

### **Inside News**

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by

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Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

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## The Origins of Christmas



We've all heard the biblical origin of Christmas, but society had been celebrating life and birth in the dark days of winter for centuries before Jesus walked the earth. In the Norse country, the winter celebration was known as Yule. Around December 21st, the winter solstice, fathers and sons dragged an evergreen indoors as a reminder of life and sat logs on a fire as a promise of good fortune. Ancient Romans had their own

Continued on Page 8

## **Christmas** - An Amazing Time of the Year

It is a time to celebrate the birth of Christ. One of his love and light can shine through our lives. You the ways we do that is by giving and receiving gifts, and as we do, it reminds us that Jesus is the greatest gift of all. Pure giving is one of the most beautiful things that we do, and I always encourage people to make every day Christmas as far as giving is concerned. Let's live in the spirit of Christmas all year round!

If you just open up your eyes and look around, you can see that it's true. There is nothing that lights a person up like Jesus. He puts so much joy in your soul! Without Jesus, we would have no love or compassion to share with others. But because He lives in us, we can shine the light of His love throughout the entire world. That is the purpose God has for us. In other words, he has chosen us to shine his light in the world. It's very encouraging to know God doesn't expect us to be perfect before

could say that you and I are like cracked pots.

We will always have weaknesses and imperfections, but we never have to hide them from God. The light of God actually intensifies in us as we allow him to work in us. There are so many ways to shine his light. It can be as simple as wearing a smile. As you go about your daily life, especially during this special season of celebration, I encourage you to let aside a portion of your time, energy, talents, and resources to share that light and serve others. After all, this is what Christmas is really all about. Just as Jesus came to love and serve all of us by giving the greatest gift, his very life, we can give of ourselves because His life and light is in us. He is Emmanuel, God with us!

www.joycemeyer.org

## **Auto Accident?**

December 2015

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**Walk-Ins Welcome** 

## Step into the Holiday Season with Scrooge, the Musical

The Carrollwood Players Theatre offers holiday shoppers a delightful respite from the seasonal hustle and bustle with their production of Scrooge, the Musical at the Carrollwood Players Theatre, 4333 Gunn Highway, Friday, November 27 through Saturday, December 19 with performances Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 3pm.

This adaptation of Dickens' immortal A Christmas Carol closely follows the original story but with a lively score written by Academy Award winner Leslie Bricusse. Songs include the

Oscar nominated "Thank You Very Much," the toe-tapping "December the 25th," and the wistful "Happiness." The sometimes dark tale of the cantankerous Ebenezer Scrooge and his night of redemption and transformation is a Christmas staple that becomes more light-hearted in the hands of Carrollwood Players director Jeff Lukas.

The production features Rob L'Ecuyer as Ebenezer Scrooge, Sam Burke as Bob Cratchit, Faith Clark as The Ghost of Christmas Past, Nicholas Knetxke as The Ghost of Christmas Present, Jeffrey M. Lukas as The Ghost of Jacob

Marley, Bradley Clark as Tiny Tim, Adriane Falcon as Mrs. Cratchit, and Philip Houdesheldt as The Ghost of Christmas Future.

Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$20 for seniors, students, and military with valid ID. They may be purchased online at <a href="http://carrollwood-play-">http://carrollwood-play-</a> ers-theatre.ticketleap.com. Or make it a holiday night out with the Friday Family Fun Pack. Reduced-price ticket bundles for \$35 for two and \$65 for four are available at the box office Friday nights. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.">http://www.</a> carrollwoodplayers.org.

## Two USF Students Win Florida Orchestra Music Competition

Two University of South Florida composition students are winners of the "mini music demo" competition, sponsored by the Florida Orchestra and the USF School of Music, for their unique arrangements of classic holiday carols. The orchestra will perform the winning pieces during the 27th New York Yankees on December 8-10, 2015.

The winners are Hooman Rafraf for his arrangement of "Fum, Fum, Fum" for woodwinds and Francesco Sclafani for his orchestration of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," arranged for strings. The challenge was for students to put a merry twist Annual Children's Holiday Concerts presented on a classic holiday carol chosen from a set list, by the Steinbrenner Family Foundation and the producing an original, innovative arrangement. Sekhon and demic year.

Music Director Michael Francis and Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik judged the entries. Each student receives a \$200 honorarium.

For the competition, students were required to be enrolled in the USF School of Music's composition program with Professors Baljinder Sekhon and Paul Reller during the 2015-16 aca

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## Kay's Veggie Garden

By Kay Dunn, Dunndeal Gazettes





Bowtie Pasta Salad

#### Healthy salads made from my fresh organic veggie garden.

Tossed salad is made up of spinach, kale, butter lettuce, chopped red onions, radishes, carrots, celery, olives, and Italian organic dressing to top it off. Don't forget to sprinkle it with Moringa leaves. The bowtie pasta salad completes the meal: chopped onions, broccoli, cauliflower, sweet peppers, and olives mixed with organic Italian dressing and Salad Supreme Seasoning.

## Cheyenne's Country "Thangs" Organic Market

Where Healthy Isn't Hard!

Cheyenne's Country Thangs has furnished our communities with fresh and delicious organic foods.

Cheyenne's operates as a co-op and carries locally grown fruits and produce whenever possible in addition to meats, seafood, milk, and other dairy products like old-fashioned homemade ice cream!

Plan to stop in to shop and compare Cheyenne's selections and prices. The already low pricing is backed by a 100% guarantee.

Since 2009, locally owned and operated Sample the homemade breads and cheeses and pick up fresh meats and blended herbs to compliment your selections. Available now-live Moringa plants, the tree of life! And we sell bunches of Moringa!

