



The Ten Commandments
Exodus 20:3-17

- I Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- II Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
- III Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
- IV Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- V Honor thy father and thy mother.
- VI Thou shalt not murder.
- VII Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- VIII Thou shalt not steal.
- IX Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
- X Thou shalt not covet.

What Price Are You Willing To Pay?

I have that question on the home screen of my phone as a reminder, "What price are you willing to pay?" The price of something usually reflects the value of what you are purchasing. A pack of mints has a very different price than a diamond ring. One carries much more value.

It seems that everyone I talk to wants to lose weight or gain muscle. We are always wanting to look better in our clothes, especially with the summer here. How we look is at the forefront of our minds. We dream about what we could look like. How we would feel if we just lost some weight. Regardless of how much you dream about losing weight, nothing will change unless you are willing to pay the price.

Everything has a price. Nothing is free. Not everything costs money, but everything comes with a price. The price, to losing weight, is changing how we eat and exercising. There is a price that must be paid to get the results that you want.

Our men and women in our military pay a price for us to have the freedoms that we enjoy every day. Many won't see different stages of their children's lives, special events, family moments because they have a heart to serve our country and are willing to pay that price.

Continued on Page 5

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What you read in the Gazettes may be good for your soul!

Jesus is not our religion,
he's our savior...

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

Prayer does not move God.
Prayer prepares me for what God intends for me to do.

Our mission is to effectively connect consumers with organizations who strive to operate according to biblical principles.

The businesses and individuals you see in the Gazettes are the members/partners supporting Jesus/God's word in print media.

Join the Jesus team!
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Clash of the Kingdoms

As we celebrate the birth of our nation, we can reflect on the many wonderful ideas our nation stands for. Some of the quotes of our most famous documents express the heart's cry of our founding fathers such as "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..." and we are "one nation, under God, indivisible." Such declarations express the purpose and intent for all the people who become citizens of this great nation.

Among the unique privileges of our citizenry is the right of free speech, to speak out in favor or disapproval of laws, political leaders, or any position; everyone has a right to express their ideas publicly or privately without fear of reprisal. While these privileges are to be valued and preserved, we must realize that there is an unseen force at work to destroy this nation.

Over the past several years, there has been an ever-increasing animosity of one group against another. Strife, accusations, condemnation, judgments, finger pointing and blame have galvanized the positions of large segments of our society, bringing great division. Why is that a problem? Jesus said, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand" (Mt. 12:25).

The late Bishop Tony Palmer made this statement, "diversity is divine, but division is diabolical." We all have opinions of what is right and what is wrong and who is to blame. We have this need to take sides and express ourselves, defend our position, and slander and blame those we disagree with, but is that beneficial for our cause or us?

The Bible shows us that there are two kingdoms on the Earth. There is the kingdom of God that is described as the kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness. Everybody is in one of these kingdoms. If we have come to understand that Jesus is our Savior, he died for our sins, he took upon himself our judgment, he rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God and by faith we have received his forgiveness and acceptance then we have been, "delivered from the authority of darkness, and have been translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son" (Col. 1:13).

Continued on Page 8

Killing Germs + Viruses - Eliminate Odors - Reduce Chemical Vapor - Remove Dust and Pet Dander + Activated Carbon. There's proven technology to clean the air in your home and remove indoor air pollutants, harmful airborne contaminants that are known to effect one's health.

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Making Dreams Come True



DIY has never been more popular than it is now with tv shows showing you how to “Do It Yourself!” You may be wanting to try your hand at wood crafting, but don’t have the tools or shy away from making a huge mess at home with sawing, sanding, and staining. Why not enjoy the creative process with none of the expense or mess that goes along with it? That’s where Board & Brush Wesley Chapel can help!

Davey and Melissa James first heard of Board & Brush through friends. After 20 years as a teacher, Melissa was ready for a new adventure. They visited a studio and God placed it in their hearts to start a franchise in the Wesley Chapel area.

“We fell in love with the idea and three months later, purchased the Board & Brush Wesley Chapel studio,” said Davey.

“What we enjoy most about owning the studio is meeting our guests and helping the community love DIY woodworking craftsmanship. This is a destination of fun and service to our guests.”

At the three-hour workshops, expert instructors will guide you through the process of creating your unique piece of art including sanding, distressing, staining, stenciling, painting, and waxing to complete your project. Guests can choose from a variety of workshops.

Here are a few of the events in July (see calendar on website for full details):

- July 11, 2023-Tote Bag Tuesday - Customers can make personalized tote bags for groceries, books, clothes, wine or whatever you need to carry! The cost is \$45 and includes the



eco-friendly tote bag.

- July 15, 2023 – Celebration Luau! Come celebrate their 6-month anniversary and choose from an assortment of projects including an art deco clock, a wall hanging covered in fishing lures (perfect for any man-cave), a family adventure picture hanging for displaying your loved one’s photos, holiday décor, and more. Choose an ornate guitar for the music lover in your life, or a wall mounted backpack organizer for the families of school aged kids. The cost is \$73.

- July 24-26, 2023 - Kids camp. The three-day back-to-school event is for children ages 6-14 years old and will be full of fun and creativity. The cost is \$120.

- July 28, 2023 – Christmas in July – Create your own unique wood design. Choose from an assortment of holiday décor including Pine Boughs Christmas Countdown to display the days until Christmas, the Holiday Wishes Bells wall art or the trio of Snowman to add to your holiday display. The cost is \$73.

When planning your next party, contact Board & Brush Wesley Chapel. Multiple weekly public workshops, team building, special occasions such as bachelorette parties, baby showers, birthdays, retirement celebrations or get-togethers with your church group can be even more fun when the guests can take home a one-of-a-kind handmade wall hanging, art deco serving tray, or other wooden décor.

