding that "there's clearly something happening." A 2016 U.S. Department of Transportation study showed that, while overall numbers for cellphone use in 2014 and 2015 remained relatively flat, the rate of drivers holding up phones and using their hands to manipulated them had more than doubled since 2009, and among the youngest drivers had more than quadrupled. The replacement of flip phones by smartphones has also increased the risk, said Charlie Klauer, a lead researcher at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute. "Smartphones require much more attention to use, and they are far more capable," Klauer said. "Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook: All of it makes them very dangerous to use while driving."

But That's Not All... "Passing the buck/The buck stops here" Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck Knife Company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted, then "the buck stopped there."

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Business News

Sirata Salutes Veterans



In appreciation for all the military does, the Sirata Beach Resort is offering a \$69 nightly room rate with complimentary parking to active duty military and veterans between May 29 and June 1. This is the seventh year the discounts have been offered. Traditional rooms are available on a first call basis for a limited time. Upgrades are available. Call 855-262-2715 and use code: "ALLMILL" or book online. Must show military ID or paperwork with the reservation at check-in. Info at www.sirata.com.

Maryland Crab Cakes Come to St. Pete

Baltimore native and cook Blake Rodgers brought the best of Maryland-style seafood to St. Pete when he opened Blake's Crab Cakes on Central Avenue. Rodgers began helping his dad prepare seafood dishes at age 5 and honed his craft working for two famous Baltimore restaurateurs before falling in love with St. Pete, relocating and opening his restaurant at 7224 Central Ave. For info go to www.blakescrabcakes.online.



Pet Masseur Makes St. Pete Home

Mary French owner of Furry Friends Pet Massage, Inc. recently relocated her practice to South St. Petersburg from Illinois. French attended the Chicago School of Canine Massage and is certified as a pet massage therapist and Reiki level I therapist. She offers in-home pet massage and is working to partner with area businesses that provide animal services. Info at www.furryfriendspetmassage.com.



Holiday Inn Express Opens



IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) celebrated the opening of its 121-room Holiday Inn Express® near Bay Pines with a ribbon cutting in early April. The company invested \$15 million in the property and hired 35 employees, ranging from housekeeping to front desk. 4816 100th Way N.



Bark Life Holds Grand Opening.

Mike and Tammy Vasquez celebrated the opening of their second pet market in April with free food, dogie treats, prizes, raffles and vendor discounts. The Pinellas County natives have been in the pet industry for 30 years and have a full line of pet bakery goods, natural foods & treats. The carefully select their groomers for their cage free salon and open their doors every Sunday to pet rescues to hold events. 6647 Central Ave. Info at www.BarkLife.com.

Notable Achievements

St. Pete Resident Recognized

Gay Salvin of Saint Petersburg has been selected as the Mid & South Pinellas Council Ombudsman of the Year by the Florida Ombudsman Program (FOP) for her advocacy of long-term care residents. Gay is committed to serving long-term care residents and often assists others with their work. Her keen listening skills enable her to define issues and resolve concerns. Pictured left to right are Council Chair Cyndi Floyd, Ombudsman of the Year Gay Salvin, and District Ombudsman Manager Annette Perry. Photo courtesy of FOP.



TBW Receives Blue Water Leadership Grant

In April, RBC presented Tampa Bay Watch (TBW) with a \$45,000 check to facilitate their McKay Bay South Oyster Reef Project as part of their Blue Water Leadership Grant. The RBC Blue Water Project is a 10-year global charitable commitment of \$50 million to help provide access to drinkable, swimmable, fishable water. Pictured from left: Peter Clark, TBW president; Serra Herndon, TBW; Andy Lykens, TBW; Helen Hough Feinberg, RBC; Doug Sokolowski, TBW Board of Directors, Jeff Farrell, RBC; Michael C. Funsch, RBC; and Mary Ann Renfrow, TBW Board of Directors, Kevin Kelso, TBW Board of Directors, Mark Chmielewski, TBW Board of Directors. Photo courtesy of TBW.