> Co-op members get to shop first and more often, Wed.-Sat.—call 813-333-8611 for information on joining. The public is welcome Saturday from 10:00am-2:00pm.

> Cheyenne's Country Thangs is located at 19319 Holly Lane, Lutz, FL.

www.cheyennescountrythangsinc.com.



Our co-op organic prices are the cheapest! Guaranteeed!





### Lake Park Arts & Crafts Show Cancelled

The GFWC Lutz-Land O'Lakes Woman's remedial measures can be taken. The wom-Club regretfully announces the cancellation an's club has been the major sponsor of this of its Annual Arts & Crafts Show in Lake very large and popular annual event for the Park on Dec. 5 and 6, 2015 due to unfore- past 35 years. Longtime Chairpersons Phylseen circumstances well beyond its control. lis Hoedt and Shirley Simmons and their Unfortunately, the Hillsborough County committee wish to assure all their vendors Park Rangers have discovered a sinkhole and the community that their club is already which has recently opened on the main in- at work formulating plans for an even biggress/egress roadway into the park and due ger and better Arts & Crafts Show for 2016. to safety concerns and liability issues, the For more information, please contact Phyllis county has deemed the road unusable until Hoedt at 813-949-1937.

### Women-n-Charge

on Friday, December 4th from 11:30am-1- in business. The cost is \$15 for members :15pm at Pebble Creek Country Club (10550 (Tuesday before the meeting) and \$18 for Regents Park Dr., Tampa, 33647). The meet- all guests. Please register at www.women-ning includes lunch and our holiday party and charge.com. For more information, please gift exchange as well as extra time to network. contact Judy at 813-600-9848 or admin@

We share our talents, build relationships, women-n-charge.com.

Join the vibrant ladies of Women-n-Charge and share our resources with other women



## Florida Orchestra Holiday Concerts

halls in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater with a packed schedule of diverse holiday programs starting with a special performance of Handel's entire Messiah with the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay Ensemble Singers in early December and continuing into January with a New Year's Waltz concert.

For a festive night out with family and friends, it's the popular Holiday Pops on December 11-13, including a Saturday matinee that won't spoil anyone's bedtime. On the program is Sleigh Ride, White Christmas, It's a Wonderful Life Suite, Fantasia on Greensleeves, sing-along carols, and a jolly rendition of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas narrated by Trevor Pettiford of Bay News 9. Guest conwith Mela Dailey on vocals, for this Raymond James Pops concert. Note: TFO will be collecting for Tampa Bay Harvest and Toys for Tots at these performances.

Stressed shoppers can leave the mall behind and go back to a simpler time with An Old World Christmas morning Coffee Concert that includes Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3, Handel's "Pifa" from Messiah, and Corelli's Christmas Concerto. All served up with complimentary coffee and doughnuts, along with a pre-concert conversation one hour before the performance and witty commentary by Principal Guest Conductor Stuart Malina. The concert kicks off the expanded Ruth Eckerd Hall Coffee Concert series on December 16, with another performance December 17 at the Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg.

Director Michael Francis in a Viennese and and 1.800.662.7286.

The Florida Orchestra is decking the concert waltz-themed program January 8-10. New Year's Waltz includes Ravel's Valses Nobles et Sentimentales, Johann Strauss Jr's Wiener Blut (Vienna Blood), Richard Strauss' Suite from Der Rosenkavalier, and the TFO premiere of H.K. Gruber's outrageous Charivari with its raucous and humorous treatment of both the polka and waltz. The concert also features cellist Maximilian Hornung in his TFO debut performing Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme. Free Classical Kids tickets are available for this Tampa Bay Times Masterworks concert.

The orchestra regularly performs Fridays at the Straz Center in Tampa, Saturdays at the Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg and Sundays at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater except ductor Bob Bernhardt will be the merry host, where noted. Tickets for Masterworks and Pops concerts are the same low prices of \$15, \$30, and \$45. Coffee Concert tickets start at \$24.

#### Where holiday music wishes come true.

TFO's Holiday Pops Live! CD is the perfect soundtrack for a party as well as a great stocking stuffer for only \$10. It includes Sleigh Ride, Carol of the Bells, Gospel Hallelujah, Duke Ellington's Nutcracker Suite, and more under the baton of Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik and featuring the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay. The Florida Orchestra gift certificates are also available in any amount, which can be used for upcoming blockbuster shows like the Gala concert with Michael Feinstein on Jan. 30 and Distant Worlds: Music from Final Fantasy video game concert Feb. 6.

For details on these concerts and to buy tickets, CDs, and gift certificates, go online Celebrate the New Year with new Music to florida or chestra.org or call 727.892.3337

Jesus said, "This is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on Earth as it is in heaven." —Matthew 6:9-10

#### HopeChildrensHome.org Remember the Children s the Christmas Season settles consider the ideal place, they are in a in, the malls get busier, online place that loves them, cares for them, shopping elevates to a fever pitch, and protects them as family. You can gifts are wrapped, carols are sung, and also join us in caring for the children through it all, if we are not careful, we through your giving. Remembering those that are separated from family forget the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ! Long ago, during the holidays allows you to God came to this earth in the form share the joy of the season that you of a baby boy. As history unfolded, and your family have with those not it became evident that Jesus was so fortunate. We know that God will bless your desire to help others born to be the Savior of mankind. For thousands of years, people have and experience the joy of making a turned to Him for a new life that can difference in a child's life. Visit our only be found in Him and his death website, HopeChildrensHome.org on the cross. Now, for 47 years, Hope for oportunities of how you can be that special blessing. Thank you Children's Home has endeavored to also proclaim this wonderful truth for "Remembering of the virgin-born Savior. Rescuing the Children of the next generation from the clutch Hope." of the evil of this world is certainly a vital part of what we do. We ask that in this wonderful season you will also remember the children of Hope. Although they are not in what we

#### 11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing Your Home for Sale

Fax: 813-949-0891

Tampa Bay Area—According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new special report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help home sellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a FREE Special Report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this Special Report, call 1-800-366-0892 and enter ID # 1003 or visit www. TampaBayHomeGuide.com. Both The Free Recorded Hotline and Web Site are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Order NOW to learn how to ensure a home Inspection doesn't cost you the sale your home.