In July and August, you can receive a 10% discount off the full price registration. The discount cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Enter the code GOODNEWS23 at registration. For your chance to win a gift card to Board & Brush Wesley Chapel, enter our Trivia Contest on page 8!

Board & Brush Wesley Chapel is located at 4843 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544. For more information or to register for a workshop, go to their website: <https://board-andbrush.com/wesleychapel> or call 813.778.0204.

Call (813) 778-0204 Let Your Creative Side Show at Board & Brush Wesley Chapel

By Karen McBride

GFWC Bingo Fundraiser At Beef O’Brady’s

GFWC Lutz-Land O’Lakes Woman’s Club will sponsor a Bingo Fundraiser, hosted by its Education Committee, to benefit its community projects and support of local schools and libraries.

WHERE: BEEF O BRADY’S, 18421 US 41 at Sunset Lane, Lutz, FL 33549
WHEN: THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023 from 5 pm to 7 pm
DONATION: \$10 FOR 10 Bingo games with great prizes, opportunity baskets and a 50/50 drawing

The public is welcome to join in the fun and bring a friend or two or three. Enjoy dinner before or after the games because Beef’s will generously donate a percentage of food purchases to the club’s education projects.






KOLETEN,
The first Bundles of Hope baby

His mother was incarcerated and the state urged her to have an abortion. She declined and chose to place her baby in the care of Bundles of Hope instead.

After caring for him for 10 months, Bundles of Hope was able to reunite Koleten with his mother when she was released from jail and back on her feet.

BUNDLES OF HOPE is a brand-new ministry initiative of Hope Children’s Home in Tampa, FL.

Currently, if a woman is in a crisis situation, she has three basic choices: keep the child, have an abortion or make an adoption plan. If a woman is unable to keep the child and turns to abortion, research shows that up to 79% of those women would not choose abortion if they felt they had a viable alternative. That’s why we want to offer women a fourth choice!

Learn more by scanning the QR code and see how you can get involved!



BundlesofHope.org | 11415 Hope Int’l Dr. Tampa, FL 33625 | 813.961.1214



A CHRISTIAN NETWORKING EVENT



Guest Speaker
Josh Weis
CEO
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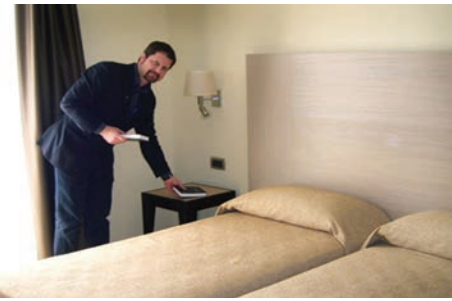
“In God We Trust” specialty license plate revenue flows into the faith-based nonprofit In God We Trust Foundation, Inc. that uses those charitable donations toward the above missions.

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Gideons Are On a Mission to Spread God's Word

By Karen McBride



All Gideons uphold these core beliefs: The Bible is the inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God and Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God.

The Gideons International is a ministry of Christian businessmen and women. You may have heard of them as the missionaries that leave Bibles in hotels. This practice began in 1899 when the organization was formed. Since many of the members were traveling men, they began witnessing in hotels. The Bible distribution has expanded to hospitals, businesses, universities, high schools, middle schools, and more. Since its inception, Gideons have distributed over 2.5 billion Bibles.

It is important for Christian men and women to be continually strengthened in their faith. By serving the Lord together and sharing their testimonies with others, they are building on that foundation.

The Gideons International is trying to establish in all its members, for each man to be ready to do God's will at any time, at any place, and in any way that the Holy Spirit leads.

The organization is active in over 200 countries with over 200,000 members. To become a member, you must meet the following criteria:

1. be a member of a church
2. be a professional businessman or the wife of a businessman
3. be recommended by a pastor in your church.

Ron White has been a member for over 25 years. He partners with local churches in northern Hillsborough County. He and other members of the Gideons visit churches to bring awareness to their ministry and to provide reports on the number of Bibles distributed in the local community. Another way to connect with local churches is to hold pastor appreciation breakfasts. This is a time to fellowship with the pastors and their church members, while enjoying a delicious breakfast together.

At Idlewild Baptist Church, the Gideons were visiting and had a display of 40-50 Bibles in various languages. An Asian woman approached the table, and they were able to give her a Bible in her native language. How amazing is that?

Church members are often generous with their support of the ministry. The "love offering" goes to fund the purchase of more Bibles to distribute throughout communities to those who may not step inside a church. But, if a person is visiting the area and staying at a hotel, he/she may open the nightstand drawer, and there it is, ready and waiting to be read by God's divine appointment, and then taken by the guest if they choose - God's word.

In March 2023, Gideons held a Blitz Tampa event, where over one hundred Gideons from across Florida distributed 38,000 Bibles in the Tampa Bay area. The Bibles were handed out to people at hotels, hospitals, universities, high schools, and middle schools.

"Kids are going by 50 miles an hour, so you quickly hand them a New Testament, which consists of Psalms and Proverbs, and hope that they read it. But some do stop, and you get to engage in conversation," said Ron. The Gideons take that opportunity to plant the seed and let God do the rest. You can help the Gideons to continue to serve the community by making a donation at <https://www.gideons.org/donate>. Your donation will go to the purchase of New Testaments and Bibles.

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)

**"So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."**



It's Time For Fun In The Sun, But Keep In Mind The Importance Of Summer Safety!

By Karen McBride

Summertime is here! It's time for picnics, days at the beach, cooling off in the swimming pool, and enjoying time with your family and friends.

