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Osprey OBSERVER
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Sept 2026
Volume 21, Issue 9

Ph: 813-657-2418

SELECT DATES
SEPT 12 - NOV 1

See Our Ad On Page 21

CELEBRATING 24 YEARS OF PUBLISHING POSITIVE COMMUNITY NEWS

HCSO INDIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL SUPPORTS BRANDON HIGH'S PUSH FOR BETTER ATTENDANCE

By Libby Hopkins



The HCSO Indian Advisory Council recently donated laptops to Brandon High School's Community School to help students stay connected to their studies.

The mission of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Indian Advisory Council is to serve as a bridge connecting the Indian community with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), dedicated to serving, protecting and defending the community while upholding the rights and dignity of all individuals. Since its inception, the council has actively engaged in numerous initiatives aimed at building goodwill and fostering strong relationships, promoting literacy and raising awareness about the resources available within our county.

In keeping with their mission, the Indian Advisory Council recently donated laptops to Brandon High School's (BHS) Community School in the hopes of keeping students connected to their studies.

"We have always partnered with various people to support schoolwide initiatives," said Lauren Leto, Brandon High School's Community School resource teacher. "We know that students cannot learn if they are not present at school. Many of our families face barriers to attending school. Some of our students stay home to take care of other family members. Some do not have adequate transportation and may live close to school to qualify for the bus. Post-COVID has been a challenge across

the nation to get kids to come to school. The laptops will be raffled off to students who meet the 90 percent positive attendance rate we are striving for."

The laptop raffles will begin at the end of August and continue monthly.

"Community school supports many aspects to the success of the Brandon students," said Susan Spears, Brandon High School's academic interventionist ELP coordinator. "Attendance is a major focus for the initiative. In order to increase our overall school attendance to 90 percent or higher, laptops provide an incentive for the students because many do not have the financial resources to purchase their own. Attendance plays a large role in student success in high school. The goal of the incentive is to increase attendance to directly impact academic success."

Both Spears and Leto are appreciative of the HCSO Indian Advisory Council, Master Deputy Tony Suarez of the HCSO Community Outreach Division and Brandon High School coach Amy Watson for their help with securing the laptop donation.

"Eagle student and now Brandon High School alumni Tony Suarez has remained connected to coach Amy Watson, longtime BHS educator," Leto said. "He is aware that we are a community school and wanted to support so student can succeed in school."

If you would like to learn more about the HCSO Indian Advisory Council, you can visit its website at <https://teamhcsoc.com/section/efd7fdd7-d42b-4fb4-ad6e-e34043da0eda/indian-advisory-council>.

BRANDON DENTAL CARE CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

By Marie Gilmore

Since opening its doors in 1966, Brandon Dental Care has helped generations of local families maintain healthy smiles while building a legacy of community service that continues today.

The dental practice is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, marking six decades of caring for patients throughout Brandon, Valrico, Riverview and surrounding communities.



Brandon Dental Care is celebrating 60 years of serving the community in 2026. The team marked the milestone by donating 60 birthday boxes to ECHO, continuing the practice's longstanding commitment to supporting local families.



The office originally opened on North Moon Street before moving to its longtime Brandon location at 413 W. Robertson St. In 1992, Dr. Rudy Liddell joined Dr. Dan Noland and Dr. Richard Reed, and the practice became known as Brandon Dental Care.

Over the years, the practice welcomed additional dentists, including Dr. Craig Oldham, Dr. Chris Waite, Dr. Stephen Zuknick and Dr. Dan Branca. A second location opened in Riverview in 2012, expanding access to care for area residents.

For Dr. Branca, joining the practice brought his dental journey full circle. He first became a patient of Dr. Liddell in 1997 as a child. After graduating from the University of Florida College of Dentistry in 2014, Dr. Branca returned to Brandon Dental Care in 2017, where he had the opportunity to work alongside the dentist who had cared for him growing up.

The practice's legacy also includes a longstanding commitment to helping those in need. In 2017, Dr. Branca established a dental clinic at Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry in Wimauma, where Dr. Oldham also volunteers.

Dr. Zuknick and Dr. Branca are leaders at the annual Florida Mission of Mercy event, where dentists from across the state donate free dental care to more than 1,500 patients. The event provides an estimated \$1.9 million in dental services.

Brandon Dental Care's commitment to

service extends to its employees and patients. Fourteen of its 30 employees have worked at the practice for more than 10 years, including eight who have been there for more than 20 years. Treatment coordinator Valerie Alex retired in 2023 after 47 years with the office, having previously served as a dental assistant for Dr. Reed.

Dr. Liddell, who retired in December 2022, was recognized as Florida Dentist of the Year in 2021 and received a lifetime achievement award in 2026. He also served as president of the West Coast District Dental Association and the Florida Dental Association.

To celebrate its anniversary, the team collected supplies to create 60 birthday boxes featuring cake mix, frosting, candles and plates, donating them to ECHO to help local families celebrate special occasions.

Brandon Dental Care continues its mission of providing comprehensive dental services in a welcoming environment, with a focus on patient education, comfort and oral health.

For more information, visit <https://brandondentalcare.com/>.

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By Dale Bliss

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A backup team arrives around 10:30 a.m. to help prepare and package the meals before delivery volunteers head out on their routes. Meals are delivered between 11 a.m.-1 p.m., with volunteers making sure each recipient receives more

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MANAGING EDITOR
Marie Gilmore
813-657-2418
editor@ospreyobserver.com



DIRECTOR OF MEDIA OPERATIONS
Doug Gilmore
813-657-2418
doug@ospreyobserver.com



NEWS REPORTER
Taylor Wells
813-657-2418
twells@ospreyobserver.com



DELIVERY MANAGER
Bill Andrew
813-657-2418
bandrew@ospreyobserver.com



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Libby Hopkins
813-657-2418
libby@ospreyobserver.com



CUSTOMER SERVICE
Jenny Bennett
813-657-2418
jbennett@ospreyobserver.com

GRAPHICS MANAGER - Kathi Hayes - khayes@ospreyobserver.com

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OSPREY OBSERVER ENTERS 25TH YEAR WITH NEW HOME OFFICE LOCATION

Staff Report

The *Osprey Observer* is preparing to celebrate 25 years of publishing positive, hometown news while entering a new chapter with a move to a more flexible office.

The family-owned publication began printing in January 2002 as a single edition serving FishHawk. Today, the *Osprey Observer* publishes more than 70,000 direct-mailed newspapers each month across five editions: Bloomingdale/FishHawk, Riverview, Valrico, Brandon/Winthrop and its newest edition, SouthShore.

In September, the newspaper sold its longtime office on Lithia Pinecrest Road and opened a satellite office on Bloomingdale Avenue inside the EZ Choice Realty office located at 116 E. Bloomingdale Ave, Brandon, FL 33511.

The move reflects how the newspaper's staff and operations have evolved, particularly since the COVID-19 pandemic.

"After the pandemic, most of our team took their positions home," said Editor and Publisher Marie Gilmore. "So now, with Zoom staff meetings and staff working anywhere in the state and beyond, we are able to work remotely."

While much of the *Osprey Observer's* staff now works remotely, the publication will maintain a physical office where readers, advertisers and community members can continue to connect with the newspaper.

The new office, located at 116 E. Blooming-

dale Ave. in Brandon, will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

"We still want to be a hub where members of the community can drop off press releases, pick up papers and prizes and still feel connected," Gilmore said.

The new location provides the newspaper with a central place to maintain that personal connection while allowing the company to continue embracing the flexibility of a remote workforce.

For Gilmore, who founded the *Osprey Observer* in January 2002 along with husband Doug and a small team of dedicated staff, the changes represent both growth and a return to the publication's roots.

Over the past 25 years, the newspaper has grown from one community edition into a five-edition publication reaching tens of thousands of local households. Throughout that growth, its mission has remained focused on telling the stories of the people, organizations, businesses and events that make the community special.

As the *Osprey Observer* looks toward its next 25 years, its new office will serve as a reminder that while the way newspapers work continues to change, the importance of staying connected to the communities it serves has not.

For more informatino, visit the website www.ospreyobserver.com, email editor@ospreyobserver.com or call 813-657-2418.



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THE DANCE CENTER HOSTS 'A NIGHT IN PARIS' FUNDRAISER

Staff Report

Nearly two years after Hurricane Milton forced The Dance Center from its longtime home, the Brandon dance studio is celebrating not simply a recovery, but a new chapter.

On Saturday, October 17, 2026, The Dance Center will host A Night in Paris, an elegant



evening of dinner, dessert, and inspiring dance performances featuring students from the studio's upper-level programs. The event will serve as both a fundraiser and a celebration of how far the studio has come since Hurricane Milton—and where it is headed next.

When Hurricane Milton flooded The Dance Center's previous facility in October 2024, the studio was forced to leave its home and operate from temporary spaces while searching for a permanent solution. What followed was a season of uncertainty, transition, and rebuilding.

Today, The Dance Center is operating from its new home on Bryan Road in Brandon, where its programs continue to grow. The studio serves dancers from young children through adults, with training in ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and other styles. Its upper-level programs are developing dancers through increasingly rigorous training and performance opportunities.

"A Night in Paris" is intended to give the community an intimate look at that growth.

Different from our traditional large-scale recital, the evening will feature a curated selection of performances from The Dance

Center's advanced dancers, allowing guests to experience the artistry, discipline, and dedication that develop through years of training.

For The Dance Center, the significance of the evening extends beyond the performances

themselves.

"We don't want to simply say that we survived Hurricane Milton," said Hannah Townend, co-owner and director of The Dance Center. "We want to show what has happened since then. We've grown, we've rebuilt, and we're moving into something new. This is about looking beyond recovery and toward the heights we're capable of reaching."

The studio's mission is to inspire excellence of character through excellence in dance in students of all ages. That mission continues to shape the studio as it enters this next era, with an emphasis on strong technical training, character development, artistic growth, and meaningful opportunities for dancers to perform.

A Night in Paris will include dinner, dessert, a raffle, and performances by dancers from The Dance Center's upper-level programs. Proceeds will support the continued growth and development of the studio.

A Night in Paris Saturday, October 17, 2026 The Dance Center Brandon, Florida. Tickets are \$37 per person and are available to the public. For tickets and event information, visit www.brandondance.com.

AREA STUDENTS NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALISTS

Staff Report



Hillsborough County Public Schools students have been named semifinalists in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program, recognizing their outstanding academic achievements and performance on the PSAT/NMSQT.

Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS) is proud to announce that 70 students from the district's traditional public high schools have been named Semifinalists in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program, one of the nation's most prestigious academic recognition programs for high school students. The students were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation based on their outstanding performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

The National Merit Scholarship Program selected more than 16,000 semifinalists nationwide, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors. Approximately 95 percent of semifinalists are expected to advance to Finalist standing, with about half of those students ultimately earning a National Merit Scholarship.

Local 2027 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists by school:

Bloomington High School:

Jacob J. Abraham, Lawrence V. Derosier and Emerson J. Spencer.

Brandon Academy High School: Brian Nguyen.

Riverview High School:

Alexander E. Guirguis.

Sumner High School:

Ayden M. Creech.

Newsome High School:

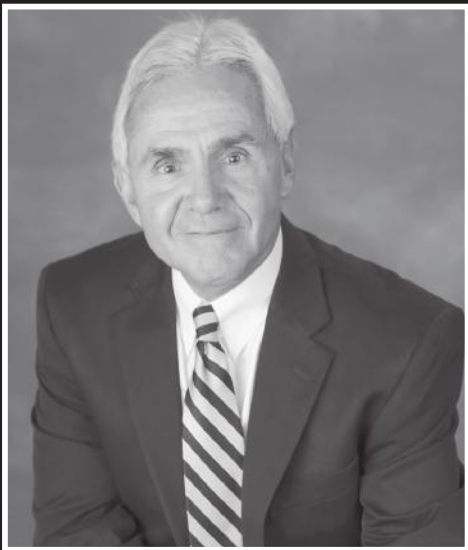
Colin D. Holcombe.

"Being named a National Merit Semifinalist places these students among the highest-achieving scholars in the nation and reflects years of hard work, dedication and academic excellence," said Superintendent Van Ayres. "We are incredibly proud of these students, their families, teachers and school communities. Their success demonstrates the outstanding opportunities available in our schools and the bright future ahead for each of these remarkable young people."

Semifinalists must now complete additional requirements, including a detailed scholarship application, academic record review, recommendation from a school official and qualifying SAT or ACT scores, to advance to Finalist standing. National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced beginning in spring 2027.

For a complete list of National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalists, visit www.nationalmerit.org/s/1758/start.aspx.

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SEW N' TELL ALTERATIONS IN WINTHROP CELEBRATES 18TH ANNIVERSARY

Sew N' Tell Alterations, located in Winthrop, celebrated 18 years of business on July 8. Sew N' Tell's slogan is 'One stitch at a time,' and owner Karen Deguenther puts her heart into every stitch.

