

The Island Reporter

The Premier Paper of South Pinellas County

FINAL ISSUE: It's been amazing—thanks for sharing your stories and reading ours.

The Travel Tribe Takes Off

By Betsy Judge

Photos courtesy of the Bergers

Traveling to 52 countries in 52 weeks is not for everyone. Doing it with two small children and no real plan would paralyze the faint at heart.

But traveling with 4-year old Preston, and 8-month old Penelope, is becoming second nature to Cassandra (Cassie) and Tyler Berger who are calling themselves the Travel Tribe Family for this latest adventure.

Their first trip with Preston was to Atlanta when he was 10 months old.

“Tyler, Preston and I have visited Georgia and various parts of North Carolina,” says Cassie. “Before Penelope we did Disney, Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure and Busch Gardens. But we’re done with the theme parks and on to international.” They went to the Dominican Republic when Penelope was just three months old. Cassie loved learning about other cultures and watching her daughter respond to people.

“We took the most amazing trip over Christmas,” says the St. Pete native. “We flew to New York City on Christmas Eve, drove up to Montréal, then to Mont Tremblant and over to Niagara Falls.”

She looked around what she calls their dream home in Largo when they got back, and all she wanted to do was leave. “That’s what started it

really for me ... It was so awesome to be in a different place every so many days.”

She started following the Bucket List Family, Garrett and Jessica Gee, and their two children. He sold an app he developed for \$54 million; they put the money into savings, sold most of their possessions and began traveling the world.

“If they can do this, why couldn’t we?” asks the stay-at-home mom. “We have a year until he starts kindergarten and it’s either now or 20 years from now when he’s out of school.” She got Tyler’s buy-in and they listed the house the next day.

“I want to go to China,” says Preston with the exuberance of someone his age. He apparently likes sushi and is anxious to try crickets and monkey.

“I’m along for the ride,” says Tyler, the chief financial officer of a medical supply company. He can work abroad and recently applied for the e-

Residency program in Estonia. “It basically gives you citizenship in Estonia, so you can run your business from anywhere.”

They plan to start in Iceland in June then fly to Europe and travel the continent staying at Airbnbs mainly in urban areas.

TRAVEL continued on page 6



Baby Penelope enjoys being a tourist in the Dominican Republic. It was her first international trip at 3 months old and she was mesmerized by the clouds (inset).

Tiger Bay Creating a Culture of Civility

By TIR Staff

The White House Correspondents Dinner usually gets its fair share of press coverage, but the sear that comedian Michele Wolf put on her roast this year got more than normal attention because of its viciousness.

It also served to reinforce Kelly Kirschner’s desire to put “civil” back into civic discourse. And as the president of the Suncoast Tiger Bay Club, which has served to foster a better understanding of public issues since 1978, he’s in a great position to do just that.



The Suncoast Tiger Bay Club held a 2018 “Legislative Wrap-Up” in April. Key state issues including school safety, Tampa Bay mass transportation, funding of public schools, gun reform and other public policy concerns were discussed.

TIR staff photo.

“I like to say that Tiger Bay is the civic commons for Pinellas County,” says Kirschner, former mayor of Sarasota and now vice president and dean of Executive & Continuing Education at Eckerd College. Once a month members, called Tigers, and guests meet in the ballroom of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club to hear guest speakers on all types of political and public issues.

“It doesn’t matter your political orientation ... if you want to have a thoughtful, nuanced, meaningful conversation that’s not based on sound bites ... we believe places like Tiger Bay are critical to doing and modeling that.”

A speaker gets about 15 minutes to talk then takes questions for another 30. To ensure everyone knows the rules, guidelines sit on each table. Dubbed Fang & Claw Questions, it makes clear that only members and Young Tigers (high school guests of the club) may ask a single question if selected which has to be framed within 45 seconds. They must use the microphone and state their name. If a question is too long they are “gonged.” The guest speaker gets two minutes to respond with 30 and 15 second warnings. If they go long, they get the same treatment.

“Its retro to the Gong Show,” says Kerschner, but it’s actually purposeful.” He says it keeps things respectful. “We don’t want any filibustering, we want to allow additional questions to be asked and answered.”

CIVILITY continued on page 10



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Encouraging Words If I Had Only Known...

By Dennis Merritt Jones

"Somebody should tell us, right at the start of our lives, that we are dying. Then we might live life to the limit, every minute of every day. Do it! I say. Whatever you want to do, do it now! There are only so many tomorrows." ~ Michael Landon

We have all heard the saying "Life is too short not to enjoy it." Recently, I presided over a memorial service for a young man who died suddenly and it really brought this saying to mind. Some people stood and shared a story or memory of their dear departed friend, and I was moved by the commonality of the sentiment, "If I had only known...I wish I'd had the chance to tell him how much I loved him, or, what a difference he made in my life." Others sadly bemoaned the fact that their friend didn't live long enough to realize his lifelong goal of surfing the Great Barrier Reefs in Australia.

I have been thinking a lot about this and considering some of the things I have been putting off

doing and how many people I have neglected connecting with because I have been so "busy" doing life. However, it has enabled me to make a conscious choice regarding how my hours and minutes will be spent today, which is all any of us have. It seems endemic in our culture that we tend to put off taking care of what's truly important, which includes living our life to the absolute fullest, enjoying every microsecond of today with those people who matter the most. We assume tomorrow will be the right time, and yet tomorrow never comes because when it does, it will be NOW. Now is not just the right time—it's the only time.

When my last day on earth comes, I don't want to have to look back and say, if I had only known, I would have spent fewer hours at the office, taken that trip to Thailand, learned to sky-dive, written that next book, learned to speak French, adopted that dog, or ran that marathon.

Likewise, when it comes to my relationships—from my peers, friends, family and most importantly my beloved children and wife, "If I had only known, I would have..." is a phrase I don't ever want to have to say; this means that I am willing to stand far more vigilant in my mindfulness of what a gift they are and not put off telling them so today.

The next 24 hours contains 1,440 minutes, which totals 86,400 seconds. Remembering that you shall never have them again, how shall you spend each one of those precious moments? May you live this and every day so mindfully connected to life and to who and what truly matters to you that you will never have to say, "If I had only known..."

Peace, Dennis

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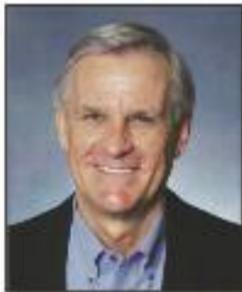
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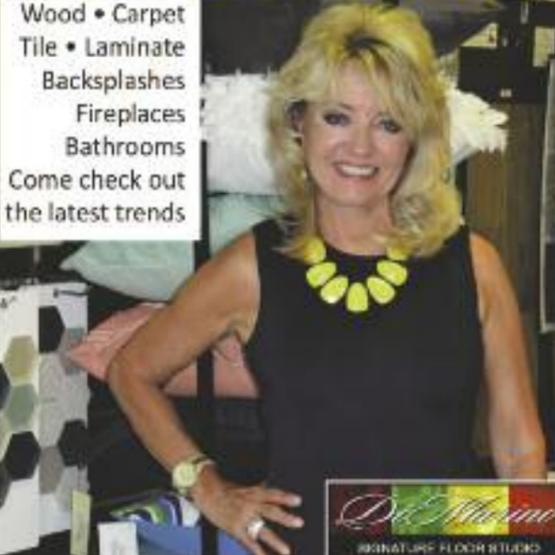

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From the Publisher

By Betsy Judge

Stop the Presses. I am sad to report that this is my last edition of The Island Reporter. I have been waffling about this for years which became apparent to many of you who read this column last month.