Unfortunately, it can also be the time of summer accidents. The euphoria of free time in the summer can result in slip and fall accidents around the pool, bicycling calamities, and illness caused by dehydration from not drinking enough water during playtime.

We hope that your child remains safe and healthy throughout the summer, but rest assured if your child should suffer a mishap, Dr. Michele Johnson-Towson and her staff at Pediatric Place of Tampa are available to help you. She and her team are dedicated to keeping patients both healthy and educated on changes in children's health care. They take the time to answer any questions parents may have. They treat your child's overall health, including immunizations, allergies, asthma, and ADHD (Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder).

Same-week appointments are available at Pediatric Place of Tampa, and the practice accepts all insurances as well as self-pay patients. New patients are always welcome!

Pediatric Place of Tampa offers Urgent Care hours to accommodate sick children after work, school, and/or daycare. Urgent Care hours are available Monday – Friday until 7pm, and Saturday 8:00am until noon.

Pediatric Place of Tampa is located at 1338 W. Fletcher Avenue, Tampa, FL 33612. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 813-264-2288.



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Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. – Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

This verse reminds me of a time in my prior life as a restaurateur. I worked in an up-scale scratch recipe restaurant with a wide variety of employees from different backgrounds. I had in my employ, two brothers who spoke broken English as their second language. One brother had been there prior to my arrival and had convinced me to hire his younger brother. I agreed and had him train his younger brother. It took only a few weeks for the younger brother to become proficient. So much so that the two of them could work a busy lunch service without any other assistance.

This would usually require 3-4 employees, but the brothers worked so fluidly together I increased their wage and had them work together every day that they worked. We agreed that as long as they could handle the extra responsibilities, I would schedule them to come in and leave together. While they both worked well with everyone else on my staff, they did not produce nearly as efficient results as they did when they were together. They spoke the same language, knew what the other was doing all the time and could work in harmony with one another throughout the shift. They genuinely cared about the success of each other and therefore wanted to ensure the success of the restaurant, thereby ensuring the continuation of our arrangement.

I made it a point to learn as much Spanish as I could so that when we all worked together, I could speak to them in their native language. In turn they started to learn more English so that they could communicate with the rest of the staff more effectively.

In essence, each brother not only achieved more for our team, because they cared for their brother, but they also earned more for themselves and their families. I in turn, showed them that I cared about their success and was invested in it as well. We were a team that cared about each other and proved it through our work each day.

These two Christian brothers understood that God does not want anyone to work alone or live alone. Man was meant to work in conjunction with one another to achieve more and do so for his glory and do so with a joyful heart. I hope that everyone has an opportunity to be part of a successful team in their life. Be it a team at work, a sports team, or a successful marriage. We should all do our part to pick up our brother and look for those who have no brother to pick them up.

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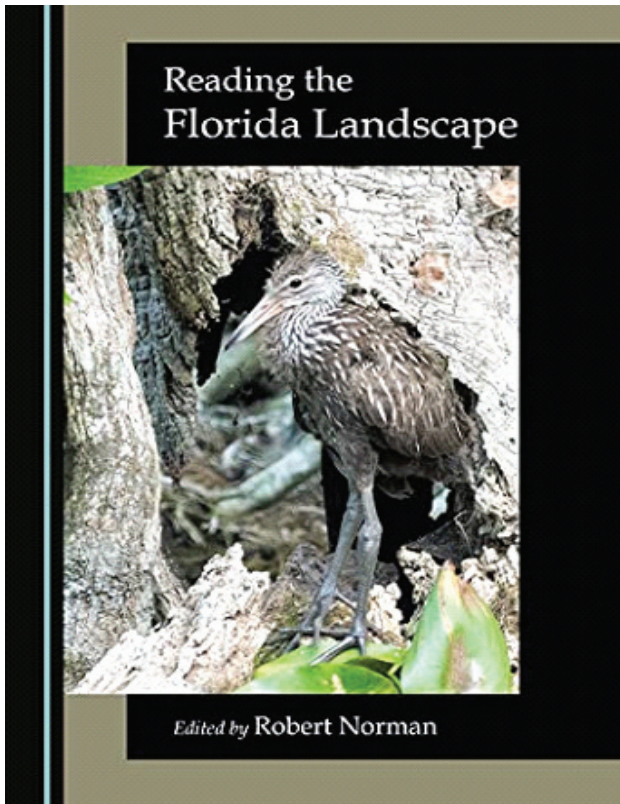
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Dr. Robert Norman's Book *Reading the Florida Landscape* is Available Through Amazon



Dr. Robert Norman is a man of many talents. Not only is he a board-certified dermatologist with over 35 years of experience helping his patients, he is also a published author of both non-fiction and fiction.

Dr. Norman loves the outdoors, and he has shared his many experiences with our readers in his “The Great Florida Outdoors” column in the Dunndean Gazette. To read the articles he has written, go to <https://dunndeanpublications.com/dr-robert-normans-articles/>

He and his wife, Carol, have five grown children and four grandchildren. He is very active in his community serving on many service organization boards as well as donating his services. When he is not busy enjoying time with his family, helping patients, or exploring the outdoors, he enjoys writing

books. With his busy schedule it is hard to believe that he has found time to write 70 published books, including clinical textbooks, trade books for the general public, instructional books and even books exploring the outdoors! He has written over three hundred published articles and produced over 150 lectures and blogs. Many of his educational and motivational talks can be found on www.skindrrob.com

Dr. Norman has had many showings of his photography throughout the world and has written and co-produced more than 45 films. He has also written and co-produced four blues albums. He plays the harmonica and has performed at Ferguson Hall at the Straz Center and with many noted musicians.