ISLAND TOONS By Bruce W. Norris



The Island Reporter Puzzle Page

The Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Quartet member
- 5 Catch, as flies
- 9 Contour
- 14 Bring in the sheaves
- 15 Auld lang syne
- 16 Frigid
- 17 File
- 18 Barely beat, with "out"
- 19 Part of UHF
- 20 Theatrical interval
- 22 Belief system
- 23 Knight's need
- 24 ___ a high note
- 26 Seafood delicacy
- 28 Body of art?
- 29 Barrel of laughs
- 30 Split
- 31 007, for one
- 33 "MASH" prop
- 34 Got gray
- 35 Kabul or Kathmandu
- 39 Parish residence
- 41 Cookie brand that offers Cool Mint and Cream-sicle flavors
- 42 Impede, with "down"
- 44 Go bad
- 45 Withdraw gradually
- 46 Party pooper
- 48 Finish second
- 52 Fond du ___, Wisconsin
- 53 Flower feature
- 54 Indemnify

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20			21				22					
23				24		25			26		27	
28				29				30				
31		32		33				34				
35	36	37			38		39	40				
41				42		43		44				
45				46			47	48		49	50	51
52			53					54				
55		56				57		58				
59					60				61			
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

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- 55 Fragrant wood
- 57 Below zero
- 59 Errand boy
- 60 Leading lady
- 61 Fishing rod attachment
- 62 Ticket category
- 63 Twosome
- 64 It may be a lot
- 65 Word with pot or beer
- 66 Forswear
- 67 Shut (up)
- 5 In ___ (harmonious)
- 6 Noisy owl
- 7 Element #33
- 8 "Fancy that!"
- 9 Brush off
- 10 Place for an ace
- 11 Slim Shady, to Eminem
- 12 Governor, at times
- 13 Chapter in history
- 21 Take on
- 22 Fastening pin
- 25 It's in a jamb
- 27 Mini-whirlpool
- 30 Rickety auto
- 32 Chatter, to an Aussie
- 35 Hood
- 36 Three before seven
- 37 Tranquil
- 38 Ill-gotten gains
- 40 Dried coconut meat
- 43 Tombstone material
- 47 One after another?
- 49 Individually
- 50 Stalactite site
- 51 Place for a lace
- 53 Celebrate
- 56 Wooded valley
- 58 Like venison's flavor
- 59 Blah-blah-blah
- 60 "___ not!"

Sudoku

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

		1	4		8	7		
			3					
5							9	8
8	5			1		3	4	
			9				2	
		9				8		1
3	7						8	4
		8				1	3	7
	1					2		

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DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆

Trivia

General Trivia

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1. What is the capital of the Falkland Islands? (a) Georgetown (b) Stanley (c) Port Louis
2. On March 27, 1969, John Lennon and Yoko Ono stayed in the Presidential suite at the Hilton Hotel in Amsterdam. How long did they stay in bed and welcome the world's press in protest against the Viet Nam war and violence? (a) 7 days (b) 3 days (c) 10 days
3. Which book features Hazel, Fiver, Bigwig and General Woundwort? (a) Watership Down (b) Animal Farm (c) Rupert the Bear
4. Chief Powhatan was the father of whom? (a) Geronimo (b) Sacagawea (c) Pocahontas
5. Who said "Such is the human race, often it seems a pity that Noah didn't miss the boat?" (a) Will Rogers (b) Mark Twain (c) Charles Dickens
6. Dromophobia is the fear of what? (a) Death (b) Camels (c) Crossing roads
7. West Point graduates got their first chance to fight in what war? (a) War of 1812 (b) War Between the States (c) Spanish-American War
8. Which of the seven wonders of the ancient world was built first? (a) Great Wall of China (b) Pyramids of Egypt (c) Colossus
9. What nation loaned the Confederacy 15 million during the American Civil War? (a) England (b) Germany (c) France
10. What NFL coach warned players "If you aren't fired with enthusiasm, you will be fired with enthusiasm?" (a) Vince Lombardi (b) Bear Bryant (c) Tom Landry

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

Word Search

Making Noise

- BANG
- BLAST
- BUZZ
- CLANG
- CRACKLE
- DRONE
- FIZZ
- GURGLE
- HISS
- HOWL
- JINGLE
- PATTER
- PEAL
- PURR
- RATTLE
- BARK
- BOOM
- CHIME
- CLINK
- CRASH
- ROAR
- RUMBLE
- RUSTLE
- SIZZLE
- SNAP
- THUMP
- TOOT
- WHEEZE
- WHINE
- WHIR

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

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Local Events, Activities & Announcements

Gulfport

May 5 & 20: Gulfport Art-Walk, 6 - 10 p.m. Beach Blvd. S., Waterfront District.