Deguenther said she loves what she does and it doesn't feel like work. What she loves most about the last 18 years is the people she has met and helped.

"The best feeling of the day is when you have a girl who feels horrible in their dress and then you make it look great on them. And they're like, 'OK, now I love the dress. Now I feel good.' I mean, that's the best part for me. When I make a homecoming girl or a prom girl or a wedding girl feel great about who they are on that special day," Deguenther said.

Deguenther started Sew N' Tell after leaving a job as a theft auditor. Twenty-five years ago, her son had a stroke during childbirth. She decided she could not travel with her job and give her son the care he needed. Her family moved to Tennessee to be with family. Deguenther's sister-in-law, Denise, had a sewing business and taught her how to sew. A few years later, Deguenther and her husband, Bob, decided to move back home to Florida. Deguenther worked for a local company as a seamstress before opening Sew N' Tell in Winthrop. She named it Sew N' Tell because



her son was very excited about show-and-tell days in grade school.

She now sees approximately 4,000 customers a year. She said the friendships she has made in the community and connections to families are a special part of the business.

"When I started, I did work for seniors going to prom. Then, those seniors, some of them got married right after graduation. I did their wedding dresses. Now, I am doing dresses for their seniors in high school. I am three generations in," Deguenther said.

Her sister-in-law lost her shop in 2020 due to a tornado. She moved to Florida and now works with Deguenther.

"So, that's the best part of the story — the fact that we have now come full circle and she works with me. We're back together," Deguenther said.

Sew N' Tell Alterations is located at 11252 Winthrop Main St., Ste. B, in Riverview. Store hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. from Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m.-12 Noon on Saturday. For more information, call Deguenther at 813-681-8355.

LOCAL DRUMMER FOLLOWS PASSION TO SEAWORLD STAGE

Zack Hoening has loved drumming his entire life. He was part of the Newsome High School Marching Band and then became a part of the UCF Marching Band when he was in college. He has competed in numerous drumming competitions all across the state as well.

"I started my drumming journey in middle school through electives," Hoening said. "This led me to falling in love with drumming and to doing marching band in high school and other band activities outside of school."

He knew he wanted to keep drumming, even when he was told to have a backup plan.

"Drumming was the only thing I felt passionate about, and I knew I wanted to pursue it as a career," Hoening said. "I got my bachelor's degree in music and, since I was already in Orlando, started trying out for an open call for drummer or percussionist at the local theme parks."

Hoening is currently a percussionist for a variety of theme parks including SeaWorld's new Halloween-themed show, Monster Stomp. The show takes place in the misty corners of Victorian-era London, where a fiend known only as Jack the Ripper walks the streets. Guests watch him take the stage in a way they've never seen before in this modern rock and rhythm spectacular.



Zack Hoening was part of the Newsome High School Marching Band and then became a part of the UCF Marching Band. He is currently a percussionist for SeaWorld's new show, Monster Stomp.



Guests will have to hold onto their seats as electrifying percussion, dancing and singing combine for a show that's as darkly entertaining as it is exhilarating.

"For this show, I'll actually be drumming on a coffin with knives," Hoening said.

Hoening is extremely happy that he followed his heart and kept on drumming, even when the path was uncertain. He said every rehearsal, audition and performance has helped remind him why he fell in love with percussion in the first

place.

"From the moment I started drumming, I knew this was what I was supposed to do with my life," he said. "Being onstage and performing is the absolute best feeling in the world for me."

For Hoening, the opportunity to perform in a high-energy show like Monster Stomp is more than just another job; it is a chance to share his passion with audiences and prove that dedication can turn a childhood interest into a career. He hopes his story encourages others to stay committed to what they love.

"Don't ever give up on your dreams, and always follow your heart," Hoening said.

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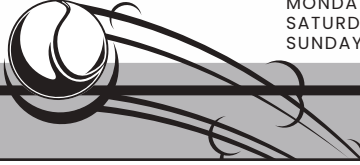
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BONNET SPRINGS ANNOUNCES FALL AND HOLIDAY EVENT LINEUP

Staff Report

Bonnet Springs Park (BSP), located at 400 Bonnet Springs Blvd. in Lakeland, invites locals and visitors to celebrate the season with three signature events featuring live entertainment, cultural experiences, regional cuisine and holiday traditions.

Beginning with the vibrant Hispanic Heritage celebration Bienvenido a BSP; continuing with the park's premier culinary event, Central Florida Food Fest; and concluding with more than two weeks of holiday festivities during Light Up BSP, the park's fall and holiday lineup offers unforgettable ways for the community to gather, connect and celebrate.

"We are finishing the year strong with an incredible lineup of seasonal experiences," said Kirsten Hein, vice president of engagement. "Whether we are honoring Hispanic Heritage Month, uplifting our culinary scene at the Central Florida Food Fest or taking in the magic of Light Up BSP, these annual events have become cherished traditions for families across our region. We are thrilled to continue bringing our community together in thoughtful, intentional ways, surrounded by the natural beauty of the park."

Bienvenido a BSP
Saturday, October 10 | 3-9 p.m., Allen & Company Family Lawn
The season begins with Bienvenido a BSP,



Bonnet Springs Park's free Hispanic Heritage celebration honoring the vibrant flavors, colors, rhythms and traditions of Hispanic and Latino cultures.

Headlining the evening will be Los Potritos, featuring renowned percussionist and tri-pandero creator Daniel Díaz and percussionist and vocalist Jafet Murguía. Díaz has collaborated with artists including Residente, Ricky Martin and Bad Bunny, while Murguía is known for his longstanding musical partnership with Díaz and his work within the Puerto Rican music scene. Also taking the stage will be PJ Kids, a Latin children's music family band formed by the Latin Grammy-nominated duo Periko & Jessi León alongside their 5-year-old drummer son, Milo.

The entertainment lineup also includes Son Curramba, Izis La Enfermera, Capulitos de Aleli, Mariachi Las Aztecas and DJ Lanz & Dimelotony.

Guests can explore an artisan market featuring local makers and small businesses, enjoy authentic cuisine from a diverse collection of food vendors and participate in hands-on cultural activities, including sugar skull mask-making presented by Latinas Profesionales in Action and hojalata tin art.

Admission is free, and the event is open to all ages. Details on this and all park events are available at <https://bonnetspringspark.com/>

TAMPA BEER BURROS BRING BIG SMILES TO SPECIAL EVENTS

By Libby Hopkins

Tampa Beer Burro began with a simple mission, to bring joy and one-of-a-kind experiences to special occasions through its charming mini burros, along with its beloved mini cow, Tinker Belle, and pony, Dolly Parton.

"Our animals, like Snoop Donk and Martha Stewart, are more than just a fun addition to events; they create meaningful, lasting memories for guests of all ages," said owner Melissa Karnowski. "Beyond celebrations, we are proud to support our nonprofit, Mini Friends Farm, where we provide opportunities for children and adults with disabilities to connect with animals in a safe, welcoming environment. Every booking helps us continue this meaningful, important work."

Tampa Beer Burros came to fruition by one phone call saying that a bride's mom would love a beer burro at their wedding at a local barn venue in Plant City.

"She was so animated and seemed to love mini donkeys as much as I do, and I can't say no to someone who needs donkeys in their special moment in time. I told her I would figure it out and make that happen for her," Karnowski said.

Karnowski's journey into the world of mini animals was a learning process, but when her son, Brandon, showcased his pig at the state fair, it was transformative.

"The pride he exuded while presenting his pig was a beacon, overshadowing his ASD diagnosis and highlighting his unique talents," Karnowski said. "Our farm is now home to a variety of rescued animals, each loved and cared for by the entire family. Our sons Tom and Jackson adore



Tampa Beer Burros brings a unique and unforgettable experience to your weddings, parties and special occasions with its charming, party-loving mini burros.

the alpacas; Brandon's favorite is the pony, Dolly Parton; Dylan has a special bond with the barn cats." Karnowski herself, of course, has a deep love for her mini donkeys.

A beer burro brings a unique and unforgettable touch to your event, offering a fun and interactive experience for guests.

"These adorable donkeys are natural conversation starters, adding charm and excitement to any celebration," Karnowski said. "We can't decide if kids or adults love them more."

Karnowski doesn't like to ask for help or money, but hay, feed, care and getting everything ready for their special friends to visit on field trips takes time and money.

"When God put this beer burro idea on my plate, I ran with it because I didn't have to ask for money; I got to celebrate with people on their special days, whether it was a wedding, birthday or a special occasion with Snoop Donk and Martha Stewart, and they make me smile every single day," Karnowski said. "I would take them everywhere with me if I could. Their personalities are huge. When they get booked, we will customize their looks to what the client would like to see. The donkeys can carry in their special baskets drinks, water or party favors."

To book, visit its website at <https://tampabeerburro.com/> or call 813-494-8916. Karnowski is currently booking into 2028, and beer burro packages start at \$700.



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THE VOICE FINALIST KENZIE WHEELER HEADLINES CONCERT IN VERO BEACH

Becoming a finalist in Season 20 of NBC's *The Voice* in 2021 put Kenzie Wheeler on the map as an up-and-coming American country music singer/songwriter. Wheeler calls Dover his home, but he is now most well-known for his country music roots, heartfelt performances and stage presence. He will be traveling across the state to visit Dignity Ranch, the new 30-acre property located at 801 154th Ave. in Vero Beach, to perform in an acoustic concert during a special event presented by The Source on Saturday, November 7. On that date, The Source plans to open the Dignity Ranch gates for the first time to the community to attend 'Hidden Faces, From Homeless to Home,' from 4-8 p.m.

The day begins with a tour of Dignity Ranch and a sampling of award-winning food from 4:00-5:15 p.m. and ends with a moving program from 6:30-8 p.m. under a giant tent. However, in between those hours, there will be activities happening throughout the campus for children and adults and professionally produced videos that will enlighten and educate all the visitors on what The Source is doing to eradicate homelessness in Indian River County, along with more unexpected experiences. The concert will be held from 5:15-6:15 p.m., just prior to the program, when Wheeler will play favorites from his album and singles as well as perform his newest single, "B.O.A.T.," released in July, and a soon-to-be released single that will be heard for the first time in public right in Vero Beach. He will also be on hand before the concert begins with his merchandise for



Staff Report

purchase and autographs to sign. Prior to his second-place finish on *The Voice*, Wheeler had already built an impressive resume, opening for country legends and rising stars, such as Charlie Daniels, Michael Ray and Craig Campbell.

Since *The Voice*, Wheeler has continued to reach new heights, including opening for Luke Bryan — an experience he considers one of the highlights of his career. He recently signed with Ruffnation/WAX Records and is actively writing and recording new music while continuing to bring his high-energy country show to venues, festivals and private events across the country.

Wheeler's performance history includes appearances at renowned venues, such as Ole Red, House of Blues, The Hard Rock and The Dallas Bull, along with headlining the Florida Strawberry Festival. With a growing catalog of original music, a powerful live presence and a proven track record of connecting with audiences,

Tickets are \$25 per person (children are free). For tickets and to find the directions to Dignity Ranch and ongoing updates with exciting event details, visit www.iamthesource.org/hiddenfaces. Contact Jonathan Orozco at 772-564-0202 or by emailing him at jonathan.orozco@iamthesource.org. For more information, contact Beverly Paris of Paris Productions for The Source at paris-productionsvero@gmail.com or 772-563-8395.



1890: BRANDON GOT ITS FIRST POST OFFICE

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine Brandon on September 15, 1890.

There is no Brandon Boulevard. No traffic. No shopping centers. No rows of houses stretching for miles.

Instead, there are pine trees swaying in the Florida breeze, dirt roads winding through the countryside, citrus groves beginning to flourish and the sounds of wagons, farm animals and the occasional train breaking the quiet.

Brandon was a much different place then, a small community of roughly 450 people, many of whom were farmers and pioneers building lives from the land.

And on this particular September day, something happened that may have seemed small at the time but was actually a significant moment in the story of our community.

Brandon received its first United States Post Office.

It was located in the home of Victoria Brandon, widow of pioneer John Brandon, whose name would ultimately become synonymous with the community we know today. Victoria served as the first postmaster.

Imagine what that little post office must have meant.

A letter from a loved one could carry news from miles away. A newspaper



could bring word of a changing world. Neighbors could gather, exchange stories and perhaps linger for a moment before returning to their farms and families.

The railroad had begun connecting this young community with the outside world, and the area around what is now Victoria Street and Moon Avenue was becoming the heart of Brandon. Nearby were the railroad depot, Galvin's General Store and a citrus packing house.

There was no way those early residents could have known what Brandon would become.

They could not have imagined six-lane roads, towering buildings, shopping centers or hundreds of thousands of neighbors.

But they were laying the foundation for all of it.

So each September 15, perhaps we should pause and remember that Brandon's story didn't begin with the bustling community we see today.

It began quietly, with pioneers, dirt roads, citrus trees, a railroad, a determined woman named Victoria Brandon and a small post office that connected a young community to the world.