His book, *Reading the Florida Landscape*, offers all levels of nature enthusiasts an opportunity to improve their skills and increase their appreciation of Florida's wonderful outdoors. Great photographs by Dr. Norman and maps enhance the reading pleasure, and diverse and exciting narratives on Florida nature are included. Using interviews with conservation scientists and historical and current case studies, the book blends the skills and knowledge gained from the author's experiences as a physician and an advanced Florida Master Naturalist to discuss how to identify, or perhaps diagnose, actions and events that have influenced the structure and function

of Florida environments. It encourages the reader to identify evidence of land and water use that has occurred in the past to better understand how these have influenced the health and function of ecosystems in the present.

Dr. Norman, along with Richard Kern, created a documentary film *Reading the Florida Landscape* based on the book. You can view it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bgdGQFjMhVQ>

Reading the Florida Landscape is available in hardcover, paperback and on Kindle at <https://www.amazon.com/Reading-Florida-Landscape-Robert-Norman-ebook/dp/B092W5BJ5C>

Dr. Norman is an advanced master naturalist graduate of the FMNP program from UF and a board-certified dermatologist based in Tampa and Riverview. He can be reached at 813-880-7546.

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GOOD NEWS, JUST 40 LAPS AROUND THE WILDERNESS FOR DISOBEYING GOD ... BAD NEWS, EACH LAP TAKES A YEAR

Jewish Veterans Donate to Liberty Manor



The Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America Albert Aronovitz Post #373

Post 373 was founded 31 May, 1949. The post was renamed later for Albert Aronovitz, son of Emanuel and Rose Aronovitz, who served in the US Army Air Corps and died in Anzio during World War II. The Post supports the VA Hospital through volunteers and through charitable donations. Post 373 is a member of The Veterans Council of Hillsborough County, Florida. Their mission statement is “The Jewish War Veterans Post #373 and Spouse’s Auxiliary are part of a federally chartered, service-oriented organization comprised of members who are men and women veterans of the armed forces or of the allied armed forces, associate members and patrons. It is part of the oldest active veteran organization in the United States and the only Jewish agency that can lobby Congress without registering as a lobbyist. Post members visit the Veterans Hospital, speak on community issues and work with other veterans in an effort to strengthen support for Israel.”

The Jewish War Veterans Post#373 made a donation to help the Veterans at Liberty Manor for Veterans. The mission of Liberty Manor for Veterans; Inc. is to promote the developmental and social needs of disabled and honorably discharged veterans who have fallen victim to homelessness providing transitional; supported housing and establishing objectives designed to attribute to self-sufficiency. Anyone interested in assisting this meritorious initiative please contact Connie Lindsay (813) 900-9422, or Liberty Manor for Veterans (a 501c3 non profit organization), website <http://www.libertymanor.org>, 10015 N 9th Street Tampa, FL 33612; or the mailing address P.O. Box 274081 Tampa, FL 33688-4081. Veterans are certainly worthy of our help. EIN #02-0775720.

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**My Life
Is To
Glorify
God!**

Matthew 6:9

This, then, 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. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

What's The Connection Between Water and Oxygen in The Body?

Did you know, the body requires an oxygen saturation level of 94% to 99% in the blood for proper function? It still functions with lower levels of course, but that can take a toll on your body. (By the way, many doctor's offices test oxygen saturation levels during office visits, so if you are curious about your levels, just ask at your next appointment.)

Adequate oxygen is critical for all our cells including our brain function and is transported throughout the body via our blood cells. Without enough oxygen, people may have decreased cognition, judgment, and coordination, or in more extreme cases, can even become unresponsive.

Like most of our body, our blood cells are made up mostly of water. When we don't drink enough water, the blood can become thicker, increasing blood pressure, which decreases the blood's ability to get enough oxygen to the brain and other cells. Drinking enough water helps your blood flow freely circulating the oxygen to your brain and every cell in your body. Think about it: The water molecule is made up of hydrogen and oxygen!

So how can you get an extra glass of water in today? Maybe try adding natural flavor such as:

Fruit (raspberries, blueberries, lemon, orange, etc.)

Fresh herbs (mint, basil, rosemary, thyme, etc.)

Veggies (cucumber, tomato, ginger, celery, etc.)

Or a combo that can be simple or a bit more creative such as orange-fennel, pineapple-mint-ginger, blackberry-sage, etc.

I'd love to hear about your plan to get in some extra water. Post a photo on my Facebook page [Reflexology For The Health Of It](#) if you add some fruit, veggies, or herbs to inspire the rest of us! Remember, reflexology can help to deliver more oxygen to the various body parts, along with proper consumption of water. If you'd like to learn more, contact me at: (813) 965-1697. I'd love to talk with you about it.

Always praying for your good health,

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“Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” — Hebrews 11:6