This report is courtesy of Peter J. Butera P.A. with Future Home Realty, Inc. Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale. Copyright of 1998

### Road to Bethlehem

Grace Lutheran Church at Carrollwood is perience a night in the city where Jesus was presenting "Road o Bethlehem" on Saturday, born. December 5 from 5:00pm until 8:00pm. Come and enjoy a live Nativity, shops and For directions or questions, call the church activities for all ages, samples of foods from office at 813-961-8747. Grace Lutheran is Biblical times, and music of the season. Ex- located at 3714 West Linebaugh Avenue.

The event is free and open to the public.

## First Baptist Church of Lutz 75 Years Old!

The First Baptist Church of Lutz will be portunity to reconnect with old friends and this momentous occasion. What a great op- church office at 813-949-7495.

observing its 75th anniversary on January share memories! For more information on 16-17, 2016. All members, former members, the events planned and to RSVP, please visit and friends are invited to help us celebrate our website at www.lutzfbc.com or call the

"Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." —Matthew 6:11-13

## Putting the World's Vulnerable People on the Map



We are in an age, it seems, when people can find their way absolutely anywhere by searching the map on their smartphone. But in reality, there are many locations in the world that are "invisible." These towns and cities aren't on the map. This makes it difficult for disaster responders to come to residents' aid when an earthquake, landslide, or typhoon strikes. Not having an accurate map also presents a challenge to disaster preparedness efforts.

That's why the American Red Cross, British Red map vulnerable places. Cross, Doctors Without Borders, and the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team formed Missing Maps—a project to put more than 20 million people onto a free and editable map of the world.

Missing Maps is powered by volunteers around the world and in our community who map far-off places and their own neighborhoods. Missing Maps is always looking for more volunteers and organizations to help

Whether you have five minutes or five days, your time is hugely appreciated! Find out more and how you can help at http://www.missingmaps.org.

American Red Crosser Jenelle Eli traveled to Rwanda this year to see how the Red Cross's Missing Maps team was helping people living in a hillside community. Jenelle shares her experience at <a href="http://ow.ly/UOLwi">http://ow.ly/UOLwi</a>.





Co-Pastor, River of Life Church

Dr. Dianne Coflin

It's hard to believe the holidays are here again. How fast this year has gone!! This season should be a celebration of thanksgiving to God straight through to the New Year!! Sadly, for people it is just the opposite for many reasons. It can be the hustle and bustle of the season for shopping added to an already busy schedule. Or it could be many wishing they had more money to shop with. Then there is the added stress of broken families trying to come together when they haven't been together all year long. Communication is strained and somewhere in the middle of it all, the reason for the season is lost and replaced with stress and anxiety!! Not to mention a political season filled with unsettling news!! Does this sound like you? Did you know God cares about your stress and anxiety?

You know you are under pressure when you begin to feel anxious. The dictionary describes anxiety as a feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome. Let's see what God has encouraged us to do.

The scriptures tell us in Philippians, "Be anxious for nothing." Did you know that this literally means to be anxious about "NO" thing? Make a list right now of all the things that you are already getting anxious over in regard to the holidays or perhaps something else in your life!! The latter part of this verse then begins to tell us what to DO with those things. Philippians 4:6 (NLT) says, "but in everything (every circumstance and situation) by prayer (tell God what you need) thanking Him for the answers."

#### God's Peace

Another scripture in 1 Peter 5:7 (AMP.) puts it like this: "Cast all your cares, anxieties, and worries once and for all on Him, for He cares for you with deep affection and watches over you very carefully."

Think about that!! God is aware, knows you, cares for you deeply, and awaits your petition. Let's see why.

Philippians 4:7 says, "And the peace which transcends your understanding will mount guard over your heart." You see, it's not until we release our concerns and worries to Him that His peace will be released to flow into our hearts!! He waits to pour out His peace to you. Isn't that what you need? No one wants to be anxious and upset and filled full of worry!! Did you know that He can work out any situation that gives you concern? It's not our job to figure out how, just let it go and surrender those concerns to the One who can take care of it. If nothing else, your attitude will be adjusted to a place of peace as you walk it out.

Finally, Philippians 4:8 gives us another key to maintain this attitude of peace. It says, "Finally whatever is true, honorable, worthy of respect, pure and wholesome, admirable and lovely, THINK on these things and practice this, and God's peace will be with you." Our thought life is key to maintaining this peace. If you think about it, isn't this where all that anxiety began? Take that list and one by one, surrender these things to God with thanksgiving and allow Him to reveal Himself to you in a tangible peace that will surpass your understanding!!

Dr. Dianne Coflin is Co-Pastor of River of Life Church in Lutz, Florida.

410 Chapman Rd. East, Lutz, FL 33549 (813) 949-9931 • www.roltampa.org

We would love to invite you to visit River of Life Church on 410 East Chapman Rd. in Lutz. Our services begin 10:30am on Sundays. We would love to have you come!!

## **Hoola for Happiness**

By Karen McBride



Carissa Caricato started Hoola for Happiness in 2010. God placed it on her heart after a trip to Haiti in 2009, where she was introduced to hoola dance and the joy it brings to children and adults.