That is the history worth preserving! If you would like to get involved.

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NEW PLAYGROUND BRINGS INCLUSIVE FUN TO MEDARD PARK

Staff Report



Families visiting Edward Medard Conservation Park in Plant City now have a new reason to play, climb and explore.

The new playground at the popular Hillsborough County conservation park is officially open, offering children of all abilities a colorful and accessible place to enjoy the outdoors. The playground is part of a larger \$900,000 park improvement project designed to enhance recreation opportunities while complementing the park's natural setting.

Located at 6140 Turkey Creek Rd. in Plant City, the playground features soft, synthetic turf; a rope-safe merry-go-round; and multilevel, ADA-inclusive climbing structures and slides. The design gives children opportunities to climb, move and play while providing accessible features for a wider range of ages and abilities.

The improvements are part of Hillsborough County's ongoing investment in Edward Medard Conservation Park, which surrounds a 700-acre reservoir and is one of the county's premier destinations for outdoor recreation.

Additional improvements include renovated bathrooms and a new volleyball court.

A musical walkway featuring a variety of outdoor instruments along a concrete path is also expected to be completed later this year, adding another interactive element for families visiting the park.

The playground provides a new activity for families enjoying the park's many existing attractions. Edward Medard features more than 3 miles of trails, a boardwalk and an observation tower overlooking the reservoir, fishing, kayaking and canoeing opportunities, an 18-hole disc golf course and two sand volleyball courts.

Children can also explore Sacred Hills, a nature play area designed to encourage climbing and outdoor discovery.

The park's natural surroundings provide plenty of opportunities to spot Florida wildlife, including birds, turtles, alligators and deer. Canoes and kayaks are available for rent, and the campground offers RV and tent camping for those wanting to extend their visit.

Edward Medard Conservation Park is open daily from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Admission is \$2 per vehicle.

With the new playground now open and additional improvements on the way, families can enjoy even more ways to make Edward Medard a destination for outdoor adventure.

HOPE FOR HER OFFERS FREE HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLASSES TO WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY

By Libby Hopkins

Hope for Her is a safe place where women experiencing crisis and trauma find the strength, skills and support they need to rebuild their best lives.

As a Brandon nonprofit founded by women who've endured serious



life challenges, Hope for Her knows firsthand that healing happens from within. This is why it works one-on-one with women to help restore their confidence and self-worth, remove barriers to safety and survival and rebuild critical life skills to thrive.

Hope for Her recently started offering free health and wellness classes on Monday nights at its facility. These classes are designed to encourage, equip and inspire women as they grow in their faith, relationships, health, life skills, and personal well-being.

"Hope for Her uses a holistic family support model built around five key areas of wellness: spiritual health, emotional and mental health, physical and nutritional health, relational and environmental health and financial health," said Cheryl Hickman, director of Hope for Her. "Every woman who comes to Hope for Her works alongside a member of our team to develop a personalized plan based on her unique circumstances and goals. The plan identifies immediate needs and goals for today, short-term goals for the next three months and long-term goals that reflect her vision for the future. Each goal connects to one or more of our five areas of wellness. Our Healthy Habits

classes are designed to complement this individualized support."

Each class is rooted in one or more of the five areas and provides practical education, encouragement, resources and tools women can use to grow and make healthy changes in their everyday lives.

"Our goal is not simply to teach a class but to equip women with skills they can carry with them long after the class ends," Hickman said. "Our classes are free and open to all women in our community. We want Hope for Her to be a welcoming place where women can come to learn, connect, be encouraged and grow."

The classes have created opportunities for personal growth, practical learning and meaningful connection.

"Women are gaining tools they can apply to different areas of their lives while discovering that they don't have to grow alone," Hickman said. "One of the most encouraging outcomes has been the sense of community that develops among the women. They come eager to learn, share experiences, encourage one another and become better versions of themselves. There is something powerful about women creating a safe and supportive environment where everyone has permission to learn and grow."

Visit www.hopeforherfl.org or call 813-309-3357. Hope for Her is located at 140 Yarbrough Rd. in Brandon.

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Runway For A Reason, Menopause The Musical & More.....

Compiled by Jenny Bennett
jbennett@ospreyobserver.com

Runway For a Reason
Women of Hope at New Hope Church will host Runway for a Reason, a fashion show and luncheon benefiting ECHO, on Saturday, October 10, at 11:30 a.m. The event will take place in the New Hope Church Social Hall, located at 121 N. Knights Ave. in Brandon. The afternoon will bring together fashion, fellowship and giving back while supporting ECHO's mission to provide emergency food, clothing and life-stabilizing resources to neighbors in need.

Guests will enjoy a luncheon and a fashion show featuring stylish looks from ECHO Thrift, showcasing clothing and accessories for all seasons. The event will also feature an ECHO Thrift Pop-Up Mini Store, giving guests an opportunity to shop while supporting ECHO.

Guests are asked to RSVP by Monday, October 5. Registration is available online at <https://findnewhope.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/704/responses/new>.

Human Trafficking Town Hall
The Hillsborough County Commission on Human Trafficking is presenting a town hall on Human Trafficking on Tuesday, September 22, from 5-7 p.m. at the Children's Board, located at 1002 E. Palm Ave. in Tampa. Hear from survivor leaders, law enforcement, prosecutors and community partners and learn about how trafficking happens, the tac-

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Menopause The Musical Coming To Lakeland
GFour Productions, winner of 68 Drama Desk and 54 Tony Awards, is proudly bringing the international hit show Menopause The Musical to Lakeland and will play the RP Funding Center for one performance on January 17, 2027. Menopause The Musical is a groundbreaking celebration of women who are on the brink of, in the middle of or have survived 'The Change.' Set in a department store, four women meet while shopping for a black lace bra at a lingerie sale. After noticing similarities among one another, the ladies joke about their woeful hot flashes, mood swings, wrinkles, weight

gain and much more. These women form a sisterhood and a unique bond with the entire audience as they rejoice in celebrating that menopause is no longer 'The Silent Passage.' It's the Hilarious Celebration of Women and The Change! Tickets are currently on sale at <https://rpfundingcenter.com/> or by calling 863-834-8111. Groups of 10 or more can receive discounts by calling 954-735-2000, ext. 2.

Democratic Women's Club Meeting
The Democratic Woman's Club of Southeast Hillsborough County will meet at the Jim Johnson Community Center Room A & B in the Riverview Public Library, located at 9951 Balm River-view Rd. in River-view, on Thursday, October 1, at 6:30 p.m. The club welcomes Ashley Hermann, a candidate for FL House District 69, and Pamela Castellana, an expert on increasing political engagement. If you would like to know more about the club, come join the meeting. For more information, please email sedwcinfo@gmail.com or call 813-503-8639.

Impact Teen Huddles
The Impact Program is now offering



Teen Huddles, a faith-based small group 'huddle' intended to help students understand God's word, ask honest questions and learn how to apply biblical truths to real-life situations. Students in sixth through 12th grade meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 6:30-7:45 p.m. at 3115 Lithia Pinecrest Rd. in Valrico.

ECHO Named Gold Winner For Non-Profit Organization
ECHO (Emergency Care Help Organization) is proud to announce that it has been named a Gold Winner for Non-Profit Organization in the 2026 Tampa Bay Times Best of the Best awards.

This recognition celebrates organizations throughout the Tampa Bay area that stand out for their service, impact and commitment to the communities they serve. Being selected as a Gold Winner is a tremendous honor for ECHO and reflects the dedication of its staff, volunteers, donors and community partners.

"This recognition is a reflection of our entire ECHO family," said Iris S. Thurman, CEO of ECHO. "Our staff, volunteers, donors and community partners make it possible for us to continue showing up for our neighbors. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who supports our mission and helped make this recognition possible."



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LOCAL MOM, MATH TEACHER AND SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCER

By Libby Hopkins

Wearing many hats comes easily to Brandon resident Rebecca McDonagh. She is a mom with two teenagers and a rescue dog, Foxy. She has been teaching for 18 years with Hillsborough County Schools and loves to travel, but it's what she does in her off time that has made her a social media influencer. On Instagram, she is @mathwithmissmcd, and her reels are hysterical.

"I actually started making content hoping to create a little side hustle; you may have heard teachers aren't exactly the highest-paid profession," McDonagh said. "It sort of slowly evolved into making silly videos instead of a serious business, which is great because this is way more fun."

The inspiration for her reels and videos comes from her real life.

"Luckily, real life gives me all the inspiration I need," she said. "My own interactions with my students, my kids and other people's stories give me plenty of material. My Teacher Hotline videos are what initially took off, and people still send me names to use all the time. I love how there's a part of so many people's experiences in my videos."

Making her videos and reel is cathartic to McDonagh.

"It's honestly just really fun and kind of takes the edge off what can sometimes be a



Rebecca McDonagh is a local mom, teacher and social media influencer. Her funny reels and videos she posts on her Instagram account, @mathwithmissmcd are inspired by her life.

stressful profession," she said. "I love hearing from my fellow teachers and moms about how something made them laugh or eased the chaos of the day,"

Being called a social media influencer is something that McDonagh takes in stride.

"I have a feeling that is a huge overstatement," McDonagh said with a laugh.

"I'm not really an influencer (unless it's influencing people to drink Diet Coke, and then I absolutely am) or a celebrity, but it is the best when people come up and introduce themselves and say they like something on my channel. I've met people in different states and even different countries who've seen one of the videos, and it's a blast chatting and hearing about their own experiences."

McDonagh loves her followers and loves how the community supports her as both a teacher and a social media personality.

"I'm so proud of how our community rallies around teachers," she said. "I've always felt so supported here working in our local schools and I'm proud to call this home. I recently published two math workbooks for fourth and fifth graders called Math to the Music, and it's been amazing hearing such great feedback from everyone."

LEG SWELLING AND WEAKNESS: WHEN TO SEE A SPECIALIST

Staff Report

Your legs work hard every day, carrying you through work, errands and the activities you cherish with friends and family. So, when swelling, fatigue or weakness start slowing you down, it's worth paying attention.

These common symptoms can develop for different reasons, ranging from poor circulation and inflammation to pregnancy and tight clothing.

"But they can also be linked to more serious conditions, such as heart or kidney disease," said Paul Armstrong, DO, a vascular surgeon with AdventHealth Pepin Heart Institute. "Your symptoms might be a warning sign. And a vascular specialist can help rule out any complications or related conditions."

You should seek medical care if you have a history of heart or vascular disease, have had recent leg trauma or surgery or experience: changes in the color, texture or appearance of your skin, ongoing or worsening pain in your legs or feet, swelling in one or both legs that doesn't go away or get better or trouble walking or standing.

Testing typically involves: a simple heart exam to check for any degree of heart failure, lab tests to evaluate kidney function and how the body manages fluids and vascular tests to see if the veins are working properly.

Your care plan usually begins with



making lifestyle changes, such as losing weight, increasing physical activity or lowering sodium intake. Then, depending on your diagnosis, treatment often includes compression stockings, medications to

treat inflammation or related medical conditions and other traditional therapies and procedures, such as lymphedema therapy.

"But when lifestyle changes and conservative treatments aren't enough, you can rest easier knowing we also offer leading-edge procedures here," said Dr. Armstrong. "Ablation, for example, is a minimally invasive technique that closes unhealthy veins and re-directs blood flow through healthier ones. And it isn't available everywhere."

Fortunately, symptoms often significantly improve with the right treatment and ongoing care — and getting medical help early can help you avoid complications and feel more comfortable day-to-day.

"No matter your needs, we're ready to evaluate your symptoms, identify what's contributing to them and create a personalized treatment plan to help you feel your best."

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Paul Armstrong, DO, a vascular surgeon with AdventHealth Pepin Heart Institute.

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ECHO HOSTS NEW GOOD MORNING GALA, FORMERLY EMPOWER BREAKFAST

Staff Report

ECHO is inviting community members, business leaders, supporters and neighbors to join its annual Good Morning Gala Fundraising Breakfast on Wednesday, October 14, at The Regent, located at 6437 Watson Rd. in Riverview. Formerly known as the ECHO Empower Breakfast, this signature fundraising event brings the community together to raise critical funds supporting ECHO's mission of ending hunger and providing life-stabilizing resources to neighbors in need.

The Good Morning Gala is an opportunity to enjoy breakfast while learning about the people and programs made possible through ECHO's work and the generosity of its supporters. Every penny raised through the event will directly support ECHO's vital life-stabilizing programs, helping provide emergency food, clothing, resource navigation, employment opportunities and other resources that help neighbors move toward greater stability.

Navigating Change. Support. Looking Forward.

This year's Good Morning Gala centers around one message: "Navigating change. Continuing support. Looking forward."

As ECHO continues to grow and adapt to meet the needs of the community, the organization remains committed to providing critical support to neighbors facing hunger and hardship. The Good Morning Gala offers an opportunity to reflect on the impact of ECHO's work, recognize the support of the community and look ahead to the future.