I have had some very faithful advertisers many of whom were on the pages of TIR when I became the publisher. Some have contributed to our pages and some have become friends. They have made it possible to publish and mail TIR for free and I appreciate all their business over the years.

We were printing 10,600 copies before I took over. My first month I had to increase it to 16,000 because we were missing large swaths of St. Pete Beach. We continued to grow in page count, percent of color pages and in advertisers. Today we print about 29,000 copies mailing more than 26,500; I loved covering all the great organizations and events in the community. I've learned more about annexation, building height and density and the theatrics of local politics than I could've hoped. It's been a great ride.

It's also been possible because of a great team. Our graphic designer, Lorrie Bellinger, does an amazing job putting the pieces together to make each issue a visually pleasing, cohesive publication. She has had the patience of Job when it comes to adapting to my last minute changes and makes a great partner in the production process.

Wayne Shattuck was a weatherman on Channel 10 and writing when I took over. Today he is retired but contributes Wayne's World. If you read him, you know he really has the scoop on the subjects he tackles.

I also inherited Jackie Minniti and what a blessing. She has been a tremendous contributor

pounding out two stories a month and shining the spotlight on Florida authors and people doing great things in the community.

Tosti's came aboard with Beverage Beat in mid-2010 and has been a faithful, monthly contributor imparting knowledge about liquors and wines as Carol Hollenbeck has done for fitness every other month.

I've loved reading the Old Professor over the years. His zest for knowledge and travel and ability to tell a tale are to be envied. Today he is in Alicante, earlier this week he was in Gibraltar and before that in Italy. He and Jeanne, the Professors, are amazing.

Sally Yoder has done a wonderful job teaching us all about the history of the area. She is a phenomenal woman with deep roots in the barrier islands and a love and knowledge for the beaches second to none.

And Bruce Norris who draws Island Toons has contributed to TIR for years. He is a creative, funny artist and has brought some zany characters alive on our pages.

I tried to make Sabrina O'Donnell a "news reporter," but she excels at creative writing and has done a wonderful job with her short stories.

And we've had other writers contribute over the years: Larry Lewis stands out for his wonderful feature writing, and more recently Dennis Merritt Jones who also has a new book out (see page 6.)

I took a trip down memory lane looking at old issues as I wrote this. It was quite a trip and there is a little taste of it on page 19.

I am sad—but excited about the future. Happy June and thanks for reading TIR.



Publisher Betsy Judge

Graphic Design Lorrie Bellinger

Regular Contributors

- Ellen Capitosti, Beverage Beat
- Dennis Merritt Jones, Encouraging Words
- Jackie Minniti, Florida Author Series
- Bruce Norris, Cartoonist
- Sabrina O'Donnell, Columnist
- Wayne Shattuck, Columnist
- Dave Smith, The Old Professor
- Sally G. Yoder, Features

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Press releases and community event announcements submitted on behalf of nonprofit organizations, as well as story ideas are welcome! Please submit story ideas by the fifth of the month and press releases by the 10th via email for inclusion in the following month's issue. Submissions of this nature run on a space available basis at the discretion of the newspaper.

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The Chips Have It

By The Old Professor

At the ball game the pitcher threw. Sometimes the batter swung. Baseball action is intermittent. I was relaxed, enjoying the fresh air, feeding on a sandwich and sipping a drink, when I spotted a guy with his iPad camera trained on the field. He was watching the game on the screen rather than looking at the flesh and blood in front of him.

This may be a metaphor for our age. We experience the world more and more indirectly, electronically rather than live. I seldom go to the bank. I go online, or drive by an ATM screen. Nor do I shop; Amazon awaits. Even groceries are there. I like sports, but it's easier to watch at home. Hockey is exciting, but it's cold in the arena. And there are lots of steps up into the football and baseball stadia. I like plays, but I miss a good many while tucked into my recliner watching drama on the tube. (They really aren't tubes anymore, but what fun is to say LED?)

I never thought of using an iPad in theatres, concerts, churches, or movies. Movies would mean using a screen to watch a screen. Infinite regress anyone? Maybe screens could be built into the backs of chairs in front of you like some airplane seats. Imagine. "Our church has biggest TV screens in town!" At night we could stretch out on a blanket, aim at our pads at the sky, and watch the stars on the screen. Would it still be magic?

Teens use smart phone screens for everything. They don't hang out, but text from their bedrooms. Holy Alex G. Bell, Batman! Phones aren't for talking! Barely half of high school seniors date and 25 percent graduate without driver's licenses. You don't need one when you don't

go anywhere. Maybe staying home can save the environment, especially if they go to college online and then telecommute from their parents' homes.

As ever, oldies can't get the young. How can texts be better than being with others? Do teens have virtual proms? Must a youngster kneel while texting "Marry me?"? Will the couple be present at the wedding or just text "I do."? Surely they'll share space after, texting to friends no doubt.

But even screen-less devices shape our lives. Back in the Minnesota shivering days as I hurried through parking lots, I heard cars starting themselves to keep their fluids warm. Drivers not needed. Soon they'll be self driving. Will they send nasty texts when they collide or just honk their horns and flash their lights?

Echo and Alexa manage your smart home electronically, turn on lights and appliances, control your thermostat, play your favorite music, get the news, read to you, access your calendar, wake you up, make phone calls, tell you jokes, and answer questions. Obsolescent, I do these myself. I even read, though I often do it on my Kindle screen. The computer has made teaching cursive writing unnecessary. Will the next generation be unable to turn on a light switch, let alone a coffee maker or dishwasher? Will they have books?

Echo can have a camera. You snap a picture and learn whether your outfit is fashionable. A good taste algorithm decides. But who creates the algorithm? Whither eccentricity? Will my

PROFESSOR continued on page 7

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TRAVEL continued from front page

Like the Bucket List Family, they are looking for sponsors and their first one is Lugabug®, a compact child's travel seat that secures to a piece of luggage. They are on a wait list for Modobag, a motorized carry-on bag, and just began collaborating with Get Narli to create a Travel Tribe bracelet. For every bracelet purchase a child is given a meal.

They also hope to have a good social media following.

It's crazy," says Cassie. "I'm nervous and excited, but now if I don't do it, I'm going to regret it.

Their goal is to travel economically. "If it's real cheap to go hear, then we'll go there and see what we can see; if it's within five miles, we're prepared to walk. We'll just go with the flow."

Her parents love the idea; his would rather be able to see the grandkids.

When they first started planning, she thought they would need to carry everything on



The Bergers pose for a family photo on Easter at Innisbrook Golf Resort in Palm Harbor.



their backs, but tips she learned by watching Jessica Gee changed her mind. They plan to take two rolling suitcases with Tyler carrying a backpack and Cassie the diaper bag.

They will be posting a weekly blog and want people to follow them. Get connected via TravelTribeFamily on Facebook or Instagram then get connected to their other social media sites.