She returned to Haiti a few more times and brought travel hoolas (hoola hoops that fold for easier transport). The hoola hoops are used as a tool to communicate with children and adults and to have fun playing games while sharing God's word. The team has been to 61 countries spreading God's love.

Hoola for Happiness began in Tampa but has spread to India and Brazil. Hoola for Happiness India began when Caricato met an incredible couple living in India, and through them she met a young woman who loved dance and had a heart for the project. The same couple later introduced Caricato to a woman in Brazil who is now running Hoola for Happiness Brazil.

Casey McKinney is the Chief Operating "Hoola-gan." When she was a junior at USF, she felt the Lord calling her to full-time ministry. She had been involved in mission work and enjoyed working with kids. A friend told her about Hoola for Happiness, and she began interning with the organization when she was in her last semester of school.

"God had brought me to the exact thing He had been calling me to do all along—a life of mission work and working with kids," said McKinney. "I'm so thankful for the way God truly led me here and made this dream come true."

Hoola for Happiness was recently at Grace Family Church, where volunteers made hoops consisting of black tubes, which were heated and joined with plastic connectors that allow the hoops to be folded for easier travel. Each hoop was then covered in mechanical tape consisting of five different colors—yellow, black, red, white, and green.

Yellow represents Eternal Life (You are created) Black is Darkness and Sin (You are broken) Red is Salvation (You are loved)

White is Purity and Freedom (You are free) Green is Growth (You have purpose)

Volunteers are not only taught how to make the hoops, but also learn child safety measures, how to hoola hoop, and are given general instructions on what they will be doing at events so that they feel prepared.

In February, Hoola for Happiness will be kicking off another year of Weekly Hoop Jam in downtown Tampa at Curtis Hixon Park. The weekly event is held on Wednesday nights from 6:30pm – 9:00pm. Attendees are invited to hoola hoop and learn new tricks.

For more information on upcoming events or volunteering, go to the website online at www.hoolaforhappiness.org.





Open Weekends • February 6 - March 20, 2016• Plus Festival Friday, March 11 10am to 6pm • Rain or Shine • 813-983-0111 • #BayAreaRenFest • BayAreaRenFest.com

**How To Have Lasting Weight Loss** 

Samantha Taylor Pure Health & Fitness Studios

I am thankful to have seen so many women transform right before my eyes! I have been in this community for over 14 years and have trained over 4,500 women through my studio. It is such an honor to see all these women reclaim their health and get their bodies back—it really is amazing! We even just finished a 6 week challenge where the women lost a total of 1,243 lbs.!

I started personal training when I was 17, and I just turned 41, so I have learned a lot about the key to having success with food, not only from all the women I have worked with but also because of the struggles I have had with food. My goal is to show people how to eat in a way they love so they don't feel like they are dieting. That is how you keep it off and eat healthy for life.

It is important to realize that fad diets, pills, shots, and gimmicks usually have their consequences, and we see it every day. When you lose weight, you want your focus to also be how you are going to keep it off. That is an important question to ask since 95% of people gain it back.

Studies show that the people that really keep it off are the ones that learn how to eat differently as a way of life. Not a temporary diet they are going to do just for a while, but actually transforming how they eat into a and they start at \$50. This offer expires Dec way that is healthy and enjoyable.

of fat, I can tell you that enjoying your food is truly a key to lasting success. So how do you do that? You learn about nutrition, how

to eat at restaurants, how to work with your body instead of against it, how to speed up your metabolism and get your body moving so you can get fit and strong.

What is the "secret" to true weight loss? It's learning how to eat with how God created your body so it becomes easy and a way of life and you are not always fighting against weight loss. I teach women how to be free from dieting, free from calorie counting, and always feeling deprived. Deprivation is one of the main reasons why people "fall of the wagon," but if while you are losing weight, you LOVE the food you eat, you are not deprived and you can start to find that as your new normal.

I eat the same way I tell my clients to eat so that helps me give you some amazing, quick, tasty food ideas. Some delicious popular foods I show clients how to eat are almond flour pancakes, lemon poppy seed muffins, pizza, and chocolate peanut butter fudge all no sugar, no grains, and gluten-free but full of flavor!

I am sure you have heard some of the talk about grains and sugar and how they are a big contributor to the decline of health in this country. Well, we are ahead of the curve, and we show clients exactly how to eat healthy so they love it, as well as their families.

To help you get results, we have two locations, Land O' Lakes and Wesley Chapel. I encourage you, if you are serious about getting this weight off in 2016 and KEEPING it off, than take advantage of my Buy 1, Get 1 gift card. You can get them for you or a friend, 23rd, so don't wait until the new year. Call After helping women lose over 73 TONS for a consultation today at 813-377-3739. I hope you have a Merry Christmas celebrating Christ and being with family!

www.PureHealthStudios.com



Fax: 813-949-0891

#### Free Bonsai Tree Seminar

BONSAI: Eve's Garden Gifts, 5602 Land It's the perfect time for gift-giving to start the O Lakes Blvd (Hwy 41) in Land O Lakes "Art of Bonsai." will host free Bonsai Tree demonstrations strating on all aspects of the art of Bonsai. website at www.evesgardengifts.com.

You are welcome to bring in your own and seminars from 10am to 4pm every Sat- Bonsai trees for us to demonstrate on and urday in December. The emphasis will be on share our professional advice. Enjoy a walk Bonsai trees as a hobby, relieving stress, and through our beautiful Bonsai garden. For growing Bonsai for gifts. We will be demoninformation, call 813-996-5012 or visit our

#### Land O' Lakes Garden Club

We invite you to the Land O' Lakes Gar- club is co-ed. Happy Thanksgiving and Merden Club on the 8th of December for our ry Christmas to all! Christmas gathering, Tuesday at 10:30 sharp. There will be a plant/gift exchange and a munity Center at 5401 Land O' Lakes Blvd covered dish lunch after the meeting. Please (US 41), Land O Lakes, FL 34639. For info, bring two non-perishable food items to be contact Marie Woody at (H) 813-961-2697 or donated to the Christian Social Services. This (C) 813-508-0975.