June 3: Mark Your Calendars: Casino Night, 7 p.m. Annual fundraiser for Women with Purpose. Casino games, food and drinks, and silent and live auctions. Pasadena Yacht & County Club, 6300 Pasadena Pt. Blvd. Tickets \$75. Info at www.womenwithpurpose.org

Gulfport Public Library: Go to events at 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 or 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.

Senior Center Events: Calendar available at www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org or 727-893-1231.

Madeira Beach

May 13 & 14: 5th Annual Madeira Beach Craft Festival, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Community festival with crafters from all areas. 15103 Madeira Way. Info at www.artfestival.com.

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.

S. Pasadena

May 6: Recreational Pick-up Soccer, 8:30 a.m. Informal pick-up game for adults on a half size soccer field for fun exercise. Being your soccer cleats/sneakers, water and a \$3 church donation per game. Behind Pasadena Community Church, 227 70th St S. Info at 727-643-7282.

May 6: Garden Club Tour Walk, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Garden Club of St. Petersburg hosts a special walk guided by docents to six South Pasadena's historic homes. Refreshments are included plus vendors and master gardeners. 500 Sunset Dr S. Tickets \$20. Info at www.gardenclubstpetersburg.org.

St. Pete Beach

May 6: 7th Annual Salute to the Military, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Music, vendors, food and beer, military exhibits and 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.

May 6: SOAR Fundraiser, 1- 6 p.m. Benefit for Suncoast Organized Animal Relief featuring drink specials and hot dogs and chili dogs. Raffles, 50/50 and more. Friendly leashed dogs welcome. The Dog Bar, 2300 Central Ave. Info at SOAR on Facebook.

May 7: The Great American Clean Up, 9 a.m. - noon. S.O.A.R. and Keep Pinellas Beautiful team up for this volunteer project to protect sea life. Refreshments provided. Park between the beach and the Getaway (13090 Gandy Blvd N.) Info at SOAR on Facebook.

May 13: SPB Beer Fest, 4 - 8 p.m. Taste more than 50 national and local craft breweries. Food available for purchase. Tickets \$25 and \$30. Benefits childhood education and recreation programs. Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. Info at www.stbetebeachfestivals.com.

May 21: Family Fun Days at the Pool, noon - 3 p.m. Enjoy music, family fun, slides, pool basketball, games, prizes and more. \$3 adults, \$2 youth/senior. SPB Aquatic Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. info at www.spbrec.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.

Each Week

Corey Avenue Sunday Market, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Open air market. Live music. Info at www.TampaBayMarkets.com.

St. Pete Beach Public Library. Check the library section of www.stpetebeach.org for the latest events.

St. Petersburg

May 5: First Friday, 5:30 - 10 p.m. Celebrate the First Friday of May at this free block party complete with live music and dancing! Between 2nd and 3rd streets on Central Avenue. Info at www.firstfridaystpete.com.

May 6: May Day Race, 7 a.m. - noon. A fun 5k/10k with lots of post race activities and a Kids Dash for Cash hosted by the Skyway Marina District Association. Ceridian, 3201 34th St. S. Info at www.skywaymarinadistrict.org.

May 13: Second Saturday Art Walk, 5 - 9 p.m. Take in the St. Pete arts scene after hours. Info at www.stpeteartsalliance.org.

May 13: Puppy Love, 6 - 10 p.m. "Whiskers in Wonderland" is the theme for this year's Pet Pal Animal Shelter fundraiser with a silent and live auction, 50/50 raffle, dinner, puppy pimping and aerialist entertainment. Info at www.petpalanimalshelter.com.

May 19: Military Officers Association of St. Pete, 11 a.m. Social hour, lunch and program. Retired, active duty and former military, NOAA and Public Health Service officers and spouses invited. RSVP required. Call 727-360-2936. Pasadena Yacht & Country Club, 6300 Pasadena Point Blvd S. Gulfport.

May 20: Times Movie Critic Program, 2 - 4 p.m. Enjoy the humor of Steve Persall hosted by Friends of the Main Library. 3745 9th Ave. N. Info at 813-465-8165.

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.