The Bergers enjoy the snow and cold of Canada while visiting Montreal, Mont-Tremblant and Niagara Falls.



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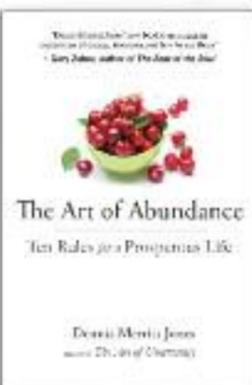
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Pride & Joy A Community Star

By Jackie Minniti

St. Petersburg has changed a lot from the place where Jane Trocheck Walker grew up, and that progress came with unforeseen consequences that had a major impact on some of the city's most vulnerable. Fortunately, there are people like Jane who were willing to do something to help.

"I've lived in St. Petersburg since 1964," Jane says. "One of the biggest changes I've seen is the lack of affordable housing. Houses are being torn down and replaced with new condos that aren't affordable for a lot of people."

Jane began working with the poor in 1978, and helping this underserved population has become her passion. This eventually led her to the organization she now heads - Daystar Life Center (DLC), a major non-profit serving residents of Pinellas County who live below the poverty level.

The DLC was founded in 1982 by Monsignor John McNulty as an outreach ministry affiliated with St. Mary Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church to provide necessities of life to those in need. "I met Msgr. McNulty in 1982 when I was working with an agency with similar services," Jane recalls. "I was impressed by Daystar's strong sense of commitment to their mission. It's a very grassroots organization and is responsive to people's needs. The mission guides the agency - it's always in the forefront."

Clients are referred to DLC by utility companies, the faith community, social service agencies and other clients. Each case is evaluated by a trained volunteer, and the focus is on treating each client as an individual deserving of respect.

"Thirty percent of our clients are homeless,"



Jane Trocheck Walker, grew up in St. Petersburg and has devoted the last 40 years helping the underserved poor in the community. As the head of Daystar Life Center, she and her staff and volunteers provide the necessities of life to those in need.

Jane explains. "The rest are people struggling to keep their heads above water." Most are the working poor, veterans, seasonal workers, the unemployed, disabled and elderly. Many work two jobs but are still unable to make ends meet. In addition to food and clothing, DLC provides financial aid with overdue rent and utility bills. It helps clients apply for birth certificates and photo IDs and provides computer and phone access, income tax preparation, and a mailing address for clients who are homeless. They also offer vouchers for local transportation. "We try to get resources based on people's needs, not the other way around," Jane says.

Since DLC is funded by donations, Jane is particularly proud that the organization devotes 95 percent of its income to services, earning them a 3-star rating from Charity Navigator and Platinum Level on Guidestar. "There are between 200 and 250 people that come through here each day, and we have only four paid staff members," she says. "Our volunteers are essential to allow us to use our resources efficiently. And the fellowship between our volunteers and out clients is unbelievable."

Jane hopes others will be inspired to join DLC in its mission to help those in need. "Daystar is a place for everyone - those who want to help and those who need help," she says. "All of us can be part of making our community safer, healthier and more livable for everyone. After all these years, I still walk out every day knowing that someone was helped because we opened our doors, and knowing we made a difference in someone's life."

For more information, or to donate or volunteer, go to www.daystarlife.com.

PROFESSOR continued from page 5

aloha shirts and dinosaur socks be more of embarrassing to the professors than they are now?

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Composed on a screen by David H. Smith, Ph.D. retired professor.

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Sunset – Sunrise – So Gently Represents Change

By Sally G. Yoder



From the Publisher: This was not the story that Sally and I discussed for this issue. She can be a rascal and she ordered me to run it as is. Of course I had to make some minor edits, but overall I saluted and complied. Thanks Sally.

Our beautiful sunsets can represent many things in one's lifetime. Change is often not easy, but we all wait while looking forward to the next sunrise.

What can be said when the sunset is closing on a happy journey through life? Good-bye, so long, farewell, good luck etc., all cover the situation; but somehow, sometimes a bit more needs to be expressed.

Betsy Judge and The Island Reporter have brought our community a fresh outlook on local events, human interest stories, community activities, history, coming events, opinions, encouragement

and so much more. She is wonderful to work alongside, inspiring, fun, very open minded and fair, and dedicated and hard working. The Marine Corps spirit comes through many times as she puts The Island Reporter together using her true to the heart guidelines. Thank you, Betsy, for encouraging and working with me so we could share the history of our area with so many readers. You gathered together a unique group of contributors whose own styles and edit you blended so well as you put The Island Reporter to bed each and every month.

As the sunrise arrives, we all wish you the best of everything special as you take a path on your new journey. It has been a creative, interesting and rewarding last eight years to be a part of helping The Island Reporter arrive in our mail boxes and newsstands. Thank you Betsy Judge and The Island Reporter.



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TO EVERYONE AT THE ISLAND REPORTER:
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ASPEC Members Make a Difference

By TIR Staff

Tucked back along a winding Eckerd College road is the Lewis House, a gold mine for lifelong learners. It is not the building that makes it so wealthy, but the 300-plus members of ASPEC, The Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College.

"It is a member-led, lifelong learning organization supporting the college's mission," says Ken Wolfe, ASPEC's director.

Their activities are focused in four areas.

Working and learning within the Eckerd community includes 40 member-led interest groups, like the one Major General Ralph R. "Bob" Rohatsch Jr. USAF (Ret.) runs each Friday morning on foreign affairs. Interest groups range from bridge and art to current events and world classics. Some groups are intellectual, some are physical, but most meet weekly at Lewis House.

"On the campus we work in the classroom as discussant colleagues," says Wolfe, who is one. "We go in with a professor and help teach the course."

They are involved with the Eckerd College Organization of Students, have mentors working with students, and sponsor some of the campus-wide, presidential series events. "We have

intergenerational learning grants which involve ASPEC members, faculty and students: we have 15 of those this year."

They also host conferences with AARP, Roads Scholar and Encore.

"We have had some very distinguished people here at different times," says Wolfe. "James Michener was an original member here; and John Hope Franklin, a distinguished African-American historian, and Eli Wiesel was here."

Members were diplomats (foreign and US), college presidents, corporate CEOs, and famous doctors. "We had two scientists who worked with Robert Oppenheimer and Enrico Fermi, one of whom is still here. Then we have generals like Bob."

Member financial support to the college is impressive with annual contributions of \$350,000. Members have contributed nearly \$6 million in endowment funds to the college, and a total of 75 members are art or science fellows contributing \$5,000 or more to buildings for those disciplines.

Beyond campus, they serve as mentors, tutors and proctors at Sunderlin Elementary

ASPEC continued on page 10



Members of ASPEC enjoy kayaking at the Eckerd Waterfront. Using the campus facilities along with discounts at the bookstore and cafeterias are some of the benefits of membership. Facebook photo.

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CIVILITY continued from front page

The quality of the questions are evaluated at the end of each lunch and a coveted Fang & Claw Award—described by Kerschner as a “plush, collectible Tiger that actually roars,” is presented to the winner.

“It is for the toughest question and that does not mean it is inappropriate; it should be a question that requires some thought, or it might touch on a subject the guest might just as soon ignore, or it might just be a really thoughtful question that is revealing on how that individual (guest speaker) might think or act or orient him or herself in that situation.”