Meeting location is Land O' Lakes Com-

#### Learn How to Lose Weight and Keep it Off...

This is Chris EIGHT years later! She lost 55 lbs. with me in her 50's and still looks amazing! I am so proud of her. She says: "I saw Samantha's ads for years before I called. I lost the weight in 7 months and to keep it off this long amazes me because I used to always gain it back. I first had to realize it was time to do something different and that was to call her. She has truly changed my life, I hope you let her change yours too!"

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Samantha > Taylor <



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## **New Addition to Guiding Star Tampa**



passionate about childbirth and breastfeeding through her own experience and struggles. Breastfeeding specifically was a challenge at the beginning, but she was successful through proper support, education, and determination.

She recognizes that one of the biggest obstacles to successful breastfeeding for many moms is lack of support and information. For this reason, she has partnered with the Guiding Star Center to host monthly breastfeeding support groups and one-onone lactation services. She is thankful for the opportunity to educate and encourage families through this transformative time.

To learn more about Guiding Star Tampa's support for Nursing Mothers, call the Melissa Mayer is the newest member of center at (813) 948-7734 or visit our website the Guiding Star Center team. Melissa is at www.guidingstartampa.org. The center a Certifed Lactation Counselor, Certified is in the Chateau Professional Park just Childbirth Educator with Birth Boot Camp, one mile north of Van Dyke Road at 18560 and Certified Labor Doula. Melissa became North Dale Mabry Hwy. in Lutz.

#### 2016 Florida Strawberry Festival

Advance tickets for admission and for headline entertainment shows will go on sale Thursday, Dec. 10, 2015 at 8am and can be purchased online at www.flstrawberryfestival.com at the Amscot Main Ticket Office located at 2209 W. Oak Avenue in Plant City and over the phone at 813-754-1996.

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, nearly 500,000 visitors enjoy the festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its strawberry shortcake. The 2016 Florida Strawberry Festival takes place March 3-13 in Plant City, FL and will be "Royal Fun for Everyone!" For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (#berryfest16).



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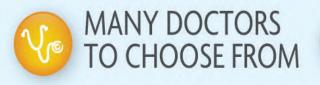
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## Be A Lumberjack Swinging A Golf Club

Rick Bradshaw PGA Professional/GM

Many prominent instructors compare the rotary movement of the golf swing to a lumberjack swinging the ax horizontally into the tree they want to cut down. To implement this feel to the golf swing, maintain the flex in the knees and bend from the waist over the golf ball to allow the golf club to swing on the correct plane.

Also, be limber, not lumber. The golfers that strike the golf ball best have great flexibility to enhance club head speed and center face club contact through the ball like Rory Mcilroy.

Allow the momentum of the club head to strike through the golf ball. The secret to the lumberjack cutting wood is allowing the energy built up on the back swing to release into and hopefully through the wood the same as a professional golfer. Swing through the golf ball with hands, arms and body weight turning through the shot.

Don't be an anchor on a tanker. When I appeared on Golf Channel's Academy Live with P.G.A. Tour Pro Tim Petrovic, I coined my phrase "Light foot right foot through the ball." This is the allowing of the momentum of the club head to pull your body weight of your

right leg on the follow through. This image and action will help synchronize your arms with the body motion so the arms don't swing past your body, leaving your body hanging back like an anchor on a tanker.

Watch Bubba Watson's trail foot after he hits one of his towering drives. You will see his left foot come off the ground for an instant as the club head's swing momentum goes through to a finish. In this case, it would be light foot left foot as Bubba swings from the left side of the ball.

Bubba Watson is certainly a lumberjack as he leads the tour in driving distance pretty much every year.

Rick Bradshaw

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with George and even in that short time, the her license that George has taught her the critical difference in her driving skills was tremendous. Malie had her permit for more than a year, but we on the road. I have two other children who will be were always a bit concerned that she needed drivers soon, and George will be hearing from us additional help to refine her driving before we would let her get her actual license. Even my husband, who is a professional driver for FedEx, had concerns and wasn't able to fix the issues We had heard good things about George and the GCS Driving Academy, so we sought help and could not be more happy that we did!

From the first five minute, George identified that Malie was sitting too close to the wheel, her mirrors were not set properly and she was not turning the steering wheel correctly. Just those minor tweaks made a huge difference! From there, they practiced skills like defensive driving on the highway and how to anticipate a drivers' next move so she can adjust and remain safe. I rode with them all three lessons, and even learned some things about my own driving that I now use!

My daughter Malie spent only 3 lessons. We now feel confident as Malie drives off with things necessary to keep herself and others safe

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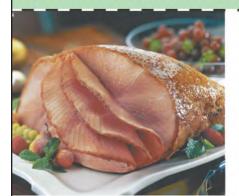


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## Automotive Chat

Last week, a 30-year friend and customer called to price a set of tires that he wanted. He began to tell me how one of the "BIG MERCHANDISERS" had these tires on sale and also a mail-in rebate for \$75. With these discounts applied, four tires would come in just over \$600. We searched for the tires, and with no sale or rebates, we beat the price he was going to get at our normal price for this product.

My point is, marketing is a great cover for high prices in a lot of cases! A 50% off sale is only good when the original price of the product is normal to start with. If it's 50% off double the regular price, it's not a deal. Don't buy the advertisement, shop for the best deal.