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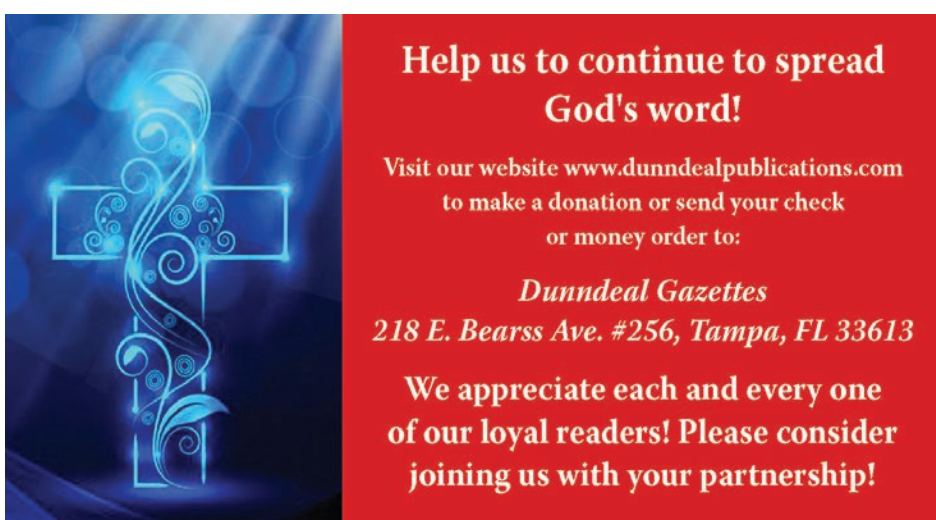
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I heard about this positive farmer and a negative farmer. When it would rain, the positive farmer would say, “Lord, thank you for watering our crops.” But the negative farmer would say, “Yeah, but if it keeps this up, it’s going to rot the roots.” One day, they went bird hunting together in a boat. The positive farmer just got a new bird dog and said, “I’m so proud of him, he’s the best bird dog I’ve ever owned. He shot a bird and it fell in the water.” He said to the negative farmer, “Just watch.” The dog jumped out of the boat, ran on top of the water, picked up the bird, ran back on top of the water, and put it in a boat. He said to that negative farmer, “What do you think?” But the negative farmer said, “Your dog doesn’t even know how to swim.”

“Say it like you mean it.” Joel Osteen



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Kidz Korner: Color – From Hair to There

Hi! I'm Harley, writer of the monthly Kidz Korner column. Have you ever thought of dyeing your hair a different color? Here's an experience similar to your potential undertaking.

It was my passionate longing to dye my hair purple. Change is often grand, and when a friend dyed her hair, I begged mother dearest more than ever. “It won't last forever,” was the despondent negotiation of yours truly. “Just some purple tips for the summer.” “Maybe” was the answer for a long while, but when Mom finally agreed, a date was placed on the calendar with Tampa Bay's favorite hairstylist, Mrs. Kathy, and a profitable excursion was carried out towards the salon.



Tubes of purple color had already been purchased, but for the preferred color to attach to the hair, it has to be light. A person with blond hair would most likely skip this process, but my brown hair had to be bleached. First, Mrs. Kathy painted the bleach into my hair, then wrapped it in tinfoil. It was heavy, and it was challenging to keep my neck straight. Second, I was placed under the hairdryer for a few minutes.

It was relaxing and irritating at the same time, and multiple times I had to summon my mother to fix a piece of hair that had fallen out. Then, my hair was soothingly washed, dried again, and colored. After a long process, my hair was purple, and it was super rewarding. Although the millions and gazillions of colors in the world can be pretty, there are so many more colors of all sorts in heaven. God has the most creative mind ever.

Thanks for reading and check out more articles like this at harleyisabelsmith.com! See you next month!

I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Genesis 9:13

Harley Isabel Smith is a 5th grader who has been featured on TV as a philanthropist, has a heart for evangelism, and writes monthly for the Gazette's Kid's Corner. Visit online at <https://harleyisabelsmith.com> where she is constantly adding written and video content to entertain and educate children. **Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”**



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What Price Are You Willing To Pay?

Continued from Page 1

There are many that have paid a very hefty price with dying for our freedoms because they see the magnitude of how great America is and want to fight to keep it the greatest nation in the world. They see the value in our nation.

There was someone, who paid an enormous price for you and me. Just like the men and women in our military He paid with His life. He loves us so much that He couldn't stand the thought of not being with us. The only way He could reconnect with us was through the cross. Dying a horrific death as the sacrifice for our sins. He paid the price so we wouldn't have to. He rose again so that we could live with Him for eternity.

Not only did He pay this enormous price for us but then made it so easy to be with Him. Just believe that He is the son of God and make Him Lord of your life. His name is Jesus and He felt that you were worth dying for. He was willing to pay a very hefty price for you, because He thinks you are worth it.

In John 14:6, “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” How do you go to the Father through Jesus?

By believing that Jesus died for you and rose again. In the Bible, it says, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish (die or be lost) but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Will you make Him Lord of your life today? Say this prayer, “Jesus, I believe that you died on the cross and rose again for my sins. I admit that I need you. I ask that you forgive me. I thank you for paying an enormous price for me. I make you Lord of my life.” If you believe that, you will spend eternity with Jesus.

We would love for you to visit us at River of Life Church and let us know that you said this prayer for the first time. We have some gifts that we would like to give you. You can visit our website at www.roltampa.org. Our service times are 10:30am on Sundays or 7:00pm on Wednesdays. We are located at 410 E. Chapman Rd., Lutz. We would love to see you there.

Amy Peterson, Office Manager, River of Life Church
410 E. Chapman Rd. Lutz, FL 33549 • 813-949-9931



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

Tax Collector Donates to ABC Program



Tax Collector Mike Fasano's five offices will be collecting donations in July for the Pasco County School District's ABC (Assist, Believe & Care) Program. The program was created to provide financial assistance to students and their families who are experiencing economic hardship, especially when those needs interfere with the student's ability to be academically successful.

The cash donated goes into a fund that teachers can use when they see or learn of a need a student may have. In past years, this office has donated thousands of dollars to Pasco schools to support this important program.

"While the impact of COVID may be lessening, there are still many other challenges caused by these uncertain economic times," remarks Tax Collector Mike Fasano. "The strain can be enormous on a family, especially when a parent loses a job, or a single parent is struggling to raise children while doing all they can to make ends meet. Children without food, adequate clothing, or other unmet needs often suffer academically. The ABC Program was designed to help students and their families who are experiencing hardship or crisis. The assistance provided helps students get back on track and stay on track by helping fulfill some basic food, clothing, and school supply needs. During the month of July our five offices will be collecting monetary donations to help children and their families in their time of need."