The event will bring together individuals, businesses, community leaders and ECHO supporters for a morning centered on generosity, connection and impact. Guests will hear inspiring stories from neighbors who have benefited from ECHO's programs and learn more about the organization's impact and vision for the future.

The event will feature: a delicious breakfast in a welcoming setting, inspiring stories from neighbors who have benefited from ECHO's programs, engaging speakers and updates on ECHO's impact, information about ECHO's programs and future goals, opportunities to connect with community members, business leaders and supporters and ways to become more involved in ECHO's mission.

Businesses and organizations are invited to support the Good Morning Gala through event sponsorship. Sponsorships help provide critical funding for ECHO's programs while offering businesses an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to the local community.

Sponsorship levels include Empowering Sponsor, Leading Sponsor, Sustaining Sponsor, Nourishing Sponsor, Encouraging Sponsor and Friend of ECHO Sponsor. Sponsors receive recognition through event marketing, social media promotion, and on-site visibility among community leaders, supporters and local businesses.

For sponsorship opportunities, to learn more and to RSVP and save your seat, visit www.echofl.org.

BRANDON TEEN EARNS AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS' HIGHEST HONOR

By Marie Gilmore

A Brandon teenager is being recognized for her leadership, community service and commitment to helping others after earning the highest honor available to girl members of American Heritage Girls (AHG).

Lilly Belle Nimmo, 17, has earned the prestigious Stars & Stripes Award, joining the American Heritage Girls Class of 2026 to receive the organization's highest recognition.

To earn the award, Nimmo completed a rigorous series of requirements. In addition to living out the American Heritage Girls Creed and Oath, she earned the Abigail Adams Level Award and 13 required Stars & Stripes Award Badges. She also held a troop leadership position for at least six months, wrote a Spiritual Walk Essay and AHG resume, received at least three letters of reference and passed a board of review.

A major component of the award was planning, developing and leading a service project requiring more than 100 hours of service.

Nimmo chose to support Hope for Her, a Brandon-based organization that provides a safe and welcoming place for women in need. For her project, she helped create a tranquil and beautiful environment designed to make visitors feel comfortable and supported.

"I had an intention of doing a crisis center project, and during my research, I found Hope for Her," Nimmo said. "I started volunteering with them in 2024 and continue to volunteer about three hours per week when I can."



Nimmo assists by sorting donations, organizing items and helping make the center inviting for the women who come through its doors.

She credits American Heritage Girls with helping her grow as both a leader and community volunteer.

"American Heritage Girls helped me become a well-rounded leader and gave me lots of experience in community service," she said.

Nimmo has also served as a troop hostess and event planner and has earned several leadership accolades, including Incubator of the Year in 2024 and 2025 and Winter Debate Champion in 2026. She is also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and serves as secretary for the Hillsborough College Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

A member of Covenant Grace Baptist Church and American Heritage Girls Troop FL2323, Nimmo is active in the FISH homeschooling co-op and its Performing Arts Club. She also participates in competitive speech and debate and is locally employed.

A high school senior, Nimmo is dual enrolled at Hillsborough College and is pursuing a degree in political science.

Nimmo will be honored during a court of honor ceremony on Saturday, September 26, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hope for Her, located at 140 Yarbrough Rd. in Brandon.

She is the daughter of retired U.S. Air Force Col. Caleb Nimmo and Laura Nimmo of Brandon.



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VILLAGE PLAYERS BRINGS
ADDAMS FAMILY TO THE STAGE

Staff Report

They're creepy, they're kooky and this October they're moving into the James McCabe Theater.

The Village Players will present The Addams Family, the delightfully dark musical comedy based on the famously macabre Addams clan, beginning on Friday, October 2, in Valrico.

In this musical twist on the beloved characters, Wednesday Addams has grown up and fallen in love with a young man from a painfully normal family. There is just one problem: her parents don't know. When Wednesday convinces Gomez to keep the relationship a secret from Morticia, one very uncomfortable dinner brings the Addams and Beineke families together under the same roof. Secrets come out, relationships unravel, ancestors refuse to stay dead and 'normal' quickly becomes a matter of opinion.

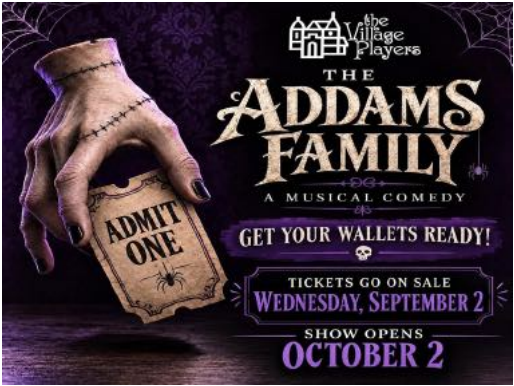
The Village Players production is directed by Lois Green and features Manny Velez as Gomez Addams, Chelsea Scourtes as Morticia Addams, Gabriella Reece as Wednesday Addams, Abby Mann as Alice Beineke, along with a large cast of familiar



Gabriella Reece will be Wednesday Addams in the Village Players production The Addams Family.



Tyler Creighton will be Pugsley Addams in the Village Players production The Addams Family.



Village Players performers and newcomers.

Performances will be held at the historic James McCabe Theater, located at 506 5th St. in Valrico.

Evening performances are at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, October 2-3, 9-10 and 16-17.

Matinee performances are at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 4, 11 and 18.

The Village Players is a community theater organization based at the historic James McCabe Theater in Valrico. Through plays, musicals and educational opportunities, the organization provides a welcoming space for local performers, volunteers and audiences to participate in and enjoy live theater.

Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$20 for seniors and students and are available now at <https://thevillageplayersvalrico.com/>. For more information, please visit the Village Players' website.

THE TRAVEL INSURANCE CHICK™
GUIDES TRAVELERS WITH CONFIDENCE

By Kelly Wise Valdes

The Travel Insurance Chick™ was born from a gap Michelle Mosher saw repeatedly in the travel marketplace: travelers investing heavily in unforgettable experiences while treating protection as an afterthought.

"My husband and I are avid travelers, and I saw how often travel insurance was treated as an afterthought," said Mosher, president of The Travel Insurance Chick™. "People spend thousands of dollars and months planning a trip, then either skip the insurance or click a box without really knowing what they bought."

As a longtime insurance professional, Mosher recognized an opportunity to bridge the worlds of travel and insurance with clear, accessible guidance. "Travelers don't necessarily need more options," said Mosher. "They need someone who can explain the options and help them choose coverage that actually makes sense for their trip. That's really how The Travel Insurance Chick™ came about."

Mosher's approach centers on education, beginning with the particulars of each trip rather than the fine print of a policy. Mosher asks her clients questions such as, "Where are you going and what have you invested? Are you cruising or traveling internationally? What would happen if you got sick or something disrupted the trip?" Only after understanding the traveler's needs does she walk clients through what coverage includes — and what it does not.

"I don't want someone to say, 'Michelle told me I'm covered.' I want them to understand their coverage and feel confident about what they're buying."

One of the most common misconceptions she encounters is the belief that all travel insurance products are the same. Many op-



Michelle Mosher, founder of The Travel Insurance Chick™, offers clear, honest guidance to help travelers protect their journeys.



tions may provide coverage, but the question is whether it's the right coverage for your trip. She also notes frequent confusion around credit card coverage and cruise line policies.

"I'd much rather explain those differences before someone travels than have them find out when something has already gone wrong."

Staying informed is essential in an evolving travel landscape.

"Travel changes constantly, so this isn't insurance you can learn once and put on a shelf,"

Mosher said.

She maintains close communication with carriers, monitors industry updates and draws on her own experiences.

"I'm also a traveler myself, so when there's a major storm, airline issue or something happening overseas, I'm looking at it from both sides."

A recent group trip to Ireland reinforced the importance of comprehensive protection. When two travelers arrived days late due to flight cancellations, multiple parts of their policy came into play.

"One canceled flight created a domino effect," Mosher said. "Having the right coverage helped keep a bad travel experience from becoming an even bigger financial loss. That's exactly why I believe understanding what you're buying matters."

The Travel Insurance Chick™'s office is located at 11216 Winthrop Main St. in Riverview. For more information, visit www.travelinsurancechick.com or call 813-448-7580.

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PRE-HURRICANE INSPECTION IS A SMART MOVE FOR HOMEOWNERS

Staff Report



Living in Hillsborough County means hurricane preparation is simply part of owning a home. While stocking supplies, reviewing evacuation plans and bringing outdoor furniture inside are important, preparing the home itself should also be part of the plan.

A prehurricane inspection can help identify conditions around your property that may become bigger problems when high winds and heavy rain arrive.

Small defects can be easy to overlook during normal weather. Loose roof materials, deteriorated sealant, damaged soffits or fascia, clogged gutters, deteriorated exterior components or problems around windows and doors may not seem urgent on a sunny Florida afternoon.

During a tropical storm or hurricane, however, those same conditions can provide opportunities for wind or water to cause additional damage.

A prehurricane inspection gives homeowners an opportunity to address concerns while contractors and materials are still available instead of trying to make repairs while a storm is approaching.

Know What Needs Your Attention
An inspection can help identify visible concerns involving areas such as: roof coverings, flashing and exposed sealants, soffits, fascia, siding and exterior trim, windows, exterior doors and garage doors, gutters,

downspouts and drainage conditions, exterior penetrations and openings, loose or deteriorated exterior components and trees or vegetation that may threaten the structure.

The goal is not to predict what a hurricane will do or guarantee that a home will avoid damage. It is to identify observable conditions that may deserve attention before the property is exposed to severe weather.

Another benefit is documentation. Photographs taken during an inspection can provide a record of the property's visible condition before a storm occurs. If damage is discovered afterward, having prestorm documentation may help establish what was present beforehand and what appears to have changed.

Florida's Atlantic hurricane season runs from June through November. Waiting until a storm is approaching Tampa Bay can mean competing for contractors, supplies and limited time.

A prehurricane inspection allows you to prepare on your schedule instead of the storm's.

Veteran-owned Apex Sight Solutions provides prehurricane property inspections throughout Hillsborough County and surrounding communities to help property owners identify concerns before severe weather arrives.

Call 813-860-8374 or visit www.apex-sightsolutions.com.



EASTERN HILLS COMMUNITY BAND BRINGS SUPERHEROES TO THE STAGE

Staff Report

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes — and this fall, the heroes are musicians.

The Eastern Hillsborough Community Band will bring an evening of music, adventure and some of the world's most iconic heroes to Brandon with its Superhero-Themed Fall Concert, featuring two performances in October.

Audiences can expect an entertaining program filled with music inspired by legendary heroes, beloved films and epic adventures. Featured selections include Superman, Spider-Man, Captain America, The Incredibles, The Lord of the Rings and The Sorcerer's Apprentice.

For Kayla Vincent, an alto saxophone player in her second season with the Eastern Hillsborough Community Band, the concert is especially meaningful.

"This is my second season with the band, and it has been a dream to play music featured in two of Disney's most iconic films, Fantasia and The Incredibles," Vincent said.

The fall concert follows an extraordinary summer for the band. Members recently traveled to Normandy, France, after being selected to perform during D-Day commemorations, an opportunity that marked a significant milestone and tremendous honor for the ensemble.

Founded in the spring of 2009 by Plant City resident Kim McKamey, who still performs with the group as a trumpet player, the Eastern Hillsborough Community Band



The Eastern Hillsborough Community Band, now with more than 100 members, will present its Superhero-Themed Fall Concert with performances in Brandon on October 8 and 9.

began rehearsing in a small church with approximately 10 members. Within a year, the growing ensemble moved to a larger facility in the Lithia area, with membership reaching nearly 50 musicians. The band also became a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

Today, the band rehearses weekly in Brandon and has 101 members, ranging from amateur musicians to seasoned professionals, all united by a shared love of music. It was also recently nominated for Creative Loafing's Best of the Bay 2026 for Best Jazz Band, recognizing its contribution to the Tampa Bay music community.

The Eastern Hillsborough Community Band is dedicated to fostering a love of music, improving musicianship and enlightening, entertaining and inspiring audiences throughout the region. It also gives musicians opportunities to build friendships and camaraderie through their shared passion for performing.

From comic-book legends and Disney classics to epic fantasy, the Superhero-Themed Fall Concert promises an evening of music and adventure for all ages.

The band will perform on Thursday, October 8, at 7 p.m. at Generations Church, located at 2602 S. Kings Ave. in Brandon, and Friday, October 9, at 7 p.m. at Bay Life Church, located at 1017 Kingsway Rd. in Brandon.

For more on upcoming concerts and membership, visit <https://www.ehcb.org/>.



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THE SUN RISES IN A 2-1 VICTORY OVER FORT LAUDERDALE

By Erica Woolridge

The lights may have gone out, but the Tampa Bay Sun found a way to shine.

In its 2026 home opener, Tampa Bay Sun Football Club managed to secure a dramatic 2-1 comeback victory over in-state rival Fort Lauderdale



Tampa Bay needed. Zierenberg, who entered the match shortly before the delay, connected on an assist from Sydney Nasello to tie the match at 1-1. The momentum had shifted.