At the end of any transaction, what matters is that you are treated fairly, you receive great service, and the repair or products fulfill your needs. The best situation is that you know who you're dealing with, that you can trust them and that your best interest is first at their business. At Pro Auto Care, we make you that pledge! Have a question? Ask for Dan or Larry.

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## The Origins of Christmas Continued from Page 1

December festival. One week before the winter solstice, Romans began celebrating Saturnalia, a festival of food and drink in honor of Saturn, the god of agriculture. Some Romans, particularly soldiers and government officials, also worshiped Mithra, the sun god. It's also believed that this set the birthday of Mithra as December 25th, the holiest day of the year.

By the first century A.D., pagan traditions were being challenged as Christianity took hold throughout the empire. But Christ's birthday remains a mystery since the Bible doesn't mention exactly when he was born.

Since pagan Rome already celebrated Mithra on December 25th, it's been theorized that the church adopted the date as the date of the birth of the Christ child. In the fourth century, the church made it official, declaring December 25th as the first day of the nativity.

The church knew it could not outlaw the pagan traditions of Christmas, so it came to accept them. The evergreens traditionally brought indoors were decorated with apples symbolizing the Garden of Eden. These apples would eventually become Christmas ornaments.

The story of Santa Claus also begins in the fourth century with the death of Nicholas, a beloved Turkish bishop. The anniversary of his death became known as St. Nicholas Day, and on December 6th good children awoke and received gifts and bad children received nothing. In Holland, he was known as Sinterklaas.

About 1,500 years later in America, a seminary professor named Clement Clark Moore re-imagined the legend of St. Nicholas and in 1822 wrote a poem called The Night Before Christmas about a good-natured saint called Santa Claus who was pulled by group of reindeer and came down the chimney on Christmas Eve. Like St. Nicholas, Santa Claus spread good cheer and gave gifts to children, and it was less clear what Santa Claus looked like.

Then in 1863, Thomas Nast, a cartoonist for Harper's Weekly, settled the matter with his version of the Christmas saint. Thomas Nast's Santa was rotund and jolly with a full white beard and a sack full of toys, and an American icon was born.

http://www.history.com/videos/history-of-christmas#european-christmas-customs

### The Most Magnificent Gift of All

When you think about the way Jesus was born in comparative obscurity, he never did all the typical things that usually denote greatness. He never led an army or navy into battle. It doesn't tell us that he ever wrote a book. He didn't do any of the things that we typically think of as greatness. We don't know what he looked like, though there are a lot of artists' renditions of what we think Jesus looked like, and there's nothing contemporary from this day.

Yet he changed all of history around the world in three and half years of his ministry.

When we talk about biblical history you have B.C and A.D. before Christ and after death, the

about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

In a validation of Jesus, the Pharisees challenged him. John 8:14-18 "Even if I testify on my behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I came from and where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are right because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two men is valid. I am one who



Year of our lord. If you look in the Encyclopedia, it doesn't cast any doubt that he lived. The real question you have to decide. Was he a liar, a lunatic, or was he the Lord. Who was Jesus? Did God come to earth in the form of a man to save us? A quote by A.W. Tozer: Christ is not one of many ways to approach God, He not the best of several ways, He's the only way. Anyone who comes to God must comes through Christ.

While Buddha and India might have had some profound sayings along with Krishna, Mohammad, and different religions of the world, nobody spoke like Jesus and none of them died as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. There's something very clearly different about Jesus. None of the other religious leaders of the world said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

There are over 300 Old Testament prophecies that talk about what to expect when the Messiah comes. In the first prophecy, God was speaking to Adam and Eve after the fall in Genesis 3:15: "And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between thy seed and her seed. He shall bruise thy head, and he shall bruise his heel." This promised seed came through humanity as the Messiah or Christ.

In the New Testament, you will see that they were looking for a savior from the seed of a woman that would come to defeat the serpent who caused the fall of man and the loss of paradise, the Garden of Eden.

When Jesus came to the Jordan River, he knew his time had come, and right at his 30th birthday he was baptized. John 1:29: "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin the world!"

Jesus was that Lamb that they had been looking for. Isaac said to Abraham, "We have the wood for the fire, but where is the sacrifice?" Abraham said, "My son, God will provide it himself."

When Philip found Jesus, he went to tell Nathaniel. John 1:45: "We have found him of whom Moses wrote about in the law and

testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me."

During the trial of Jesus, Pontius Pilate asked him, "Where you are from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. John 19:10-11: "'Do you refuse to speak to me?' said Pilate. 'Don't you realize I have the power to crucify you?' Jesus answered, 'You have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore, the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.'" From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar!"

Jesus was born in a very unique way as it was told in Genesis, Chapter 3, over 1,400 years before his birth through the seed of a woman. Isaiah 7:14: "The Lord himself will give you a sign: behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and you shall call his name Emmanuel."

Mary was betrothed to Joseph before they came together, and she was found to be with child, the seed of the Holy Spirit, while traveling from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The word "Bethlehem" means house of bread, and you probably didn't know that there are two Bethlehems.

If you notice, it specifies the Bethlehem Ephrahah. This is where Rachel died giving birth to Benjamin, which was just outside Jerusalem where King Herod saw the wise men coming and interrogated them, saying, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"

You never hear anything about the miracles of Jesus before he was 30. For the first 30 years of his life, he lived as a man among men, just as you and I, for a priest could not begin to teach until he was 30. King David did not begin to reign until he was 30. Joseph administrated over Egypt when was 30. When Jesus was anointed by

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John the Baptist, you never did hear anything about his miracles until he began his ministry, and where he quoted these very words in his hometown church of Galilee (Isaiah 61:1).