Cash donations can be made at any of the five tax collector locations in Pasco County. For more information about the Pasco Tax Collector's ABC Program campaign, as well as the charitable giving programs in general, please contact Assistant Tax Collector Greg Giordano at 727-847-8179 or visit www.pascotaxes.com

Donations may also be mailed to the tax collector's office at the following address: Tax Collector Mike Fasano, P.O. Box 276, Dade City, FL 33526. Please note on your check's memo line "Pasco ABC Program"



An Act of Kindness: The Good Samaritan



Jesus answered, "A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who both stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. By chance a certain priest was going down that way. When he saw him, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite also, when he came to the place, and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he travelled, came where he was. When he saw him, he was moved with compassion, came to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He set him on his own animal, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, and gave them to the host, and said to him, 'Take care of him. Whatever you spend beyond that, I will repay you when I return.' Now which of these three do you think seemed to be a neighbor to him who fell among the robbers?"

He said, "He who showed mercy on him."

Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

— Luke 10:30–37, World English Bible

Elder Abuse

Pasco Sheriff's Office wishes to educate citizens on the signs of physical, emotional and financial abuse that older adults face. Not only is it important to spot the signs of abuse, but ensuring older adults are aware of potential dangers they may face is crucial to helping your loved ones and neighbors.

Abuse rates related to the care and handling of older adults have increased since the COVID-19 pandemic. With physical abuse being most common through family members and caretakers, it is important to look for the signs of abuse that may be happening behind closed doors. Some signs to look out for include unexpected falls, sores, medication errors, malnutrition, frequent crying and agitation.

If you have a loved one in managed care, ask them questions about their care, be aware of what medications they're prescribed and when they're eating. Not only can abuse lead to physical harm, but it could also lead to long term psychological concerns. If you suspect that a loved one may be experiencing physical abuse, it is imperative to contact law enforcement.

Older adults are also more vulnerable to Internet scams. With the rise in new technology, scams have grown to be more apparent through everyday devices and platforms. It's become easier than ever to be exposed to scammers as social media and email platforms allow for quick and easy ways to access your personal information.

It is important to know the signs of what a scam may look like. An important rule to remember is that if it sounds too good to be true, it's most likely a scam. Common scams will try to draw people in by announcing they won a prize or that they can make a large profit within a seemingly no-risk investment. Asking for cash payments, credit card information, or social security are immediate signs of a potential scammer.

Over the phone, older adults are commonly targeted when it comes to solicitation and technology support scams. Fake companies will attempt to gain personal information by announcing that there is an issue with their homes, technology and accounts. These scams can be quite convincing, often using personal information, such as their address or names of family members, which is often found through open public records and social media accounts. If you encounter one of these calls, the best option is to simply hang up.

Another scam that's become more frequent recently and is impacting the older adult population is rigged gaming machines. There has been an increase of deceitful slots and other gambling machines within local bars.

These operations purposefully make the winning odds of the machines close to zero which preys on those who sink their money into them. In order to prevent this, it is important to only go to gambling locations that are approved by the state of Florida. Playing at non-approved locations will put you at risk for financial loss.

Many older adults isolate themselves in their homes in fear of crime, as they are highly susceptible to theft. There are ways to prevent crime from both inside your home, as well as around your neighborhood. When at home, make sure to lock your doors and windows, don't open the door for strangers and don't advertise that you live alone. The Pasco Sheriff's Office encourages neighborhoods to stay alert in order to minimize crime opportunities.

Spreading awareness by being a good neighbor and reporting suspicious activity makes communities a safer place. Knowing the signs of abuse ultimately minimizes it from happening; educating friends and family on the matter also keeps your loved ones safe. This Elder Abuse Day, take time to spread safety messages to the older adults in your life.

Tax Collector Raises Money for "Lauren's Kids"



Ceremonial check presentation by Tax Collector Mike Fasano and staff

Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano announces that Lauren's Kids was the tax collector's featured charitable organization for the month of April. Lauren's Kids is an organization that works with local school districts to prevent childhood sexual abuse through education and awareness. Additionally, Lauren's Kids helps heal survivors with guidance and support. Lauren's Kids was started in 2007 by Lauren Book, now a state senator and herself a victim of years of childhood sexual abuse by a trusted caregiver. Senator Lauren Book has

taken her own experiences and turned them into an opportunity to help children find hope and healing.

The Pasco County Tax Collector's Office collected donations and promoted the Lauren's Kids specialty license plate and charitable check-off during the month of April. In addition to the funds raised, there are now 30 new Lauren's Kids specialty tags on the roads of Pasco County.

"Lauren's Kids thanks Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano and his entire team for their continued efforts to prevent child sexual abuse and help survivors heal," comments Senator Lauren Book, the founder of Lauren's Kids. "Every dollar makes a difference and helps fund vital prevention, education, and awareness programs to protect childhood. One in 3 girls and 1 in 5 boys will become a victim of sexual abuse before turning 18. 1 in 5 children who touch a digital device will be sexually solicited online – but armed with the knowledge that 95% of this abuse IS preventable with education and awareness, the Pasco Tax Collectors Office is creating change for children in West Florida."

"On behalf of the entire staff of the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office we thank the members of our very generous community for supporting this life-changing program," Tax Collector Mike Fasano comments. "Senator Book's personal experiences drove her desire to create a non-profit organization that has and will continue to help untold numbers of children, parents and teachers learn about and prevent childhood sexual abuse. It has been an honor for the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office to once again team with Lauren's Kids to train a new generation of children about this crime and how they may find help and healing if they do become victims of it. Thank you to everyone who donated and/or purchased a specialty tag to advance the efforts of Lauren's Kids. We may never know the entirety of the impact your generosity has made in the lives of our most vulnerable, but there is no doubt it is great."