United FC on September 12 at Suncoast Credit Union Field in Tampa. The win gave the home crowd plenty to celebrate after the Sun began the season with three consecutive matches on the road.

Fort Lauderdale controlled much of the opening half and struck first in the 24th minute. Farrah Walters delivered a cross to Sh'nia Gordon, who finished the opportunity, giving Fort Lauderdale a 1-0 advantage. The visitors carried that lead into halftime and continued to challenge Tampa Bay early in the second half. Then the night took an unexpected turn.

A stadium lighting issue stopped play in the 64th minute and sent both teams off the field for approximately 40 minutes. While the technical delay could have disrupted Tampa Bay's momentum, the Sun instead returned to the field looking and playing like a different team.

Just one minute after play resumed, Tori Zierenberg provided the spark



In the 80th minute, Shea Connors completed the comeback. Sabrina McNeill found Connors, who secured a goal, giving Tampa Bay its first lead of the night. The Sun defense protected the advantage through the closing minutes and stoppage time, securing the win.

The victory continued Tampa Bay's success against its South Florida rival. Entering the match, the Sun had never lost to Fort Lauderdale in nine previous meetings, including its memorable 1-0 victory in the inaugural USL Super League championship match in 2025.

The defending champions showed resilience in their first match back in front of their home supporters. For a team looking to build another championship run, the home opener offered an early reminder of what Tampa Bay can do when momentum begins to swing its way.

For tickets and more information, visit www.tampabaysunfc.com.

FIRST HIGH SCHOOL POWERLIFTING CLUB IS LEADING A MOVEMENT

By Marie Gilmore



Bell Creek Academy powerlifting coach and physical education teacher Taisha V. Hernández Zambrana works with student athletes as the school's new powerlifting club continues to grow.

Bell Creek Academy (BCA) in Riverview is helping put high school powerlifting on the map in Florida after launching what it says is the state's first organized high school powerlifting club.

The club was founded in January by BCA high school physical education teacher and coach Taisha V. Hernández Zambrana, who partnered with her own powerlifting coach, Leandro Muñoz, to introduce students to a sport that is well established in other states but has had limited organized presence at the high school level in Florida.

BCA, located at 13221 Boyette Rd., is currently the only Florida high school recognized as an official club under USA Powerlifting (USAPL). The club began with eight competitors who traveled to the USAPL Tampa Bay Open in April. Its roster has since more than doubled to 19 athletes, who are preparing to compete in the USAPL 813 Classic in Tampa this December.

For Hernández, powerlifting is about more than strength and competition.

"Powerlifting is about so much more than the numbers on the barbell," Hernández

said. "It teaches these teenagers how to overcome self-doubt, build unshakeable confidence and find strength they never knew they had."

The club recently hosted its inaugural Lift-a-Thon to raise money for competition fees, uniforms and equipment for the 2026-27 season. With support from BCA faculty and staff, student volunteers, local vendors, powerlifting coaches and the USF Powerlifting

Club, the event raised more than \$5,000.

The fundraiser also reflected Hernández's desire to connect the club with the broader community. Fifteen percent of the proceeds was donated to Hillsborough County Adaptive Sports programs, helping support local athletes, including para powerlifters.

The club is continuing to raise funds for athletes who qualify for the 2027 high school nationals in New York and the Miami International Fitness Expo in May 2027.

Hernández is also exploring the connection between athletics and academics. As a doctoral student at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, she is collaborating with a University of South Florida research team on a mixed-methods study examining self-efficacy among students participating in a high school powerlifting club.

She hopes the research will lead to peer-reviewed publications and a presentation at the SHAPE America conference next year, further demonstrating the impact powerlifting can have beyond the competition floor.



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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

ASPIRING AVIATION STUDENTS CAN APPLY FOR \$8,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

By Libby Hopkins

Jerry Holland the late owner of Sheltair believed aviation succeeds because of passionate people who continually learn, grow and invest in others. "In that spirit, we are proud to support the next generation of aviation professionals by providing financial assistance to individuals pursuing education, training, certifications and career advancement across the aviation industry," said Eric Crump, Vice President of Aerospace Center for Excellence in Lakeland, Fla.

Sheltair is a family-owned company that enjoys a national reputation for its superior customer focus and service-driven corporate culture. Founded in 1963 by Holland, father of current Sheltair President Lisa Holland, it is the nation's largest privately-owned aviation network, proudly operating award-winning FBOs and managing over 4.6 million square feet of aviation-related properties.

To honor her father's legacy, Lisa Holland and Sheltair are offering four one-time \$8000 scholarships to individuals who demonstrate a passion for aviation and a commitment to advancing their education or career within the industry. "Four aspiring aviation professionals will each receive \$8,000 toward education, technical training, certifications, or career development," Crump said. "Whether their path leads to the flight deck, maintenance hangar, control center, airport operations, engineering, safety, or another part of the industry, this fund-



Aerospace Center for Excellence along with Sheltair are offering four one-time \$8000 scholarships.



ing can help move their goals within reach." These four awards will be offered during a single application cycle, making this a distinctive opportunity for those ready to advance their aviation journey. The application window is currently open through December 31, 2026. Applications will be reviewed by a scholarship committee, and award announcements are planned for February 2027.

The scholarship is designed to support individuals pursuing education, training, certification or professional advancement in any aviation-related field. Applicants are encouraged to apply regardless of their chosen aviation career path. Scholarship recipients may pursue educational or professional development opportunities across the aviation industry. "Applicants should clearly explain how the scholarship funds will support their educational pursuits, professional development or long-term career goals within the aviation industry," Crump said.

Applicants must be legal U.S. residents and at least 18 years old when they submit their applications. If you would like to learn more about the Jerry Holland Legacy Scholarship or if you would like to apply for the scholarship, you can visit the Aerospace Center for Excellence's website at <https://aceedu.org>. The center is located at 4075 James C. Ray Dr. in Lakeland.

LOCAL BUSINESSES INVITED TO JOIN HOLIDAY VENDOR FAIR

Staff Report

Local businesses have an opportunity to get their products, services and holiday offerings in front of area shoppers at the Valrico FishHawk Chamber of Commerce's annual Shop Local Holiday Vendor Fair.

The event is scheduled for Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church of Bloomingdale, located at 710 E. Bloomingdale Ave. in Brandon. The festive event will bring together local businesses, families and holiday shoppers for an afternoon of shopping, entertainment and community connection.

This year's event chair, Mike Neill, is encouraging local businesses to take advantage of the opportunity to showcase what they offer during the busy holiday shopping season.

"The holidays are one of the best times to support local businesses," Neill said. "This event gives shoppers the chance to find one-of-a-kind gifts while meeting the people behind the businesses that help make our community thrive."

Vendor booths are available for \$40, with space limited and the fee nonrefundable. Businesses interested in participating are encouraged to register early through the "Events" section of the Valrico FishHawk Chamber of Commerce website at www.valricofishhawk.org.

The fair will feature a variety of vendors offering handcrafted items, holiday decor, boutique products, specialty foods, professional services and unique gift



ideas. The goal is to create an interactive experience rather than simply a traditional vendor market.

Businesses, including service-based companies, are encouraged to make their booths engaging by offering games, demonstrations, crafts, contests or other activities that encourage visitors to stop and interact.

"We love seeing vendors get creative," Neill said. "Whether it's a game, a craft, a contest or another interactive idea, those experiences help create lasting memories and meaningful conversations."

The popular Flamingo Decorating Contest will also return. Each vendor receives a flamingo to decorate in a creative holiday theme, with awards presented in several categories.

For shoppers, the event will include food, music, raffles, giveaways and family-friendly activities, along with opportunities to discover local businesses and holiday gifts.

"The Shop Local Holiday Vendor Fair is all about bringing people together," Neill said. "It's an opportunity to support small businesses, strengthen community relationships and kick off the holiday season in a fun and meaningful way."

Businesses interested in becoming vendors can contact Mike Neill by email at shoplocal@valricofishhawk.org.

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RESIDENTS URGED TO FIGHT MOSQUITO BREEDING AS DENGUE CASES RISE

Staff Report

Hillsborough County residents are being encouraged to take simple steps around their homes to reduce mosquito breeding as locally acquired dengue infections continue to be reported in the Tampa Bay area.



to larvicides, such as Mosquito Dunks or Mosquito Bits. Bti targets mosquito larvae before they become adult mosquitoes. Products should al-

ways be used according to the label.

According to the Florida Department of Health, Hillsborough County has reported 59 locally acquired dengue infections, making it the center of an unusual increase in locally transmitted dengue cases in Florida. Health officials are urging residents to protect themselves from mosquito bites and eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed.

Dengue is spread by the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito. These mosquitoes can breed in surprisingly small amounts of water, including water found in plant saucers, toys, buckets, clogged gutters and other containers around homes.

One simple way to remember mosquito prevention is the three D's: dump, drain and cover.

Dump: Empty standing water from plant saucers, toys, buckets, pet dishes, birdbaths and other containers. Check yards regularly, especially after rainfall.

Drain: Clear clogged gutters and downspouts and address areas where water routinely collects. Check decorative fountains, drainage areas and low spots around the property.

Cover: Keep containers that hold water covered and make sure doors and windows have intact screens.

For water that cannot easily be eliminated, residents can consider Bti mosqui-

Residents should also look beyond the obvious. Potential breeding sites can include children's outdoor toys, self-watering planters, rain barrels, unused pools, tree holes, ditches and decorative water features.

Removing standing water should always be the first step. Larvicides are intended for water that cannot reasonably be removed, not as a replacement for eliminating breeding sites.

Mosquitoes may also breed in drainage areas or other locations outside an individual yard. Residents who see persistent standing water in a public area should report it to the appropriate local authority or mosquito-control agency.

Mosquito prevention works best as a community effort. A few minutes spent checking a yard can help reduce mosquito populations and the risk of mosquito-borne disease.

Dump it. Drain it. Cover it. And where appropriate, dunk it.

For more information, visit the Florida Department of Health's Fight the Bite resources at www.floridahealth.gov/mosquito or Hillsborough County's Mosquito Control webpage at <https://hcfl.gov/residents/property-owners-and-renters/mosquito-control>.

BRANDON SENIOR CENTER CROWNS FIRST-EVER BEAUTY PAGEANT QUEEN

Staff Report

Hillsborough County Brandon Senior Center hosted its inaugural Hillsborough County Aging Services Beauty Pageant on September 12 at the Brandon Senior Center, located at 612 N. Parsons Ave. in Brandon. Fourteen contestants, ages 62-90, competed.

The beauty pageant had several competitive categories including cultural costume presentation, formal dress, and interview.

Along with selecting three finalists and crowning a winner, judges also awarded contestants for Best Cultural Costume, Best Personality and Confidence, Best Formal Dress, Best Interview and Miss Congeniality.

Family, friends and beauty pageant enthusiasts attended to cheer and support the contestants.

"In honor of National Senior Center Month in September, today we are having our first-ever Senior Beauty Pageant at Hillsborough County Brandon Senior Center," said Frances Duran Brea, Hillsborough County Senior Centers general manager.

"We want to demonstrate that age and beauty have no limits," Duran Brea said.



"These types of special events give the opportunity to seniors to socialize with their peers and to help them understand and demonstrate that they can still be active at any age and

participate in these types of special events."

Programs like the beauty pageant serve as opportunities for seniors to remain active, involved and connected with peers.

Hillsborough County Aging Services has seven senior centers throughout Hillsborough County (Brandon, Lutz, Tampa, Ruskin, Wimauma, Progress Village and Town 'N Country). It also has 14 dining and activity centers located in Gibsonton, Plant City and Tampa.

The senior and dining centers offer a number of programs and activities to keep seniors active, en-

gaged, and motivated. Programs include exercise classes, trivia contests, arts and craft classes, music classes, health, wellness classes for active seniors, dance classes, dances and a free lunch program for seniors 60 and over.

Later this month, Hillsborough County Aging Services will be celebrating with a 'senior' prom.



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PREPARING FOR MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT WITH MB INSURANCE

By Makenzie Atkins Noel

Choosing the right insurance plan is about more than finding a familiar name. Doctors, prescriptions, costs and coverage can all change from year to year, making an annual review an important part of protecting both health and finances. With Medicare's annual enrollment period (AEP) approaching, MB Insurance Solutions is helping local clients prepare for the changes ahead.

Owned by Michele Bartock, MB Insurance Solutions is an independent health and life insurance agency serving Florida. Bartock, who has lived in the community for over 20 years, specializes in supplements, Medicare Advantage, prescription plans and life insurance. As an independent agent, she has access to 12 organizations and more than 80 Medicare plans, allowing her to compare options rather than limiting clients to one plan.

Bartock also helps clients with under-65 health insurance, off-market plans and group health insurance for small businesses. Additional coverage options include dental, vision, hearing, life, accident, indemnity, cancer and heart/stroke plans, as well as long-term care and annuities.