Tiger timers and question raters are selected from the members of the board. It is an incentive to get involved. “I had the honor and obligation to gong Congressman Charlie Crist at one of our events last year. He can be loquacious and I had to drown him out with the gong,” says Kirschner obviously amused.

The April lunch was a legislative wrap-up with State Senator Darryl Rouson and State Representatives Larry Ahern, Ben Diamond, Chris Latvala, Wengay Newton and Kathleen Peters monitored by Peter Schorsch, publisher of FloridaPolitics.com. In May it was gubernatorial candidate Philip Lavine; they’ve also heard from Bill Edwards and Jeff Vinik on area development and Brian Auld, president of the Rays about their future. The next speaker is Jonah Goldberg, editor of the National Review, who will discuss his new book, “Suicide of the West,” on June 14.



Tiger Bay members and guests heard from Democratic gubernatorial candidate Philip Levine in May. He was elected mayor of Miami Beach in 2013 and won re-election with a majority of the vote. He cites key campaign issues of revitalizing the economy, better-paying jobs, more competitive schools and an entrepreneurial approach to protecting the environment.

In addition to funding the Young Tiger Program, member dues and donations support the Dorothy Walker Ruggles Democracy Scholarship presented each year to a graduating senior.

They want to grow the membership which will allow them to increase the scholarship amount. And membership does have its privileges; particularly if you are the curious type.

Annual dues are \$75 for individuals and \$125 for a household. Lunches are \$25 for members and \$35 for guests. They also have corporate memberships available.

For more information go to www.tigerbay.org.

ASPEC continued from page 9

School and have official relationships with the Alliance for Bayway Communities and the Skyway Marina District. Informally members provide entrepreneurial training at several locations in St. Pete including Ice House, Greenhouse and PTEC. Members are also very active in more than 100 community organizations supporting the arts, helping those in need or struggling with illness.

Oh, and they like to have fun too.

There is an initiation fee to join and annual dues are billed quarterly. Check it out by becoming a “Member for a Month,” or take advantage of their summer sampler during June through August for \$100.

For more information go to www.eckerd.edu/aspec.



Members of ASPEC's Studio Art Interest Group enjoy painting plein air on the waterside grounds of Lewis House. Facebook photo.



S. B. Woo led 100 fellow ASPEC members in a discussion of ways to seek a common ground with China. He was born in China, is a retired professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Delaware and served as the state's lieutenant governor. He is also a Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Facebook photo.

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Isla Members Pay it Forward

By Betsy Judge

Caring, Sharing, Giving is the motto for one of Isla Del Sol Yacht & Country Club's (IDSYCC) annual fundraisers to support charities, but it might as well be the motto for the club itself.

Members who play on their island—and it is a member-owned club—have raised millions in dollars and donations to support a variety of area charities.

For 28 years, club members have actively supported Play for Hunger which has raised more than \$2.1 million to support the St. Petersburg Free Clinic which helps provide food, shelter and healthcare for the needy; and Daystar Life Center which provides the necessities of life to people to alleviate hunger, homelessness and hopelessness.

Joe and Carol Kinder have run the event the last two years with help this year from co-chairs Joe and Sue Werner.

"I started participating in the Play for Hunger events when we joined Isla Del Sol in 2002," says Kinder. "The event started when a couple of Isla tennis members, who were volunteers at St. Pete Free Clinic, held a fund raising event which raised \$1,550. A few years later, Daystar Life Center volunteers from Isla suggested that this charity be part of Play for Hunger as well. Over the years, other events such as golf were added along with our yacht members hosting cruises. More recently, Game Day was added for members to play bingo, cards and tile games. All of these events require varying levels of contributions from our members in order to participate."

"The consistent and generous support of Isla Del Sol members helps us address the growing issue of hunger in our community," said Beth Houghton,



Isla club members present a check to the Special Operations Warrior Foundation for \$215,000 from their 2017 golf tournament.



Members of Isla Girlfriends took donations from their December luncheon to CASA in time for Christmas last year.

St. Petersburg Free Clinic's executive director. "Each year, we count on them to help nourish our neighbors in need."

In addition to Play for Hunger, each November members play the links to raise money for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation which assists families of fallen special ops warriors with immediate expenses and post-secondary degrees for their children and educational and family counseling.

Isla Girlfriends also have big hearts.

"Our group feels very deeply about the needs and suffering of women and children," says Diane Howard, Girlfriends president. They sponsored a room at CASA and collect and donate gifts and money for them during the holidays. They have also supported Daystar, the Free

Clinic, the Mammography Voucher Program, Alpha House, Brookwood Florida, and Hands Across the Bay. "We very much appreciate the good works they provide to the women and children in need in our community," she adds.

To learn more about IDSYCC go to www.isladelsoycc.com.



Tennis players supporting Play for Hunger pose for a photo. The club members raised \$189,186 through a variety of events for Daystar Life Center and St. Petersburg Free Clinic this year. Photos courtesy of IDSYCC.



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The Tierra Verde Business Partnership donated \$2,500 to the Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League (PAL) which offers after school tutoring and a host of other activities for 6th to 12th grade kids. The money was raised during the 2018 Tierra Verde Classic Car Show. TIR photo.



Alden, Renfrows Give to TBW

Alden Suites Beachfront Resort and owners Gary and Mary Ann Renfrow donated \$25,000 to Tampa Bay Watch (TBW) to jump-start the nonprofit's "\$25,000 for 25 Years" campaign. The resort's \$15,000 donation combined with \$10,000 from the Renfrow family will support TBW's vital efforts to protect and restore the Tampa Bay estuary. Photo courtesy of TBW.



Mr. Miksch Goes to Washington

Dylan Miksch, an Admiral Farragut student from St. Pete Beach, is one of 300 students selected nationwide to serve as a National Youth Delegate to the 2018 Washington (DC) Youth Summit on the Environment in June. He was chosen based on academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest and excellence in the sciences and conservation studies. He is the son of Diane Miksch, CPA, owner of Miksch & Company.



Terri Finnerty, Ed.D. Honored

The Florida League of Cities recently recognized St. Pete Beach Commissioner Terri Finnerty with a 2018 Home Rule Hero Award. The award recognizes her tireless efforts to advance the League's legislative agenda and help protect the home rule powers of Florida's cities during the 2018 legislative session. Photo courtesy of St. Pete Beach.



Pinellas Sheriff Honored

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri recently received the The Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) National Exceptional Service Award. This national award recognizes his outstanding support to the youth of the community via Boys and Girls Clubs, the Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League, Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch and MOWW's YLC Youth Leadership Program. (L-R)



MAJ Andrew Rodnite, Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, LTC Steve Hodges.

Road Runners Present Scholarships

The St. Pete Road Runners Club awards annual scholarships to local high school seniors who excel academically and are members of their varsity track team. This year's award of \$2,000 each were presented to Nicoletta Verrocchio, Pinellas Park H.S. (left), Julianna Chappell, Calvary Christian H.S. (right) and Kevin Cochran, Osceola Fundamental H.S. Photo courtesy of SPRR.