If anyone is interested in learning more about the charitable giving program at the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office, please contact Assistant Tax Collector Greg Giordano at 727-847-8179. For more information about Lauren's Kids please visit www.LaurensKids.org

Please visit www.pascotaxes.com for additional information about all services provided by the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office, including addresses, phone numbers and other information that may be helpful.



Celebrate Your Independence With Social Security

By Javier Morales, Social Security Public Affairs in South Florida

Every July, we take pride in celebrating our nation's independence. For nearly 90 years, our programs have helped provide financial independence to millions of hardworking people. We have useful online tools like the Social Security Statement (Statement) and our benefits estimator tool that help people not yet receiving benefits. The Statement shows the benefits that you and your family may be entitled to includes personalized fact sheets tailored to your age and earnings situation. The benefits estimator tool allows you to get estimates based on different ages you want to begin receiving benefits. These tools can help you plan for financial independence in retirement.



Don't receive benefits? You can get the most out of your online experience if you have a personal my Social Security account. You can:

- Get your Statement instantly.
- Request a replacement Social Security card (in nearly every state and the District of Columbia).
- Find out if you qualify for benefits.
- Appeal a decision we made on your claim.

Already receiving benefits? If so, you can use your personal my Social Security account to:

- Request a replacement Social Security card (in nearly every state and the District of Columbia).
- Get an instant benefit verification letter for Social Security, Medicare, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

- Start or change your direct deposit (Social Security beneficiaries only).
- Check your information and benefit amount.
- Change your address (Social Security beneficiaries only).
- Request a replacement Medicare card.
- Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S instantly for tax season.
- Report your wages if you work and receive disability benefits or SSI.

You can create your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

With so many services and helpful information available online, we are here for you when it's convenient for you. Be sure to tell friends and family about all they can do with us from any device at www.ssa.gov.

"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." — Ephesians 5:1–2

Make It A Stress-Free Holiday For Your Pets

While Independence Day is a time of celebration and excitement, it can be a source of great anxiety for pets when loud noises and bright flashes from fireworks overwhelm them. Consider these tips to ensure a pet-friendly celebration.

- Designate a secure and comfortable space in your home where your pet can retreat during the fireworks.
- Play soothing music or turn on a white noise machine in this designated space to help drown out the sound of fireworks.
- Distract your pet with interactive toys or puzzles that can divert their focus from loud noises.
- Compression shirts or vests can provide comfort by providing a gentle, constant pressure.
- Anti-anxiety medications or natural supplements might be an option for pets with severe anxiety. Contact your vet to learn about your options.
- Keep your pet indoors during the fireworks display. Close all windows and doors to minimize noise and bright flashes.
- Remain calm and composed around your pet. Animals are intuitive and can pick up on human emotions.

Visit your nearest Royal Pets Market to help prepare for the Fourth of July fireworks or even summer thunderstorms. For pet emergencies, call (813) 798-7775 or visit RoyalPet-sUrgentCare.com.

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” — Ephesians 4:29

Tax Collector’s West Pasco Government Center Office is Undergoing Renovations

The Pasco Tax Collector’s Office at the West Pasco Government Center (8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey FL 34654) is undergoing renovations. The office is expected to return to full service on October 16, 2023. During the remodel all services, except driver license services, will be available during normal business hours which are Monday through Friday: 8:30am to 5:00pm (only Pasco County residents are served between 4:00pm and 5:00pm).

Customers who may need driver license assistance are encouraged to visit our Gulf Harbors office located at 4720 U.S. Highway 19, New Port Richey, FL 34652. Normal business hours at this location are Monday through Friday: 8:30am to 5:00pm and Saturday 8:30am to noon. Saturday hours are reserved for residents of Pasco County only. We appreciate your understanding during this period of remodeling.

For more information about services and locations please visit www.pascotaxes.com or call our Centralized Call Center at (727) 847-8032, (813) 235-6076 or (352) 521-4338.



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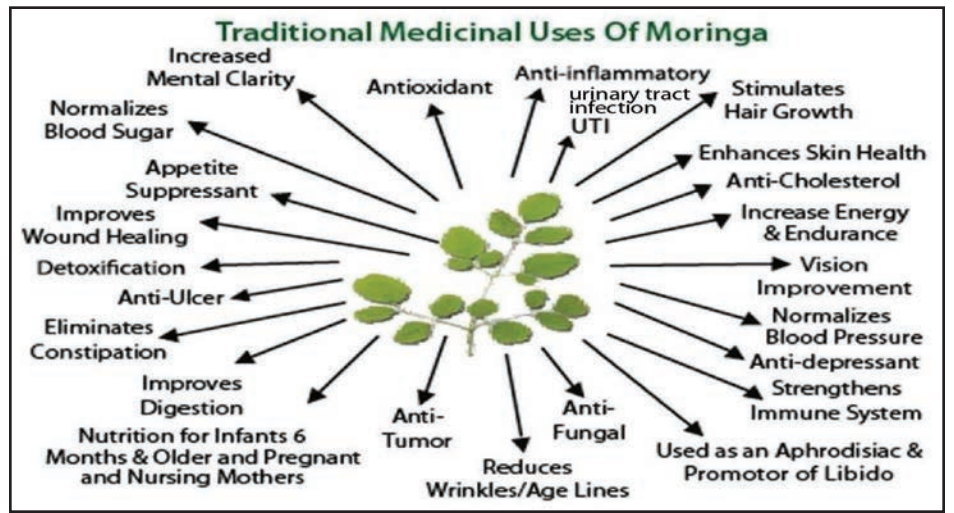
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Clash of the Kingdoms

Continued from Page 1

The kingdom of darkness can best be described by the many ways the word "darkness" is defined in scripture – night, blindness, ignorance, ungodliness, immorality, misery, destruction, death, sorrow, wickedness. All of these conditions or actions give evidence to the work of those who are still in the kingdom of darkness. How should we, as believers, respond to these divisive efforts that would destroy our nation?