Treasure Island

May 18: Chamber Health Expo, 1 - 4 p.m. Free public event with swag bags to first 200 visitors. T.I. Community Center. Info at 728-360-4121.

May 29: Memorial Day Parade and Service, 9 a.m. parade, 11 a.m. service. The city and American Legion Post 158 host a patriotic parade and Memorial Day Ceremony. The parade starts at Treasure Bay Golf and Tennis Center, 10315 Paradise Boulevard and ends at the Community Center. The Memorial Day Ceremony is at the American Legion Post 158, 111 108th Ave. Info at 727-235-1784.

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. 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.

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.

May 2: Powering Your Boat; May 9: Lines and Knots; May 16: Weather; May 23: Your Boat's Radio; May 30: Which Boat is for You?

St. Pete Sail and Power Squadron Seminars, Students must be 12 or older and pre-registration is required. Maximum of 20 students per class. Classes are held at the St Petersburg Sailing Center, 250 2nd Ave SE, Demens Landing. Class details and registration at www.boating-st.pete.org under Seminars.

May 24: Hurricanes and Boats, 7 - 9 p.m. Learn to select a location and prepare your boat to survive a hurricane. Includes student notes and copies of the presentation. \$30 per family.

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 for a complete listing or call 727-363-9245.

Treasure Island Art Guild Workshops. Info at 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



Get news and information you can use to plan your week, each week delivered to your inbox. Sign-up for The Island Reporter E-Update during May and you could win a \$100 Visa gift card. Go to www.theislandreporter.com

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Volunteers Needed

Clothes To Kids is seeking volunteers for their Clearwater and St. Petersburg stores. CTK relies on volunteers to provide clothing to low income school age children in Pinellas County, free of charge. CTK has a variety of volunteer opportunities to match most schedules and skills.

Information and contacts at www.clotheskids.org

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Daystar Life Center, Inc.
Providing the Basic Necessities of Life to Our Neighbors

Daystar needs volunteers to help with numerous tasks to meet basic needs for families and individuals during a crisis.

Contact Kitty Rawson at
727-498-8794 or
kitty.rawson@daystarlife.com

226 6th St. S. St. Petersburg
People Helping People Since 1982

Volunteer Opportunity

The City of St. Pete Beach needs volunteers for the reception desk. Greet people, answer multi-line phone, assist customers, do light clerical work. Weekdays, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Email cityclerk@stpetebeach.org or call 727-363-9220.

Daystar Life Center, Inc.
Providing the Basic Necessities of Life to Our Neighbors

Daystar needs volunteers to help with numerous tasks to meet basic needs for families and individuals during a crisis.

Contact Kitty Rawson at 727-498-8794 or kitty.rawson@daystarlife.com

226 6th St. S. St. Petersburg
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The Island Reporter Picture Page

Cars, Cars Everywhere

It was a beautiful day for the 6th Annual Tierra Verde Classic Car Show. Along with gorgeous vehicles there were food vendors including The Island Grille and The Island Cantina as well as vendors offering goods and services. The proceeds from the show put on by the Tierra Verde Business Partnership, will benefit Eckerd Search and Rescue. TIR staff photos.



Veterans Art Center Becomes Reality

It's official, St. Petersburg is the home of the new Veterans Art Center Tampa Bay. The occasion was celebrated with a ribbon cutting in late March attended by local elected officials, dignitaries and veterans with special recognition for the Gold Star Mothers in the crowd. The center provides healing, therapy, wellness and education through art. The center is in Gaslight Square, 6798 Crosswinds Dr N. TIR staff photos.



Let's Go Fishin'

Mentors from Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Tampa Bay and 65 littles enjoyed a morning of fishing thanks to the nonprofit which provides children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships. Also helping out was the Old Salt Fishing Foundation, ROC Park and the City of Madeira beach. Every child went home with fishing rod and reel, goody bag and wonderful memories. Photos courtesy of BBBS.



The Island Chapel Celebrates Easter

The annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by The Island Chapel was a popular affair. Kids searched for more than 3,000 eggs and enjoyed crafts, games, face painting, the Easter bunny and the fire department donated snow cones and popcorn. Photos courtesy of The Island Chapel.