WWW.THEISLANDREPORTER.COM



Wayne's World

Bugs on the Menu... Plastic-Eating Enzyme Fights Pollution?... and More...

By Wayne Shattuck

Bugs on the Menu... Layers of squirming black soldier fly larvae fill large aluminum bins stacked 10-high in a warehouse outside of Vancouver. They are feeding on stale bread, rotting mangoes, overripe cantaloupe and squishy zucchini. But this is not a garbage dump. It's a farm. Enterra Feed, one of an emerging crop of insect growers, will process the bugs into protein-rich food for fish, poultry - even pets. After being fattened up, the fly larvae will be roasted, dried and bagged or pressed to extract oils, then milled into a brown powder that smells like roasted peanuts. The small but growing insect farming sector has captured the attention and investments from some heavy weights in the \$400 billion-a-year animal feed business, including U.S. agricultural powerhouse Cargill Inc. And, fast food giant McDonalds is studying using insects for chicken feed to reduce reliance on soy protein. The fact that such global food production giants are turning to insects illustrates the lengths they will go to find alternative sources of protein that are profitable and sustainable as animal feed or additives to human food. Others include peas, canola, algae and bacterial proteins. Global population growth and an expanding middle class have raised per capita meat consumption by 50 percent over the past four decades, fueling fears of a protein pinch. People tend to pivot from grain and plant-based diets to meat-based meals as they grow wealthier. The problem is that as meat demand grows, feed production needs to

grow faster. It typically takes about two pounds of feed to produce a pound of chicken. For pork, it takes four pounds. Expanded cultivation of soybeans (the foundation of livestock and poultry rations for decades) is not a long term solution because it contributes to deforestation and overuse of harsh farm chemicals. Nutritionists and scientists have long touted insect consumption for humans as a sustainable and cheap source of protein, but snacking on bugs is a stomach-churning prospect for people in many countries and cultures. Introducing insect protein further down the food chain may be more palatable. Insect farmers grow black soldier fly larvae and mealworms because they are docile, easy to grow and are high in protein and digestible fat. But, the bug business still has a few hurdles ahead... like the yuck factor, even when the insects are fed to animals. Regulators will also need to be convinced that ground-up bugs won't introduce new toxins into the food supply. Does this story remind any of you of the movie - Soylent Green? If not, You Tube it.

Plastic-Eating Enzyme Fights Pollution... Here's another "bug" story, but on a much smaller scale. Scientists in Britain and the U.S. say they have engineered a plastic-eating enzyme that could, in the future, help in the fight against pollution. The enzyme is able to digest something called polyethylene terephthalate, or PET - a form of plastic patented in the 1940s and now used in millions of tons of plastic bot-

tl. PET plastics can persist for hundreds of years in the environment and currently pollute large areas of land and sea worldwide. Researchers from Britain's University of Portsmouth and the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory made the discovery while examining the structure of a natural enzyme thought to have evolved in a waste recycling center in Japan. Finding that this enzyme was helping a bacteria break down, or digest, PET plastic, the researchers decided to "tweak" its structure by adding some amino acids, said John McGeehan, a professor at Portsmouth who co-led the work. This led to a serendipitous change in the enzyme's actions - allowing its plastic-eating abilities to work faster. The team, whose finding was published this spring in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Journal, is now working on improving the enzyme further to see if they can make it capable of breaking down PET plastics on an industrial scale.

But That's Not All... Why do people clink their glasses before drinking a toast? In earlier times it used to be common for someone to try to kill an enemy by offering him a poisoned drink. To prove to a guest that a drink was safe, it became customary for a guest to pour a small amount of his drink into the glass of the host. Both men would drink it simultaneously. When a guest trusted his host, he would only touch, or clink, the host's glass with his own.



Florida Author Celebrating America Through Dance

By Jackie Minniti

Master photographer Jonathan Givens has spent a good portion of his life around dance and dancers. After 20 years as a performer, he was sidelined by an injury that took him backstage where he worked as a technician, choreographer, set director and designer.

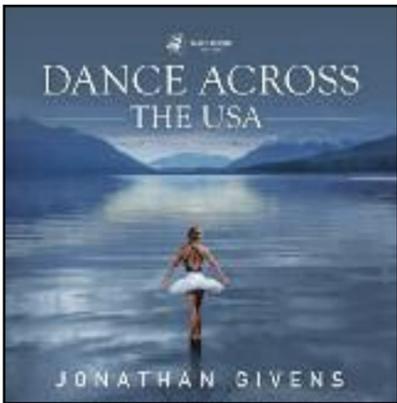
While Givens was serving as the master carpenter for the Oprah Winfrey Show, Oprah suggested he try his hand at photography. So he picked up a camera and discovered his true passion. This led to him start his own company – Entertainment Photography Specialists (EPS), a studio dedicated solely to photographing entertainers. But it was the unlikely combination of Facebook and a few glasses of wine that inspired Givens' proudest creation – "Dance Across the USA," a visually stunning book of photos featuring dancers set against the backdrops of some of America's most beautiful places.

"The photo business had exploded, and I was looking for a way to give back," Givens recalls. "I was on Facebook, drinking wine, when I saw an algorithm that showed a route to the 48 contiguous states, and, after a few more glasses of wine, I got the idea for the book." Givens' idea was to embark on an epic road trip spanning 50 states in 90 days, photographing dancers in national parks and well-known settings in each state. He would then donate part of the proceeds to the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Park Foundation.

"When I started out, I didn't know what I was getting into," Givens admits. "That was a good thing because as I encountered hurdles, I just did what I needed to do to overcome them." The most difficult challenges were the logistics of the trip and getting the required permits. He also had to find dancers local to each place, so he took to social media. "The only criteria were that they loved dance, wanted to share their dancing styles with the public and wanted to protect our natural spaces," he explains. From over 3,000 applicants, Givens chose 163 dancers to appear in the book.



Jonathan Givens devoted 20 years of his life to performing until he was sidelined with an injury. It was Oprah who suggested he take up photography which ultimately lead him to combine his love of dance and the outdoors with his new talent to create "Dance Across the USA."



beauty, dance, self-expression, America's majesty and America's people. "I hope this will make people put down the remote and iPad and get outside," he says. "We take for granted that we live in a great country. I want them to see the majesty for themselves – the sights, smells and sounds. There's an entirely different world off I-95." He also hopes to highlight the benefits of dance as a career and lifestyle and its positive impact on the development of children.

Givens' next project is even more ambitious – "Dance Across the World," a photographic odyssey that will traverse the entire planet. Starting in July, 2019, he plans to drive from the North to the South Pole, visiting and photographing dancers in 196 countries along the way. While this may seem a daunting task, Givens looks forward to the adventure. And judging by "Dance Across the USA," he is certainly up to the challenge.

For more information, visit www.danceacrossusa.com.

In the summer of 2016, Givens set out on his 3-month cross-country journey. He drove a total of 22,264 miles in a van he affectionately named "Mighty Buford," taking 22,160 photographs. After choosing the photos for the book, he faced the challenge of writing the text to accompany each picture. Although his only writing experience was a short stint on his high school newspaper, Givens found this to be the easiest part of the project. "The writing only took two weeks," he says. "I didn't have to create the story, I just had to narrow it down and put it in chronological order. And I've been told I tell a good yarn, so I wrote it like I talk. I wanted the written part to keep my voice."