With Medicare's AEP approaching, now is the time for beneficiaries to start reviewing their coverage for 2027. AEP runs from October 15 through December 7, giving Medicare beneficiaries a limited window to make changes to their plans.

That review is especially important because Medicare plans can change from year to year. Prescription drug plans may



Michele Bartock, owner of MB Insurance Solutions, helps clients navigate Medicare coverage and understand their options during Annual Enrollment Period.

change their formularies, deductibles and co-insurance, while out-of-pocket maximums can also increase. Bartock's goal is to compare the available options based on each client's doctors, medications and priorities so they can make an informed decision before the deadline.

"Every client has different needs, and I want them to understand their options rather than simply telling them what plan they should choose," said Bartock.

"When clients know they can call with questions throughout the year and have someone who knows their situation, that is what makes the difference."

As the end of the year approaches, Bartock wants Medicare beneficiaries to keep a few important things in mind. Some Medicare Advantage plans offer a Part B premium 'Give Back,' while individuals may also qualify for Medicaid or the Low-Income Subsidy based on their income and assets. She also cautions beneficiaries about unsolicited calls promising gift cards or food cards, noting that these benefits are only available to those who meet certain qualifications. For those who miss the annual enrollment period or are unhappy with a new Medicare Advantage plan, there may be another opportunity to make a change between January and March.

Outside of Medicare and Affordable Care Act plans, Bartok can also help clients with ancillary and small group plans. Visit online at www.medicareofflorida.com; call 813-553-3822, ext. 2; or mlbartock@gmail.com.

CHAMBER HOSTS TRICK OR TREAT STREET PRESENTED BY HESS ORTHODONTICS

Staff Report

Brandon Riverview Chamber of Commerce Announces 2026 Trick or Treat Street Presented by Hess Orthodontics of Riverview

Community invited to enjoy a family-friendly Halloween celebration while local businesses are encouraged to showcase their brands and connect with thousands of area families

RIVERVIEW, Fla. — September 17, 2026 — The

Brandon Riverview Chamber of Commerce (BRCC) invites the community and local businesses to come together for one of the Chamber's largest and most anticipated community events of the year: TOTS – Trick or Treat Street, presented by Hess Orthodontics of Riverview, on Saturday, October 24, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Riverview High School, 11311 Boyette Road in Riverview.

Trick or Treat Street brings local families, businesses and community organizations together for an evening of Halloween fun in a safe, festive and family-friendly environment. Families are encouraged to dress in their Halloween best, bring their candy bags and enjoy an evening packed with activities for all ages.

This year's event will feature the popular Trick or Treat Trail, a costume contest, inflatables, foam party, food trucks, sensory area and plenty of Halloween entertainment. Guests will also have the opportunity



to see the popular pirate ship of the Krewe of the South Shore Marauders, adding even more adventure to the evening.

BRCC has also made significant changes to the event entrance process for 2026. Following the long entrance line experienced last year, the Chamber has redesigned the entry process to eliminate the wait and allow attendees to enter with-

out standing in a long admission line, giving families more time to enjoy the festivities.

Trick or Treat Street isn't just a community celebration—it is also a unique opportunity for businesses to meet local families face-to-face, increase their visibility and demonstrate their commitment to the Brandon and Riverview communities.

Businesses can reserve a booth along the Trick or Treat Trail, decorate their space, dress in costume, distribute candy and promotional materials, and introduce their products and services to families from throughout the area.

BRCC is also welcoming food trucks, craft vendors, community organizations and volunteers to participate. Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses looking for additional visibility before and during the event.

For more details or to get involved, contact the Brandon Riverview Chamber of Commerce at 813-234-5944..

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HIGH 5 WELCOMES REICH, MCINTOSH TO LEAD GROWING AQUATICS PROGRAMS

By Emily Harper

High 5 Inc. is embracing a new chapter for its Aquatics program and is excited to introduce its new team members to the organization. Danielle Reich, director of Aquatics, and Jonathan McIntosh, head coach of Blue Wave Swim Team, are both eager to be a part of an organization that values community and water safety.

Reich's love for swimming developed at the age of 13. She began swimming at her local YMCA and eventually swam competitively for Durant High School. A few years after graduating, she worked at Watermelon Swim, where her passion for teaching swimmers grew.

"One of the most important parts of being involved in Aquatics for me is knowing that what we do can have a real impact on a swimmer's confidence, independence and safety in and around the water. Water safety is my number one priority for every swimmer, regardless of their age or ability," said Reich.

Now, as the director of Aquatics, Reich is especially passionate about expanding High 5's adaptive Aquatics opportunities for both children and adults with special abilities. As a parent of a child with special abilities, it is important to her to develop a program to teach foundational water-safety and swimming skills tailored to each individual's needs.

"I want to continue building on the strong foundation that High 5 already has while creating clear opportunities for swimmers



of all ages and abilities to learn, progress, stay involved and develop a lifelong relationship with the water. Most importantly, I want water safety to remain at the heart of everything we do," said Reich.

McIntosh has over two decades of experience in the sport of swimming. He started the sport when he was just 4 years old, has competed at high levels and ultimately became a collegiate swimmer at Notre Dame College.

During his collegiate career, he served as a three-time team captain and led his team to three Mountain East Conference Championships while setting numerous individual and relay school records.

As a coach, McIntosh believes that success is measured by more than times and medals. His mission is to continue building an environment known for exceptional coaching, athlete development and a strong sense of community in which every athlete is excited to be a part of.

"My vision is to build more than successful swimmers; it is to develop disciplined, resilient young people who understand that excellence is earned through consistency, accountability and service to something greater than themselves. If we create a culture where athletes are challenged, supported and taught why the work matters, the results in the pool will follow, and those lessons will remain long after they leave it," said McIntosh.

LE DONNE ITALIANE BRINGS WOMEN TOGETHER TO HELP LOCAL CAUSES

By Libby Hopkins

For more than a century, women have been at the heart of the Italian Club of Tampa. Through their leadership, dedication, volunteerism, and unwavering commitment to preserving Italian culture and traditions, generations of women have helped shape their organization, strengthen their community, and ensure that their heritage continues to thrive.

From organizing social gatherings and cultural programs to supporting charitable initiatives, educational opportunities, and countless club events, the contributions of women have left an enduring mark on the Italian Club's history. Their efforts have helped create the vibrant, welcoming organization many know today. "Le Donne Italiane was created to continue that proud legacy," said Le Donne Italiane's Chair, Barbara Auteri. "Our mission is to unite, engage, and empower women through a shared passion for Italian traditions and heritage while supporting the cultural and historic preservation efforts of the Italian Club of Tampa."

Inspired by the generations of women who have dedicated their time, talents, and passion to the Italian Club, including the many women who served through the Ladies Auxiliary, Le Donne Italiane seeks to honor the past while creating new opportunities for women to engage, lead, serve, and build lasting friendships



heritage, and contribute to the continued cultural and historic preservation efforts of the Italian Club of Tampa. The program welcomes women of all ages and backgrounds who share a passion for Italian traditions, community involvement, and preserving the values that have defined our club for more than 100 years."

Le Donne Italiane's debut event will be held at The Italian Club on Oct. 2nd. The Pink Party, a fundraiser benefiting Moffitt Cancer Center, will bring members of the organization and the wider community together for an evening centered on connection, celebration, and support for those affected by breast cancer.

If you would like to learn more about Le Donne Italiane or if you'd like to get tickets for the Pink Party, they are \$45 for club members and \$55 for the general public, you can visit the Italian Club's website at <https://italian-club.org> or call 813-248-3316. The club is located at 1731 E. 7th Ave. in Ybor City.

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High School Varsity Preview

Football

BY SPORTS EDITOR Nick Nahas

EAGLES HOPE TO REBUILD UNDER NEW HEAD COACH



The Brandon football program has been in flux for over 10 years. Their last winning season was in 2015, and they won just one game last year. New Head Coach Alonzo Ashwood took over the team in January. He brings leadership and experience to Brandon. He helped build a Summer program from scratch that is now one of the better teams in Hillsborough County.

Ashwood said that he felt an itch to get back into coaching after the success that he had at Sumner and he relishes the opportunity to rebuild this team. He is putting together a coaching staff that he feels is up to the task of making the team better, and that will help teach his new system. He believes that changing the culture is the first thing needed to build a successful program.

"It's a task. I'm not saying that it's going to be easy, it's just one of those things where you have to build brick by brick," said Ashwood. "First and foremost, we had to build discipline in the team. We have to stay the course and not deviate from it."

The head coach said that he has a good mixture of young talent and seniors. They have three returners on offense and four on defense. He thinks that his defense will be a major strength this season. He would like to see more accountability and discipline from his players.

Senior defensive end Demarco Clark will help with the pass rush. Senior running back Bryce Bell will take the bulk of the carries. Junior lineman Ignacio 'Nacho' Gonzales will play both sides of the ball. Senior running back/cornerback Jayden Scott has been with the program for four years.

The Eagles have already had a tough start to the season, losing their starting quarterback Ardonious Coleman for the year when he broke his clavicle in the week one loss to Wharton. Starting senior linebacker Ethan Vazquez will take over the role as QB-1. Ashwood said that Vazquez is a good leader and knows the offense and the schemes they are trying to execute well.

Expect a big improvement from Brandon this season. They won their Kickoff Classic 53-20 against Seminole. They have a manageable schedule, facing some teams from a different county. They only face five teams from Hillsborough County. Ashwood knows how to build a program. His experience, expertise and discipline will pay dividends for Brandon football.

"Brandon has been down for so long, we're not going to accept that, we can't just accept being a mediocre team," said Ashwood. "It takes a little time to rebuild, but my motto is 'we're not in a rush, but we're in a hurry.'"

SCHEDULE

8/21 @ Wharton

8/28 @ Mulberry

9/10 vs. Kathleen

9/18 vs. Bloomingdale

9/25 @ Lake Wales

10/2 @ Leto

10/9 vs. Lake Region

10/16 vs. Jones

10/23 @ Morgan

10/30 vs. Robinson

ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	GR	#	NAME	POS	GR
1	Kians-wa Stancil	RB	Sr.	20	Zavion Foster	CB, WR	Jr.
2	Jayden Scott	RB, CB	Sr.	21	Izaiah Dela Rosa	SS	Sr.
3	Terrence Thomas	FB, LB	Fr.	22	Grayson Burris	LB	So.
4	Bryce Bell	RB, CB	Sr.	24	Evander Valdez	CB	Jr.
5	Mikhai Jones	CB, FS	Sr.	33	Kalif Martin	CB	So.
6	Gadiel Rivera	S, RB	Sr.	34	Reshawn Wilson	CB	Fr.
7	Sincere Harrington	WR	Sr.	44	Majeed Apata	CB	Jr.
8	Ethan Vazquez	ILB, QB	Sr.	52	Max DeLuca	DE	So.
9	Demarco Clark	DE, TE	Sr.	55	Antwan Johnson	OG, DE	So.
10	Jaiden Pena	RB, OLB	Jr.	60	Ignacio Gonzalez	DT, G	Jr.
11	Jaylen Byrd	RB, CB	So.	62	Gavin Williams	G, DT	Jr.
13	Dah'mere Rodriguez	WR	So.	64	Blake Poff	G, DT	Sr.
14	Jaidyn Campbell	WR, CB	So.	65	Blake Yawn	OL, DL	Jr.
15	Luciano Vialpando	DE	Jr.	66	Derek Pilotte	OT, DL	Jr.
16	Kurtis Jenkins	WR	So.	68	Jeremiah Ferrer	C, DT	Jr.
17	Angelo Lopez-diaz	WR	So.	72	Ayden Cullins	OT, DL	So.
18	Yamauri Yamauri	SS, ILB	Jr.	77	Eric Garcia	OG, DT, K	Sr.
19	Isaac Ramey	WR	Jr.	80	Terrence Riggins	WR	Sr.

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MARY & MARTHA PLANS TWO FALL EVENTS TO SUPPORT MISSION

By Kelly Wise Valdes

Mary & Martha House, a South Hillsborough nonprofit providing shelter and comprehensive support for women and families fleeing domestic violence, is preparing for two major fall fundraisers to strengthen services for residents.

The first event, Musical Bingo Night, is set for Thursday, September 24, at 7 p.m. at Bullfrog Creek Brewing Co., located at 3632 Lithia Pinecrest Rd. in Valrico. Unlike traditional bingo, players match songs instead of numbers. Bill Chini, executive director for Mary & Martha House, described the fundraiser as “bingo meets Shazam.”

“Instead of calling out letters and numbers, the host plays a song. Once you recognize the song, you look to see if you have that song on your bingo card, then boop, mark it down,” said Chini. “If you don’t recognize the song, you can use the Shazam app on your phone. Winners get gift cards to local restaurants.”

Registration is not required, but Chini encourages attendees to arrive early.

“You do not need to register for this event, but be sure to get there early so you can secure a seat and have enough time to look at which of the awesome raffle prizes you want to bid on,” said Chini.