Commemorating a Milestone

The 50th Anniversary of Dixieland Jazz was celebrated at the Bilmar Beach Resort in Treasure Island earlier this year. The 50 year tradition has taken place in the Bilmar Beach Café, but was moved into the Ballroom for the Mardi Gras themed celebration. Band members include Howard Smith, Skip Pittman, Bobby Tessitore, Dean Fernald, Fritz Lyons, Bob Tanguay and Gordon Moore. Photos courtesy of the Bilmar.





TIERRA VERDE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2016

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2) Large Park St. Lot. \$375,000.
3) Lakefront Lot, Oceanview Dr. \$650,000.
4) Fabulous Greenland Preserve, 1.3 Acre lot w/ covered boatslip, \$1,150,000. Call Randall Ierna, Broker/Realtor 727-647-0813



3BR/3BA TIERRA VERDE CONDO. Over 2000 square feet and all on one level. Semi private elevator to your floor. Come and live in a tropical paradise with all it has to offer, gated community with 2 pools, tennis courts, workout facility, dock, kayak and paddle board storage and boat slips available to rent from the community. The unit itself has new "wood look" tile flooring and freshly painted. Feel free to call Val Norris at (727) 641-6131 or Jacqi Dockery (727) 424-3700 for further information or showings.



DON'T PASS UP this opportunity to own this spacious townhouse located on Tierra Verde! You will feel right at home with wood flooring and two wood burning fireplaces both in the living room and master suite. Enjoy new appliances, cove molding and much more. The ample garage will hold 2 or more cars with plenty of room left for storage. The inviting pool will be a great way to cool down after a long day. Offered for sale at \$279,900. Call Cheryl Schmidt, Realtor, today! 727-647-4071 MLS # U7805131



BEST PRICE WATERFRONT HOME ON GRAND CANAL, TIERRA VERDE Deep sail boat water, 80ft. seawall, 0 bridge to Gulf, 445 3rd. Ave. N. 3/2 completely remodeled with pool. For more details and a private showing contact Michael Sorah, Realtor (727) 692-6013 www.saintpetebeachhomes.com



BEAUTIFUL, UNIQUE, 3 bedroom, 2 bath on a large 5 sided cul-de-sac lot on the Island of Tierra Verde. The kitchen is a gourmet delight and the home features gorgeous tile and laminate flooring. Over 2,200 ft of island living and priced to sell at \$495,000. Randall Ierna, Broker/Realtor 727-647-0813



VILLAGE HIDEAWAY Just reduced to \$269,900 Resort to fun in this 2/2 renovated unit, Elevator access, heated pools, spas, tennis, fishing dock. Judy Bader, Broker/Realtor 727-698-3831



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TERN BAY TOWNHOMES/Spacious and bright 3BR/3BA with oversized 2 car garage end unit. \$304,900/MLS U7805629 Call Gabrielle Betting, Realtor 727-385-9017

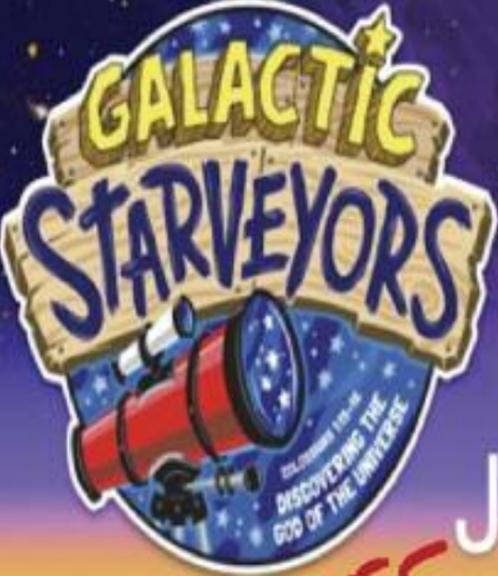


TIERRA VERDE 3/2.5/1 car rarely available! \$329,900. Gary Steinhauer, Realtor 727-642-4855



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Vacation Bible School
June 5th - 9th
FREE 9am - noon

JOIN US IN WORSHIP EVERY WEEK

Sunday Services
8:00am & 10:00 am

- Non-members welcome
- Children's nursery provided
- Adult Sunday School at 9:00am
- Children's Sunday School at 10:00am



Registration forms can be found at:
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1271 Pinellas Bayway S, Tierra Verde, FL
(behind TD Bank)