Givens describes "Dance Across the USA" as a book that celebrates diversity,

Sir

By Sabrina O'Donnell

My alarm woke me up bright and early, my stomach was in knots before I even opened my eyes. It was the first day of my new job, and to say I had first day jitters would have been the understatement of the century. My new boss, in the words of Tom, my soon-to-be coworker who trained me for the position, was a man notorious for "breaking the soul and spirit of those working under him." He took his position of power so seriously, all his employees were instructed to call him "Sir."

"Well, what's his real name?" I asked Tom.

"That's the weird part," Tom smirked. "No one knows. He introduces himself as Sir and tells you that's the only thing you'll ever have to address him as."

I dressed in my nicest business clothes and got ready for the day. I arrived to work 20 minutes early, a tip Tom gave me to potentially impress Sir.

The office was quiet; the buzz of the air conditioning and hum of the coffee maker were the only sounds to be heard. I knocked on Sir's office door to introduce myself, half expecting him to not be at work yet.

"Enter." His voice cut the silence before I was even done knocking.

A tall, slender man with thick glasses and hair that appeared to have not seen a comb in months sat at what I can only assume was a desk, hidden behind piles of papers and folders.

"Hi...uh, I'm the new guy."

"Yes, they told me you were starting today. I'm Sir," he glanced at his clock then up at me. "You're a bit early."

"So are you, Sir."

His bony face broke into a smile. "Quick responses. Does that skill carry over?"

"I'm not sure what you mea—"

"Catch!" Sir chucked a blue stress ball directly at my head. I stuck my arm out, catching it as quickly as I could.

He laughed. "A lefty huh? Me too."

With that Sir told me that the coffee is in the kitchen and returned to his piles of documents.

Later that day, about an hour before quitting time, I stumbled across some papers that did not seem to belong on my desk. I knocked on Sir's door, documents in hand, but he did not call for me to come in.

Figuring that he may have left already, I cracked his door open.

"Did I tell you to come in?!" Sir practically screamed.

"Oh," I was taken aback. "I'm so sorry, I thought you might have gone home. I found some papers that I don't think I'm supposed to have."

Sir was frantically writing on a yellow pad of paper, not stopping or even looking up upon hearing me.

"Perhaps they belong with you?" I murmured.

He stuck his hand straight out, signaling me to hand him the papers.

It was then I noticed it was his left hand raised towards me and his right hand frantically documenting his thoughts.

I handed him the papers and turned to leave, but I had to ask.

"Sir, didn't you say you're a lefty?"

"Come again?" his voice was bored.

"This morning, you told me you were left handed, did you not?"

Sir glanced down at his right hand and stopped moving it abruptly. His eyes trailed to his left hand, then back. Without saying a word, he switched his pen from his right to his left hand and continued writing.

"Oh wow," I exclaimed. "Are you ambi—"

Sir tightened his grip on the pen so much so that I thought it was going to snap.

"Get. Out."



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The Island Reporter Puzzle Page

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Freshwater fish
- 5 Jeer
- 10 St. John's _____ (herbal remedy)
- 14 Part of a pot
- 15 Christmas _____
- 16 Kind of code
- 17 Standing still
- 19 Mr. Potato Head piece
- 20 Hobby shop buy
- 21 Orange container
- 22 Frozen rain
- 23 Whisk, for one
- 25 "Peggy Sue" singer
- 26 Mighty mount
- 28 Boot tip
- 30 Bread for gyros
- 31 Yogi's nemesis
- 32 Tree trickling
- 35 Fabricated
- 37 One who owes
- 39 Sandwich bread
- 40 Military greeting
- 44 Diane of "Paris Can Wait"
- 45 Muslim leader
- 46 Golf score
- 47 Repair, as software
- 50 Pained expression
- 52 Make giddy
- 53 Gunpowder ingredient
- 54 Prefix with born or found
- 57 Tab
- 58 Tomato's family

DOWN

- 1 Soak up the sun
- 2 The "A" of ABM
- 3 Oscar, for one
- 4 Filming site
- 5 Disdain
- 6 Rummy relative
- 7 Formal address
- 8 Fido's front limb
- 9 Bothersome bug
- 10 Clobber
- 11 Built-out window
- 12 Gross out
- 13 Mouth-watering
- 18 Like some drinks
- 22 Wall Street purchase
- 24 Eye drop?
- 26 Boot attachment
- 27 Elton John's "_____ Dancer"
- 29 Turn over
- 31 Bona fide
- 32 Demi Moore, e.g.
- 33 Top-notch
- 34 Flies, to spiders
- 36 Linguist's concern
- 38 Political coalition
- 41 Low-grade coal
- 42 Type of piano
- 43 In that direction
- 45 Serving of veal
- 46 Watering holes
- 47 Ledger entry
- 48 Say "y'all," say
- 49 Poolroom supply
- 51 Subway in Paris
- 55 Make revisions to
- 56 "The Way We _____"
- 58 Swe. neighbor
- 59 _____ and haw

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Sudoku

				4			1
			8		2	4	
	9		6				
6	3					9	
		1	7			6	
	1		9				3
	1	6			8		
9			4	7		2	5
4							

Trivia

Movies

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- Mandy Moore starred in what two movies?
(a) A Walk to Remember and Chasing Liberty (b) The Princess Diaries and Crossroads (c) On the Line and Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen
- Who played Kaylee, Frankie Muniz's best friend in Big Fat Liar? (a) Mila Kunis (b) Hilary Duff (c) Amanda Bynes
- In what film did Lindsay Lohan and Rachel McAdams play high school rivals? (a) Election (b) Bring it On (c) Mean Girls
- What movie starring Heath Ledger and Julia Stiles is based on the Shakespeare play The Taming of the Shrew? (a) The Best Man (b) 10 Things I Hate About You (c) Casanova
- In what classic 80s flick did Kangaroo Jack star Jerry O'Connell get his start? (a) Pretty in Pink (b) The Breakfast Club (c) Stand By Me
- What movie centered around three girls, Eden, Anne Marie and Lena - and had the tagline "If you want to feel the rush, you have to take the risk?" (a) Blue Crush (b) Tuck Everlasting (c) Eight Crazy Nights
- What is the name of Elle Wood's dog in Legally Blonde? (a) Barney (b) Bruiser (c) Buster
- What movie marked the debut of William Shatner? (a) The Brothers Karamazov (b) Twilight Zone: The Movie (c) Star Trek: The Motion Picture
- The script for what movie was written during shooting breaks on the set of Raiders of the Lost Ark? (a) Poltergeist (b) Always (c) E.T.
- What 2001 film was originally supposed to feature Bruce Willis, Mark Wahlberg, Danny Glover and Luke and Owen Wilson? (a) Traffic (b) Ocean's Eleven (c) Planet of the Apes

Puzzlers can find the answers to all these brain teasers at www.TheIslandReporter.com under "Puzzles"

Word Search

Vacation Travel

AGENT	AIRPORT
ARRIVALS	BROCHURES
CREDIT	CUSTOMS
DEPARTURE	FLIGHTS
GUIDES	HOTELS
INNS	LUGGAGE
MAPS	MONEY
PASSPORT	PLANES
PORTS	RESERVATIONS
RESTAURANTS	SCHEDULES
SHIPS	SIGHTS
SOUVENIRS	TICKETS
TOURS	TRAINS
TRIPS	

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 7

Local Events, Activities & Announcements

Gulfport

June 1 & 16: Gulfport Art-Walk, 6 - 10 p.m. Shop, eat and enjoy more than 35 unique businesses, boutiques, galleries, bars, and restaurants along with arts and craft vendors. Beach Blvd. S., Waterfront District.