The organization hopes to raise \$3,000. “These funds are crucial to allow us to continue serving our community and help our shelter residents break the cycle of



abuse,” said Chini.

The second fundraiser, Get Tee’d Off at Domestic Violence, will take place Thursday, October 15, from 5-7 p.m. at Topgolf, located at 10690 Palm River Rd. in Tampa. The event includes dinner, door prizes and raffles. A full bay is \$499 and individual tickets are available.

“Each bay allows for six golfers. Each golfer gets delicious meal,” said Chini.

“We are hoping to see around 120 attendees. We have been very successful in the past and tickets sell fast for this event. Everyone has a great time!”

Sponsors include Anticus Engineering, Ryan Companies, Hillsborough College HCC Southshore, Chadwell Supply, Seacoast Bank and A&A Mortgage.

“We are always looking for other sponsors, and also raffle prize sponsors,” he said.

Chini said the fundraisers help support the organization’s growing programs.

“These events are so important to ensure we have the funds to support our shelter residents,” said Chini. “Without the help and support of our community, we wouldn’t be able to provide the services we currently provide. Over the past five years we have expanded our support services, most notably our program, Break The Cycle, which gives our shelter residents the tools and knowledge to achieve complete independence and thrive in our community.”

More information is available at marymarthahouse.org or 813-560-1874.

ACEING AUTISM BRINGS INCLUSIVE TENNIS CLINICS TO APOLLO BEACH

Staff Report

Families in the Apollo Beach area will soon have a new opportunity to connect, build skills and enjoy the sport of tennis through an inclusive program designed for children and teens with autism.

Experienced Autism Alliance (EAA) is partnering with ACEing Autism to bring weekly tennis clinics to Apollo Beach Racquet Club this fall. The six-week program will take place on Saturdays from Saturday, October 10, through Saturday, November 14, and is designed to provide participants with a welcoming environment where they can learn tennis skills, participate in games and build confidence.

Clinics will be divided by age. Children ages 5-13 will participate from 11 a.m.-12 p.m., while participants ages 14 and older will have a clinic from 12 Noon-1 p.m. The program will be held at Apollo Beach Racquet Club, located at 6520 Richies Way in Apollo Beach.

The program costs \$120, with an early-bird discount available for families who register by Thursday, September 10. The code, Early30, provides \$30 off the registration fee.

ACEing Autism also offers scholarship opportunities to help make its programs accessible to families regardless of financial circumstances. Funding op-



tions include Self-Determination Funding or Scholarship Accounts and the ACEing Autism Scholarship.

Founded in 2008 in Boston, ACEing Autism has grown into a nationwide program serving more than 6,000 children with autism at approximately 200 locations.

Its programs are tailored to the individual needs of each participant and use tennis as a way to promote connection, confidence and community.

The Apollo Beach program will also provide opportunities for community members to volunteer. Volunteers will help teach tennis skills, lead games and encourage participants. No previous tennis or autism experience is required, and training will be provided.

Volunteers can participate alongside friends, gain leadership and teamwork experience and make a difference in the lives of local children and teens.

Families interested in registering for the Apollo Beach program can learn more about ACEing Autism and available scholarship opportunities at <https://aceingautism.org/>.

Questions about the Apollo Beach program can also be directed to apollobeach@aceingautism.org.

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NEW HORIZONS PREPARES FOR ANNUAL BBQ AND SILENT AUCTION

Staff Report

New Horizons Group Homes will bring together residents, families, friends and community supporters on Saturday, November 7, for its annual BBQ and Silent Auction, the organization's largest fundraiser of the year.

The event will take place from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Central Baptist Christian School's gymnasium, located at 402 E. Windhorst Rd. in Brandon. Tickets are \$20 and include a pulled-pork sandwich, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, cake, iced tea and water. BubbaQue's will cater the meal, while D.J. Henry Kirk will provide entertainment.

The event also will feature a silent auction with a variety of items designed to fit a range of budgets, along with a drawing for one or two additional prizes. Drawing tickets will be \$5 each or five for \$20.

Organizers encourage attendees to purchase or reserve tickets by Sunday, November 1, to help provide an accurate count for the catered meal. Tickets are available through New Horizons board members, Wayne Rees or the New Horizons office, located at 109 E. Clay Ave. in Brandon. Walk-ins also are welcome. Those who would like to pick up tickets at the door can call New Horizons at 813-571-2690.

Community members and businesses also are encouraged to become sponsors of the event by sending a check to the New Horizons office and indicating that it is for the barbecue.

New Horizons Group Homes was founded in 1992 after parents, teachers and friends



connected with the Special Ministries Department at First Baptist Church Brandon identified a need for long-term residential opportunities for adults with develop-

mental disabilities.

The organization opened its first home, the Mary Lou Creamer Home, in 1999 with six female residents. A second home, the Alice Storms Home, opened in 2002 for men, followed by the Peter and Brenda Watkins Home in 2017.

Today, New Horizons provides a family-oriented, Christian living environment for adults with special abilities. Its person-centered program supports residents in pursuing individual goals based on their personal choices and needs while encouraging independence, dignity and participation in the community.

Residents remain active through employment and day programs, bowling, church and other activities. The organization's homes are licensed as assisted living facilities, and funding comes from resident payments, Medicaid Waiver services for qualified residents, donations and fundraising.

The annual BBQ and Silent Auction helps provide important financial support for New Horizons while giving the community an opportunity to gather and celebrate the organization's residents and mission.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call New Horizons at 813-571-2690. To learn more about New Horizons, visit www.newhorizonshomes.org.

ONE DAY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE: CEOS INVITED INTO CLASSROOMS

By Marie Gilmore

Tampa Bay business leaders are being invited to trade their offices for classrooms and experience firsthand the impact they can make on the future workforce through the 2026 CEOs in Schools: 1 Day of Change program.

The countywide volunteer initiative, presented by Vistra Communications and the Hillsborough Education Foundation in partnership with Hillsborough County Public Schools, encourages CEOs and other business leaders to spend a day immersed in the daily life of a local elementary school. This year's official volunteer day is Friday, November 6, though participants and their assigned principals may coordinate another date if needed.

The program was inspired by Vistra Communications CEO Brian Butler's longtime relationship with Mort Elementary School. Butler once spent an entire day shadowing former Principal Woodland Johnson, taking on a variety of responsibilities that included teaching, planning, serving lunch and more.

That firsthand experience gave Butler a deeper understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing public schools and inspired him to challenge other business leaders to do the same.

Since then, Vistra's relationship with Mort Elementary has continued to grow through employee volunteerism, student visits to the company's headquarters, teacher appreciation events and other school initiatives. The idea expanded into CEOs in Schools in



Tampa Bay business leaders will step into local classrooms on Nov. 6 as part of the 2026 CEOs in Schools.

2019, and Vistra partnered with the Hillsborough Education Foundation the following year to continue growing the initiative.

Today, nearly 150 Tampa Bay-area CEOs partici-

pate each year, gaining a unique perspective on the work of educators and the experiences of students while building relationships with the schools helping prepare tomorrow's workforce.

"Our schools are shaping tomorrow's community members, future workforce and leaders," said Hillsborough Education Foundation CEO Anna Corman. "We have a vested interest in their success."

Participants may greet students, read in classrooms, share their career experiences, attend leadership or planning meetings, tour school operations, have lunch with students or teachers and observe classrooms in action. Each visit is designed in collaboration with the school principal, giving participants an authentic 'day in the life' experience.

Superintendent Van Ayres praised the impact of the program, noting that even the smallest moments can make a meaningful difference in schools.

Business leaders interested in participating can reserve an available school online. Schools are matched with CEOs, who then work directly with the schools' principals to plan their visits.

For more information or to reserve a school, visit www.1dayofchange.com/ceos-inschools/.

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HABITAT HANDS KEYS TO TWO FAMILIES AT WINDHORST COMMONS

Staff Report

For two local mothers, Tuesday marked a milestone that has been years in the making. With family, friends, volunteers and community partners by their side, the Wilson and Dodson families received the keys to their new homes at Habitat for Humanity of Tampa Bay Hillsborough's Windhorst Commons neighborhood in Brandon.

Vanscena Wilson's home was made possible through the support of Strategic Property Partners (SPP), while the Dodson family's house next door was built through Habitat's annual CEO Build, which brought together more than 75 Tampa Bay CEOs, executives and business leaders who stepped away from their offices and onto the construction site earlier this year.

"Welcoming these single mothers into their new homes is what makes this work so rewarding. We are grateful to SPP, our CEO Build participants, and everyone who came together to celebrate this special day," said Tina Forcier, CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Tampa Bay Hillsborough. "Seeing their hard work and hope become a place they can call home is what affordable homeownership is all about."

For Wilson, the dedication is a major turning point for her family. She and her 7-year-old daughter, who is autistic, had

been sharing a bed in their one-bedroom apartment, and their new home will provide the space, stability, and independence they need.

"Rent is so high, and it can feel like you're putting money toward something that will never belong to you," Wilson said. "Now my daughter and I have a permanent place that's ours. I'm so thankful to SPP and all the volunteers who believed in us. This is a dream come true."

The day is doubly meaningful for SPP. In addition to funding Wilson's home, the company is also a top sponsor of Habitat's CEO Build.



business community together around one of the region's most pressing challenges: the need for safe, affordable housing.

"It's powerful to see business leaders roll up their sleeves and work as a team to build homes for families in need of affordable housing," said John Beacham,

CEO of Toorak Capital Partners. "The CEO Build is a great reminder that we can all do something to help our community and give families the opportunity to experience the security and pride that come with owning your own home."

Habitat homeowners also contribute sweat equity, putting in hundreds of hours helping build their homes and making an investment in their future. The two homes are part of Windhorst Commons, Habitat for Humanity of Tampa Bay Hillsborough's 23-home neighborhood in Brandon, featuring hurricane-resilient construction. The remaining homes in the community are expected to be completed by early 2027.

About Habitat for Humanity of Tampa Bay Hillsborough

Habitat for Humanity of Tampa Bay Hillsborough builds and renovates homes in partnership with people in need of decent, affordable housing and has worked with local homeowners and the community on more than 650 homes since 1987. Habitat affiliates around the world have helped more than 62 million people build or improve the places they call home.

For more information, visit the website at www.HabitatHillsborough.org.



"As developers, we spend a lot of time thinking about what it means to create places where people can put down roots and build their lives," said Josh Taube, CEO of Strategic Property Partners. "Our partnership with Habitat of Tampa Bay Hillsborough gives us an opportunity to have a very personal impact. Housing is a critical building block of a strong community, and we're proud to play a role in creating stable homes where families can create memories, grow together and build their futures."

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CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE RETURNS TO RP FUNDING FOR ONE NIGHT

Staff Report



Cirque Dreams Holidayze will captivate audiences in Lakeland this holiday season with a brilliantly breathtaking holiday spectacular for the entire family. As the original cirque holiday theatrical event, this nationally acclaimed annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style production around awe-inspiring contemporary circus arts.

On Christmas Eve, young Clara returns home only to learn that a snowstorm may keep her family from joining her. Just as loneliness begins to settle in, two whimsical singers appear and whisk her away into Holidayze, a fantastical world full of color, wonder and breathtaking circus acts. As she journeys through this magical realm, Clara becomes part of the adventure, forming unexpected friendships and discovering her own courage.

Reimagined for 2026, Cirque Dreams Holidayze features a world-renowned cast of performers. The ensemble includes aerial circus acts, sleight-of-hand jugglers, fun-loving skippers, eye-popping acrobatics and much more. With new music including beloved holiday favorites sung live, new sets, sparkling scenery and stunning costumes, guests from children to seniors will be on the edge of their seats as holiday characters come to life on the most magical of nights.

Both critics and audiences alike agree that Cirque Dreams Holidayze is a show for all ages to enjoy where families can make unforgettable memories together.

Cirque Dreams Holidayze will perform one show at RP Funding Center, located at 701 W. Lime St. in Lakeland, on Thursday, November 19, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the RP Funding Center Box Office or by calling 863-834-8111. Groups of 10 or more may reserve tickets by contacting group.sales@vstarentertainment.com. For more information, visit www.cirquedreams.com.

Follow @CirqueDreams and #cirquedreamsholidayze on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok.

About Cirque Dreams

The Cirque Dreams franchise is a globally recognized entertainment brand that has produced a wide array of live stage performances for Broadway, casinos, theme parks, resorts, cruise lines and theatrical venues worldwide. Since 1993, millions of people have experienced Cirque Dreams productions across the globe. Combining the world's finest contemporary circus artists with dynamic choreography and whimsical storytelling, Cirque Dreams productions have captured the hearts and imaginations of both audiences and critics alike. The Cirque Dreams franchise is produced by VStar Entertainment Group, a leading entertainment company acquired in 2018 by Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group. VStar has entertained millions of families with more than 40,000 live performances across 50-plus countries.