Still today, in the three and a half years of his ministry, he turned the world upside down. Furthermore, it tells us that he would speak and teach in parables as King David said in Psalm 78:2-3: "I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, which we have heard and known, as our fathers told us."

Matthew 27:3-7 tells how, during the trial of Christ, Judas was overwhelmed with a sense of guilt. Judas finally realized that he betrayed the son of God as they were preparing to crucify Jesus. Then as he went into the outskirts of the Temple where Jesus was being tried and the Sanhedrin was meeting, he said, "I've betrayed innocent blood," and he threw down the 30 pieces of silver for the potter's field (Psalm 22:16).

During a crucifixion, it was a standard practice to break their legs. Psalm 22:16: "The congregation of the wicked has enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet. They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." This was prophesied almost 1,000 years before Jesus was born. Psalm 34:22: "He guards all his bones. Not one of them is broken." They broke the bones of the thieves on the right and the left of Jesus because Jesus was the Passover lamb, and they were never to break the bones of a Passover lamb. They didn't break any of his bones just as the prophecies had said: "He guards my bones."

From end of the Old Testament until the New Testament starts with Matthew, there are about 400 years of prophecies about the Messiah that Jesus would come. Three quarters of the way through the Bible there should be a page that says there were 400 years between the Old Testament and The New Testament, which doesn't begin until the birth of Jesus.

We know from the Dead Sea Scrolls that these things were written before Jesus was born. So how could you fabricate, counterfeit, or manufacture the prophecies after 400 years went from Zechariah to Matthew where Jesus would be betrayed by a friend for 30 pieces of silver who would then throw it to the potter's field into the house of the Lord?

C.S. Lewis puts it this way: "A man who was merely a man that would do the sort of things that Jesus did wouldn't be a great moral teacher. He'd be a lunatic on the level of a man who says he's a poached egg or else he would be the devil of hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was and is the son of God or else he was a madman or something worse." Someone else put it this way: "Christ was either a conscious deceiver, deluded, or divine. He is a lunatic, liar, or Lord. There is no escaping these three options."

Jesus lived for thirty three and a half years among men, and he said, "I want to show you how to live. How to love each other. I'm not just going to show you how to turn the other cheek; I'm going to show you how it's done." And he did, through his trial. I'm going to show you how to love and forgive each other the way he forgave us, uttering his last words on the cross: "Forgive them Father, for they do not know what they are doing."

Why is it you hear people using his name in profanity so frequently? You never hear people get mad and hit their finger with a hammer and say, "Oh Buddha, Allah, Krishna!" or cite Mohammad's name in damnation. Why is there a diabolical focus to specially scorn the name of Jesus?

That in itself should tell you there's a spiritual battle out there. The world should know who Jesus is, and he came to show us what the Father is like. He said in John 14:9: "Have I been with you so long you don't know me, Philip?"

Jesus came to trade places with us, for we are all under a death sentence because of our sin and our selfishness. Christ does not want to lose us. He loves us, for he said, "I will come and I will take the penalty for your sin. I will not only take it, I will give you my strength. I'm going to be your substitute and trade places with you." He said, "I will give you my goodness and I will take your badness. I will give you my strength and will take your weakness. I will give you my life and take your death. Give you might and peace and take your suffering and your misery."

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with an editorial about products or services they have to offer the community!











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In a few short weeks, the holiday season starts—Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, and parties right through to the new year. With all you have to do, don't "do" windows! Call the pros at Sunshine State Window Washing and look your sparkling best before the festivities starts! Sunshine State Window Washing is properly licensed, fully insured, and bonded. This veteran-owned and operated company is also local! Owner M. Lewis Briggs provides expert service with respect for your home and privacy. He and his trained staff will take out the drudgery

and leave you with sparking windows well into the new year! Sunshine State caters to homeowners as well as business professionals by providing VIP service and 100% satisfaction using environmentally-safe products. Extras such as cobweb removal, screen shampooing, window sill, track, and channel cleaning are always included. Additional services such as mirror, chandelier and coach light cleaning, ceiling fans, light bulb and smoke detector maintenance are available upon request. Multi-level homes and offices are no problem for these experts.

Be sure to call Sunshine State Window Washing today at 813-949-1392 to schedule a complimentary in-home estimate for all your window cleaning needs. Be sure to ask about regularly-scheduled repeat service so you can relax and your home will always sparkle.



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### Keeping You Pest Free Now and in the New Year! Anne Childers, Staff Writer



The Tampa Bay area is home to 2.9 million people and even more pests! To live insect and bug free in Florida requires an expert like Green Tech

Pest Control. This locally owned and operated business has provided pest control for residential, commercial, and industrial customers for 35 years.

Owner Frank Nabozny and his dedicated staff are committed to 100% customer satisfaction. Each job is honestly and professionally evaluated on an individual basis with a thorough understanding of the impact pest problems can have on your business, family, and pets.

"Green Tech's skilled and experienced termite and pest control technicians do it all, and do it right," says Frank Nabozny. "We are ready for all types of termite, pest control, and extermination work."

After a pest control treatment, mud daubers, wasps, and spider webs are also removed—Green Tech does not take shortcuts. This full service company will even deal with animal control issues.

Green Tech Pest Control is licensed and bonded and in 2012 was recognized by the Palm Harbor Chamber as Small Business of the Year. Call 727-772-7378 and schedule a complimentary inspection—same day appointments are available.