June 1 - 3: Gulfport Grand Prix, Times and activities vary. Boat races featuring 120 mph Formula Powerboats, vendors, antique boat show and pit area. Free to the public. Shore Boulevard. Info at www.gulfportgrandprix.com.

June 15: Porch Party: So You Think You Know Gulfport? 6:30 p.m. It's a quiz show where the history is real - but people may get questions like "What is the name of the mayor's dog?" or "How many chickens is it legal to own inside Gulfport city limits?" Dogs and kids welcome but some material may be inappropriate for those under 15. BYOB. \$5 entry with light snacks provided; feel free to bring a dish to share. Gulfport Historical Society, 5301 28th Ave. S.

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. Sept. 12 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.gulfporttoastmasters.com.

Throughout the Month

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

St. Pete Beach

June 16: Tarpon Rodeo Castaway Soirée, 6 - 9 p.m. No fishing pole is required to attend this Tarpon Rodeo after-party with libations and cuisine, auctions, vendors, live entertainment and tourney winners announced. \$100 per person a portion of which benefits Tampa Bay Watch. TradeWinds Island Resort, 5500 Gulf Blvd. Info at www.tampabaywatch.org.

June 22: St. Pete Beach 5k Race, 7 p.m. Fun, chip-timed, beach 5K run. Great after party w/ a free buffet, adult drinks (with proper I.D.), soda, water, live DJ and a spectacular sunset. Races Jul. 20 and Aug. 17 too. 9th Avenue and Gulf Way. www.sprr.org.

All month:

St. Pete Beach Public Library. Check www.spblibrary.com for the latest events.

Gulf Beaches Historical Museum. A time-line display from 1500 to present with local artifacts, hundreds of then and now photographs, post-cards, a WW II exhibit, a special Don CeSar Hotel display and always a special exhibit that changes yearly. Free. Hours and info at www.gulfbeaches-museum.com.

St. Petersburg

June 1 - July 31: The American Soldier - A Photographic Tribute, Mon - Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun. noon - 5 p.m. A dramatic exhibition of nearly 70 wall-to-wall photographs capturing the essence of American soldiering for more than 150 years from the Civil War to the streets of Baghdad. The St. Petersburg Museum of History, 335 2nd Ave. NE. Info at www.spmoh.com.

June 23: 2018 Summer Golf Classic, Noon registration, 1 p.m. shotgun start. Two-person scramble with two divisions Adult/Adult or Adult/Child; open to everyone. Dinner, raffle, and awards following play. Supports The First Tee St. Petersburg. Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club, 6000 Sun Blvd. Info at www.thefirstteestpetersburg.org.

July 27: Mark Your Calendars-Art Ties Us, 7 - 10 p.m. What started as a contest to benefit the Pubic Art Project ends with a celebration of the Arts and Artists of St. Petersburg. Enjoy the cuisine of six top local restaurants, open bar and original art. The Birchwood. Tickets \$125. Info at www.art-tiesus.com.

Each Week

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

Tierra Verde

June 4 - July 30: TBW Student Volunteers, 9 am - noon on Mondays. Be a Tampa Bay Watch student volunteer (minimum age of 15). Join other students and a staff lead for environmental projects such as cleaning fishing line, cleaning a shoreline, or planting marsh grasses. Contact Rachel at rarndt@tampabaywatch.org.

June 15 & 16: Tampa Bay Watch Tarpon Rodeo, Catch-and-release tournament to benefit TBW restoration projects and education programs. Launch from Fort De Soto for tournament, post-tournament Castaway Soirée at the TradeWinds, 5500 Gulf Blvd., June 16. Info at www.tampabaywatch.org.

Treasure Island

June 16: Monte Carlo Casino Night, 6 - 10 p.m. Annual Casino Night Fundraiser with casino gaming, raffles, complementary hors d'oeuvres, Las Vegas showgirls and more. Tickets are \$60. Hosted by the Treasure Island and Madeira Beach Chamber at The Club at Treasure Island, 400 Treasure Island Causeway. Info at www.island-neighborschamber.org.

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. Community Center 1 Park Place and 106th Avenue.

Seminars and Classes

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 78 Safe Boating Classes, 7 p.m., each Tuesday. A 12-week continuous cycle of classes; start anytime; includes 400 pages of materials. Initial registration is 6:30 p.m. \$45 for 12 weeks (\$60 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.

June 5: Equipment for Your Boat, June 12: Waterway Watch/Trailer Your Boat, June 19: Handling Your Boat, June 26: "Your Highway Signs"

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.

June 4: America's Boating Course, 7 - 9 p.m. Seven week course. Graduates qualify for a Florida Boating Safety Education ID Card and may qualify for insurance discounts. Materials \$45 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.

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.

Summer Camps

Treasure Island Children's Summer Programs:

Recreational Camp. An 11 week program for ages 5 to 13, May 29 through Aug. 10, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Activities include games, sports, arts and crafts, parties, guest speakers and entertainment, movies, field trips and more. Before and after care is provided for an additional fee. Family discounts are available. Register at city hall.

Junior Tennis Camps. For juniors ages 8 years old through high school at Treasure Bay Golf and Tennis, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. Info and registration at 727-360-6062 pgirardi@mytreasureisland.org.

The James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art: Camps are \$160 for museum members, \$180 for non-members and a 10% discount is available for siblings. Before and after care is available for an additional fee. Info at www.thejamesmuseum.org.

Wild for Wildlife: June 25 - 29. Learn about the works in the gallery, including the observational works of wildlife art and observe live birds of prey to create a masterpiece!

Native American Art & Craft Camp: July 9 - 13. Children will explore the cultures, traditions, and artwork from the Native American tribes of the Plains, Southwest, and Pacific Coast.

The 13th annual



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JUNE 15-16, 2018

**Friday, June 15
Tournament day!**
Cast your lines from 2-8 pm in beautiful Tampa Bay. Winners are announced the next day, June 16, at the Castaway Soirée, TradeWinds Island Resort.

**Saturday, June 16
Castaway Soirée after-party**
Join us for the Castaway Soirée at TradeWinds Island Resort. Dinner, libations, vendors and auctions, live music and Tarpon Rodeo Tournament Award Presentation.

FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION:
tampabaywatch.org/tarpon-rodeo
(727) 867-8166



Volunteers Needed
Clothes To Kids is seeking volunteers for their St. Pete and Clearwater stores. CTK relies on volunteers to provide new and quality used clothing to low income school age children in Pinellas County, free of charge. CTK has a variety of active volunteer opportunities to match most schedules and skills.
Information and contacts at www.clothestokids.org

Beverage Beat Slide into Summer

By Ellen L. Capitosti

There is possibly no other liqueur more synonymous with the slow slide from spring to sultry summer days than Elderflower Liqueur. According to St. Germain, a leading manufacturer, the liqueur with a heady floral, yet fruity scent, and delicate beauty has been used for many purposes over the years – both medicinal and distilled.