YOGA INSTRUCTOR HELPS PEOPLE RECONNECT, REDUCE STRESS AND FIND PEACE

By Mylena C. Ferman

Jaclyn Peterson, owner of Ascend with Jaclyn, aims to help people reduce stress and burnout through yoga. Peterson leads trauma-sensitive yoga classes throughout the Greater Tampa Bay area and works with local businesses.

Her goal is to teach employees how yoga practices can provide an outlet to trauma and better work-life practices.

"Yoga is for everybody, you know?" Peterson said. "No matter your physical state, ... there is some type of yoga you can do."

Many people have anecdotally claimed yoga to be a great stress reducer.

However, a study done in India earlier this year found that stock market investors who participated in a 30-day yoga intervention reported a reduction in perceived stress. Another yoga study, conducted in 2024, found that the yoga participants showed improved executive function, working memory and processing speed.

Peterson would likely agree with such findings. She claimed those who participated in her yoga classes reported similar benefits, including better sleep, feelings of calm, raised focus levels and less chronic pain. Trauma sensitive yoga can also have an additional benefit of allowing people to feel in control of their own body again.

"When people have experienced trauma,



... they walk away with a diminished sense of self and a lot of times they may not even be aware that they don't trust themselves to

make decisions," she said.

Peterson practiced yoga after surviving an abusive marriage and moving out of state.

"The practice helped me reconnect with myself and slowly begin to rebuild my identity and rebuild my self-worth," Peterson said.

Currently, Peterson hosts a weekly chair yoga

class at the Florida Blue Center in Sarasota. She aims to do more business-to-business work with employee wellness programs and give back to the community with Community Wellness Programs.

"It helps bring a balance and a sense of peace that they need in their lives, as well," Peterson said. "That's really my goal, to help people find that peace and to activate that parasympathetic nervous system."

For more information about Ascend with Jaclyn, please visit <https://ascendwithjaclyn.com/>, follow its Instagram (@ascendwithjaclyn) or follow its Ascend with Jaclyn Facebook page. Those interested in having Peterson host a class may contact her through the contact page on her website or via email at ascendwithjaclyn@gmail.com.

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FROM SPELLS TO SCARE ZONES: GUIDE TO FUN AREA EVENTS FOR ALL

By Jenny Bennett



Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Party

Get your favorite costume ready and come and collect candies and treats while Magic Kingdom park thrills and chills you with eerie entertainment, delightful attractions and some beloved Disney characters in Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Party. Watch three sinister sisters bewitch and bedazzle in the Hocus Pocus Villain Spelltacular, boogie down with friends from Disney Junior shows at Disney Moonlight Melodies and finish the evening watching Disney's Not-So-Spooky-Spectacular, a wickedly wild fireworks display hosted by Jack Skellington. This frightfully fun experience runs on select nights through Saturday, October 31. Tickets can be purchased at <https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/>; please review the dress code and costume guidelines before attending.

Howl-O-Scream At Busch Gardens

Busch Gardens' Howl-O-Scream returns in full force, taking over the entire park with haunted houses, scare zones, sinister shows and more. Unspeakable horror lives in every dark corner, including on Busch Gardens' pulse-pounding thrill rides. Howl-O-Scream is bringing fear to the next level, and once you're in there's nothing you can do about it. This event is intended for mature audiences



and contains adult content; costumes are not allowed. Tickets can be purchased at <https://buschgardenstampa.com/>. The event runs on select nights until Saturday, October 31.

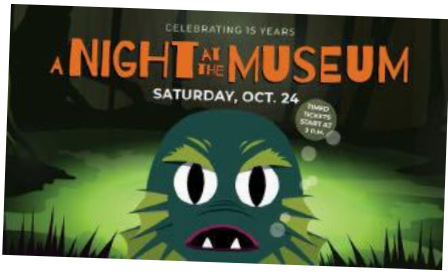
Friends Of The Tampa Riverwalk Trick Or Treat

The free Riverwalk Trick or Treat event returns on Saturday, October 24, from 4-9 p.m. Dress up in a costume and then trick-or-treat along the Tampa Riverwalk and enjoy the family-friendly fun activities. There will be over 50 stations to enjoy throughout the route with trick-or-treat bags available from Catanchobee Park, located at 601 Old Water St. in Tampa, while supplies last. There will also be a costume contest at Catanchobee Park at 5 p.m. and a movie on the lawn starting at 7:15 p.m.

Creatures Of The Night At ZooTampa

Join Tampa Bay's number one family Halloween event, Creatures of the Night, at ZooTampa for a night of eerie family frights. Ghouls and goblins of all ages can enjoy howling outdoor experiences, spooky characters, creepy culinary treats and much more. This year's event features a colossal adventure, Mesozoic Mayhem,

Tickets are available at <https://zootampa.org/>.



Haunted Woods Events At Hillsborough River State Park

Are you ready to face your worst nightmare? Haunted Woods at Hillsborough River State Park is where your nightmares become alive. As night falls, the woods come to life and turn into pure terror. Brave the Scare Trail — Beyond the Grave — where the undead are clocking in. This is recommended for children over 12 years of age and will take place from 7-10 p.m. at Hillsborough River State Park, located at 15402 U.S. 301 in Thonotosassa, on Friday and Saturday, October 16-17. For a more family-friendly event, bring younger children to the Beyond the Grave Kids Trail event, which runs from 3-6 p.m. only. This is a cash-only event.

Tall Tales Of Old Florida

Explore Tampa's 19th-century living history museum, Cracker Country, by lantern at night in its Tall Tales of Old Florida event. Along the way, storytellers will spin wild yarns about Florida's unexplained oddities, including skunk apes, misbehaving trains, cow-hunting giants and more. A little bit scary, a little bit funny and always family-friendly. After your tour, enjoy a festive snack and drink, which are included in your admission. Tall Tales of Old Florida will be held at Cracker Country on the Florida State Fairgrounds, located at 4800 U.S. 301 in Tampa, on Saturday, October 24, from 7-10:30 p.m. Visit www.crackercountry.org to purchase your tickets



(advance purchase is required) and select the start time of your tour, which will last about an hour. This event is not recommended for children under 6 years of age.

Boo Bash Bingo

Boo Bash Bingo returns to New Hope Church on Thursday, October 29, starting with light bites at 6 p.m., followed by bingo at 6:45 p.m. Dress up in your favorite Halloween costume (if you want to) and join Brandon Juniors for a fun night of 10 rounds of bingo, in which you can win your choice from a selection of designer handbags, including Kate Spade, Michael Kors, Coach and more. Along with bingo, there will be raffle baskets, silent auction items and a 50/50 drawing. Contact treasurebjwc3509@gmail.com.

A Night At The Museum

For 15 years, A Night at the Museum has brought the community together for a family-friendly Halloween celebration at the Tampa Bay History Center. This year's event will take place on Saturday, October 24, from 2-6:30 p.m. at the Tampa Bay History Center, located at 801 Water St. in Tampa.

With 15 trick-or-treat stations to explore, photo opportunities with favorite characters, a costume contest and hands-on activities.

Timed entry begins at 2 p.m., with tickets available in 15-minute intervals through 5 p.m. The celebration continues until 6:30 p.m., Visit its website at <https://tampabay-historycenter.org/> to purchase tickets.

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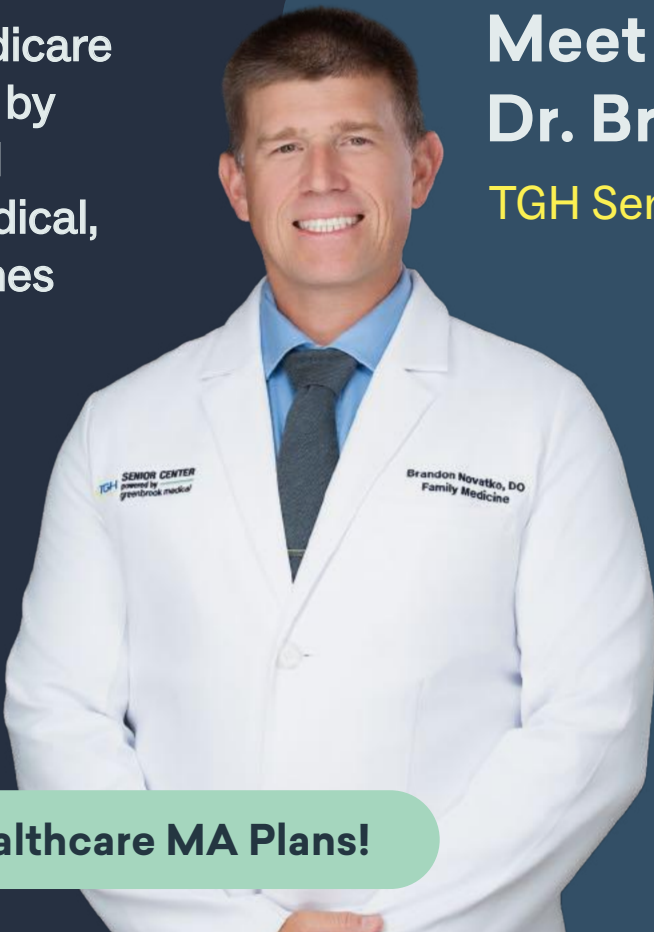
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Freedom Power Celebrates Five Years of Home Energy Solutions

The Brandon Riverview Chamber of Commerce (BRCC) recently celebrated Freedom Power's five-year anniversary serving the Brandon and Greater Tampa Bay area with a special Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Freedom Power is a whole-home energy provider specializing in solar power, battery storage, and Generac whole-home backup generators. Backed by nearly two decades of industry experience, the company works with homeowners to provide energy solutions designed to reduce energy costs and increase reliability during power outages. Freedom Power also offers financing options, including qualifying zero-down solar solutions, as well as long-term customer support.

Fred Astaire Dance Studios Relocates To New Location

Fred Astaire Dance Studios - Brandon has relocated to a new, beautiful location at 1072 E. Brandon Blvd. in Brandon, in the same plaza. Enjoy a new dance floor and the same fun atmosphere everyone knows and loves. Come celebrate almost 16 years of sharing the joy of dance with Brandon and the surrounding communities with a special open house event featuring Tony Dovolani from Dancing with the Stars. There will be food and drinks, free group classes, professional performances and lots of social dancing. Life is better when



you dance at Fred Astaire Dance Studios! Visit its website at www.fredastaire.com/brandon to find out more about the dance classes offered.

Hillsborough College Career Resource Center to Host Fall Job Fairs

Hillsborough College's (HC) Career Resource Center will be hosting three job fair events on Wednesday, Sept. 23, Wednesday,



Oct. 14 and Wednesday, Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Dale Mabry Campus Quad, located at 4001 W. Tampa Bay Blvd., Tampa, FL 33614. These events are free and open to the public.

Job seekers will have the opportunity to connect with hiring managers from Busch Gardens, Child Care Careers, Florida Department of Transportation, Hillsborough County Schools, Kelly Education, Potential Sports and other employers, with additional participants to be confirmed.

For more information about the events, HC students can log in to Handshake using their HawkMail account at app.joinhandshake.com. Members of the public can use their personal email addresses to create an account and access event information.

The Dale Mabry Campus Career Resource Center can also be contacted directly via email at dmcareer@hccfl.edu or phone at 813.253.7310.

Visit hccfl.edu/accreditation for more information.

Kingdom Pet Hospital Celebrates One Year With Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The Brandon Riverview Chamber of Commerce (BRCC) recently joined Chamber members, community leaders, clients, friends, and supporters to celebrate the one-year anniversary of BRCC President Amber Aaron welcomed those in attendance and introduced

Kingdom Pet Hospital owners Dr. Jenese Williams and Michael Williams, who shared the story behind the locally owned veterinary hospital and their commitment to providing compassionate, personalized veterinary care to pets and families throughout Riverview, Brandon, Gibsonton, and Founded by Dr. Jenese Williams, Kingdom Pet Hospital was created with a mission to provide exceptional veterinary medicine in a welcoming environment where pets and the people who love them are treated like family.

Kingdom Pet Hospital provides comprehensive veterinary services, including wellness and preventive medicine, sick-pet care, surgery, dentistry, diagnostic imaging and laboratory services, hospitalization, and in-home veterinary care. The hospital is committed to developing lasting relationships with local families and supporting the community it serves. The hospital is located at 9740 Bayard Brk Ct, Gibsonton. Visit <http://kingdompethospital.com>.

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\$345,000



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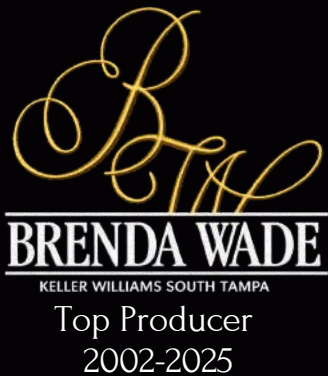


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Brenda@BrendaWade.com
www.BrendaWade.com

1709 Bloomingdale Ave, Valrico, FL 33596