## Disney Live! Mickey And Minnie's Doorway To Magic Presented By Stonyfield Yokids Organic Yogurt At Amalie Arena February 27

Join Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, and the comical duo of Donald and Goofy as 25 of your favorite characters surprise and captivate at every turn of the knob! See the Fairy Godmother transform Cinderella's rags into a beautiful ball gown in a split second; the Toy Story gang defy the dimensions of Andy's toy box with the help of the green army men; and the spectacular stage debut of Rapunzel and Flynn Rider as they rise into the sky amidst the floating lanterns. With special appearances by Snow White, Tinker Bell, and Aladdin's Genie, you never know what to expect or who

might join in the fun. In Disney Live! Mickey and Minnie's Doorway to Magic, you hold the ultimate key to unlocking your imagination.

TICKETS: McDonald's® Ticket Office at Amalie Arena, Ticketmaster outlets, and at ticketmaster.com. Order tickets by phone by calling 800-745-3000. Ticket prices start at \$16.00 and are subject to change without notice. Prices do not include facility fee or service charges. For group rates, call 813-301-6900. Advanced parking passes are available at ticketmaster.com and the ticket office. Visit amaliearena.com or call 813.301.2500 for more information.

### Pick Up A Copy of the Gazettes At These Local Churches

Journey Christian Church Keystone United Methodist First United Methodist Church of Lutz The Impact Point First Baptist Church Lutz River of Life Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church Northwest Community Church Messiah Lutheran Church & Preschool Van Dyke Church All Saints Lutheran Church St. Timothy's Catholic Church Grace Family Church

7708 Van Dyke Rd, Odessa 16301 Race Track Road, Odessa 960 W. Lutz Lake Fern Rd. 102 Lake Hobbs Rd., Lutz 18116 US Hwy. 41 410 Chapman Rd. E., Lutz 20735 Leonard Rd., Lutz 10110 N. Central Ave., Tampa 14913 Hutchinson Rd., Carrollwood 14920 Hutchinson Rd., Carrollwood 17030 Lakeshore Rd., Lutz 5315 Van Dyke Rd., Lutz 17512 Lakeshore Rd., Lutz 5101 Van Dyke Rd., Lutz

Sun. 10:00 813-920-0442 813-920-5153 Sun. 8:30, 9:45, & 11:00 813-949-1751 Sun. 8:00, 9:45, & 11:30 Sun. 10:00 & 11:15 813-949-9001 Sun. 9:00 & 10:30 813-949-7495 813-949-9931 Sun. 10:30 Sun. 8:00 & 10:30 813-949-7173 813-389-4580 Sun. 8:00, 10:00, & 12:30 Spanish Sun. 10:30 813-962-4990 Sun. 8:30, 9:45, & 11:00 813-961-2182 Sat. 6:00, Sun. 9:30 & 11:15 813-968-3983 Worship 9:45, Sun. School 11:00 813-963-0969 Sat. 5:30, Sun. 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 & 5:30 Sat. 5:00 & 7:00, Sun.9:30 & 11:30

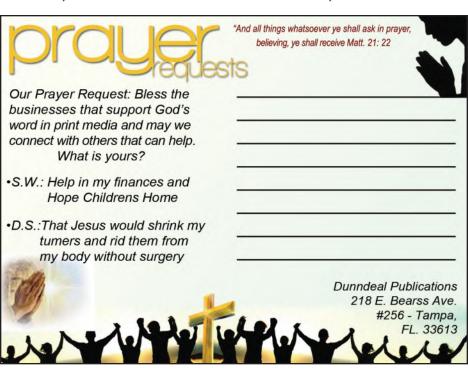
## Get your Smile **on!** Think about this:

\* Many folks want to serve God, but only as an adviser.

Fax: 813-949-0891

- \* Do you think "stop, drop, and roll" will work in Hell?
- Some minds are like concrete: thoroughly mixed up and have permanently set.
- God loves everyone but probably prefers "fruits of the Spirit" over nuts!
- \* The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes came close.
- \* Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.
- Quit griping about your church! If it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
- \* If your church needs a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.
- \* The best mathematical equation is 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.
- God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until he's dead. So why should you?
- \* Don't wait for six strong men to take you to church.
- \* We don't change the message, the message changes us.
- \* Why advertise your business to keep God's word in print media? He will give you somthing to sing about and something you can dance to.

**AVAILABLE NOW!** 





## Pick Up a Copy from Any Dunndeal Operating Partner Listed Below

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#### Lutz Gazette

218 F. Bearss Ave The UPS Store 804 E. Bearss Ave. Wawa Gas Station 1911 E. Bearss Ave. Pita Express 1913 E. Bearss Ave. Bobalouie's Grill 1913 E. Bearss Ave.100B Copo Cuts Barber 2802 E. Bearss Ave. Big Papa's Pit Sparta Fitness 14915 N. Nebraska Ave. 15003 N Nebraska Ave, Culver's Restaurant River Of Life Church 410 Chapman Rd. 1927 Brinson Rd. Royal Lanes\* 17693 N. Dale Mabry Mr. Empanada 18801 N. Dale Mabry Lutz Mail Depot 18905 N. Dale Mabry Al's Lawn Care 18469 U.S. Hwv 41 ACE Hardware\* Beef "O"Bradv's 18421 U.S. Hwy 41 18511 U.S. Hwy 41 18315 U.S. Hwy 41 Bay Cities Bank Int. Supermarket\* 19017 U.S. Hwy 41 Hwv. 41 & Newburger Friendly Farm 19002 1st St. SW Feed Depot 101 Flagship Drive Richard's Cafe Lutz Library 101 Lutz-Lake Fern Rd. Walgreens The UPS Store 3850 Van Dyke Rd. 3959 Van Dyke Rd 5524 Van Dyke Rd Shell Station

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Nutrition Smart

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#### Pasco Gazette

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### Wesley Chapel Gazette

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