The name Elder, is said to be derived from the Anglo-Saxon, Aeld, which meant fire. The stems of the Elderflower are hollow and air was forced through them to help keep fires burning. Teas made from its flowers were used to ease Rheumatic inflammation.

Wild Elderflowers (Sambucus Nigra) grow abundantly around the globe and flower just a short time in the early summer. They are a tiny, yet divinely fragrant, white flower that grow in the shape of an umbrella. The flowers are harvested by

hand in the early morning, as the warmth fades their scent. St. Germain is probably the best-known brand of Elderflower Liqueur and is still made in the time-honored way of artisanal spirits. Once the flowers are gathered they are rushed to the distillery on bicycle where the petals are delicately removed, as the stems and leaves are poisonous. They are then distilled into the delightful, floral liqueur and the end product is poured into the beautiful and distinctive St. Germain bottle that is hand numbered to track the year the flowers were picked.

Elderflower Liqueur can be served on its own; neat in the winter to give a sweet reminder of warmer days to come; refreshing sipped on the rocks on a warm day, or served as a traditional Gimlet. It also can be served drizzled over sorbet, or served over fresh fruit as a delicious ending to

a light summertime meal.

Another twist on a traditional brunch treat is the classic St. Germain Cocktail - a champagne flute mixed with Champagne, St. Germain, and club soda. St. Germain offers this classic light aperitif recipe to stimulate, not inebriate:

The St. Germain Cocktail

2 parts Brut Champagne or Dry Sparkling Wine

1½ parts St. Germain®

2 parts Club Soda

Fill a tall Collins glass with ice. Add Champagne then St. Germain, then club soda. Stir completely and garnish with a lemon twist. Enjoy.

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

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2018 Summer Golf Classic at
Isla Del Sol Yacht & Country Club


 The 2018 Summer Golf Classic will be held on June 23, 2018 at Isla Del Sol Yacht & Country Club. The event is open to everyone and registration will begin at 12:00 PM. The event will start at 1:00 PM with a shotgun start. The format will be a 2 person scramble with two divisions Adult / Adult or Adult / Child. There will be dinner, raffle, and awards following play.
 It will be a very fun and competitive event for all. If interested, please [CLICK HERE](#) for the tournament flyer. You may also register online through our website by clicking here [REGISTER NOW](#). If you have any questions or would like to be a sponsor of any kind please reach out to **Adam Stuck** at 727-605-5758 or email at astuck@thefirstteestpetersburg.org Hope you can join us!!

THE BIRCHWOOD PRESENTS
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An Evening with the Artists
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7 PM to 10 PM
 The Grand Ballroom at The Birchwood
 Individual Tickets \$125*
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June 22
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 Race in the largest beach race on beautiful St. Pete Beach; Races start at 7 p.m. for a fun, chip-timed 5K run. Great after party w/ a free buffet from the Hurricane Restaurant, adult drinks (with proper I.D.), soda, water, live DJ and a spectacular sunset.
www.sprr.org

The Picture Page

I went through file copies of TIR when writing From the Publisher. It is amazing the people and organizations I've come to learn about and been able to share with you while publishing TIR. Below is a sampling of some of our front page stories. Thanks for the memories.



ISLAND TOONS

By Bruce W. Norris





TIERRA VERDE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2016

Century 21 Coast to Coast
150 Pinellas Bayway, Tierra Verde, FL 33715
727-867-8633



2BR/2Bath condo on Isla Del Sol. Sweeping views of the Tampa Bay from every window. The unit provides a split bedroom plan with tasteful updating in both baths, covered parking and all the Florida lifestyle provides. Price reduced. Now \$335,000. Call Jacqi Dockery Realtor for any further info 727-424-3700



Dolphin Cay is an award-winning gated waterfront community of one hundred acres. Homes and condominium buildings blend with the protected wetland area where a bird sanctuary and natural habitat are preserved. This freshly painted Mediterranean styled 2 story home entry is highlighted by a Travertine marble tiled driveway/walkway and opens into a 12' ceiling atrium greeting area. A new tile roof was recently installed. The first level of the home, with 12' ceilings throughout, has spacious water views of the deep-water Maximo channel and Boca Ciega Bay. The great room features hardwood flooring and marble French pattern laid throughout the kitchen and guest room suite. Newly installed hurricane impact 8' sliders open to a marble paver pool area and T&G wood ceiling lanai. On the water is a Duradek dock containing a 10,000 lb. boat-lift. The side area of home features an artisan mosaic outdoor shower and 2 brand new A/C units well concealed in a recess. Upstairs features 10' ceilings with a large master suite with hardwood flooring and master bath area with marble flooring contained throughout. A second guest room suite is also upstairs along with a recently completed art/office studio. An attached 2 1/2 car garage features a 3 part epoxy flooring and a custom 15'x 8' above garage storage area. To Preview call: Gabrielle Bettig, Realtor, 727-385-9017 or Chris Boyll, Realtor 727-612-9777



YOUR BEACH HIDE-AWAY - \$148,500
Great location! 1/2 mile from popular Sunset Beach. Beautiful one bedroom, one bath ground floor condo in St. Pete Beach.. Across the street from public tennis courts and fishing pier. Walk to water front dining. Completely updated. Granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, breakfast bar, oversized tile, up graded lighting and crown molding throughout. All furnishings and accessories to convey. Heated swimming pool with sundeck. Laundry facilities on site. Trolley stops in front of complex. Excellent rental history; short term rentals are allowed with a 3 day minimum. Easy access to the Interstate, downtown St. Petersburg, 30 minutes to Tampa International Airport. To preview, please call Gabrielle Bettig, Realtor at 727-385-9017



TIERRA VERDE! ST PETE BEACH! Boaters, townhome with DEEDED BOAT SLIP 8,000 lb. LIFT on sailboat (deep) water. This spacious 2BR/2.5BA/2 car tandem garage townhome has an open floor plan with living/dining rm & separate eat-in kitchen with laminate floors. Living room has wood-burning flpc. Master bath has dual sinks, separate shower with jacuzzi tub while the Master bdrm has a balcony with one of the best views in the complex. Asking \$309,000. Contact Gabrielle Bettig, REALTOR 727-385-9017



Price to sell 220,000.
3/2 with pool and in-law suite in Meadowlawn North St. Petersburg, Call Michael Sorah 727-692-6013.



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2) Large Park St Lot. \$350,000.
3) Lakefront Lot, Oceanview Dr. \$650,000.
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8:00 am & 10:00 am

Children's Nursery Provided
Age 3 1/2 and under

Adult Sunday Bible Study
9:00 am

Children's Sunday School
10:00 am



"Members and non-members alike are welcome at our non-denominational worship services."

Dr. Mike Wetzel, Pastor

Wednesday Evening Services

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
7:00 PM

Dr. Mike Wetzel, Pastor

Joshua Wolfenden
Director of Christian Education

Angela Wolfenden
Worship Music Director

1271 Pinellas Bayway
Tierra Verde, FL 33715
(behind the TD Bank Building)
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