First we need to realize that the problem is not the darkness, but the absence of light. Light will always overcome the darkness.

Second, we can't resolve anything with those in darkness by using the same tactics. Blaming, name-calling, criticizing, condemning only brings greater division.

You can't blame a blind man for not seeing. If you try to reason with a blind man he will still be blind. You can yell at a deaf man but he still will not hear you.

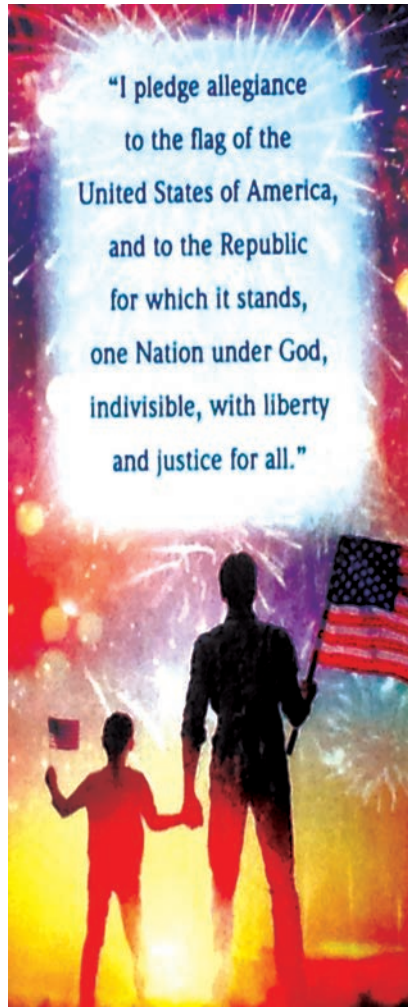
We can blame the blind or we can address the darkness. Our struggle is not with people but against "the rulers of the darkness of this world" (Eph. 6:12). Jesus gave us authority to bind and to loose in earth what he has done in heaven (Mt. 18:18). You have been given authority to bind the darkness and loose those who have been kept in its captivity.

Last of all, we can walk in the flesh (Gal. 5:19-21) or we can demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22,23). If we walk according to the flesh (criticizing, condemning, and blaming) we only bring more divide. If we give demonstration to the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control), then those in the dark can see a better way and taste the sweetness that is only found in the Kingdom of light.

Taking a stand for what is righteous and good is a privilege we should all exercise. Protesting injustice, demanding policy changes, and refusing to bow to tyranny and abuse are all characteristics that gave birth to our exceptional nation but killing, stealing, and destroying are the activities of a dark kingdom.

Let us not tolerate the abuses of darkness but let us **"do all things without murmurings and disputing; that we may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom we shine as lights in the world"** (Philippians 2:14,15).

Dr. Dan Coflin and his wife Dianne co-pastor River of Life Church at 410 E. Chapman Rd. in Lutz, FL. 33549, (813) 949-9931, www.rolta-mpa.org We would love to invite you to visit River of Life Church.



Fourth of July – Bureaucracy of 1776 Started a Free Nation



Most American colonists were still loyal to King George up until the 1770s. But when England subjected her subjects to increased control over colonial affairs, it started a revolution. John Adams from Massachusetts and Thomas Jefferson were appointed two of the five-man committee to draft the Declaration of Independence. At the age of 32, Jefferson was the second youngest delegate at the Continental Congress. Nevertheless, John Adams acknowledged Jefferson's skills and reputation as a lawyer and writer, therefore Jefferson was appointed for the job. Over the next 17 days, Jefferson stayed in his rented Philadelphia room continuously writing and revising this document. The two men liked each other immediately, as Jefferson was a valuable friend. The Declaration outlined the colonies' desire for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But the real important thing about the document is the stuff we pretend to ignore, which is this long list of things that King George has done to the colonists, and is the actual reason why the revolution happened. It was an assumption at the time that Americans needed to do something, and put something in writing, an explanation of what we're doing. The King obstructed the administration of justice, imposing taxes without the colonists' consent, suspending our own registry and ordering armed troops among us. On Sunday, July 4, the Congress approved the Declaration of Independence.

The first Fourth of July celebration happened on July 8 when the document was publicly read in Philadelphia. The crowd reacted with bonfires, gunfire, and fireworks. This custom was borrowed from England, of all places, which is how subjects rang in their King's birthday; only in the colonies, they were celebrating the King's symbolic funeral.



As King George sat safely on his throne in the summer of 1776, his likeness in crudely fashioned dummies, was burned in the colonies.



In New York City, the equestrian statue of King George was hacked up and reportedly smelted into bullets for the revolution. One year later, citizens of Philadelphia honored Independence Day with fireworks, bonfires, and music.

During the Revolutionary War, troops celebrated the Declaration's anniversary with double portions of rum. Actual bombs replaced the fireworks. After the colonies won their independence, cities across the U.S.

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relived the revolution by participating in the July 4 revelries.

Men commemorated the day by gathering in taverns to drink and argue over the new nation's leaders; it was purely an American custom to freely criticize the government. On the 50th anniversary, by eerie coincidence, both the Declaration's author and its editor, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, died on July 4, 1826. Eventually, Americans looked at Independence Day not so much as a day of rebellion, but as a day to appreciate the rights bestowed on them. In 1870, as America was healing from the Civil War and African-Americans were freed from slavery,

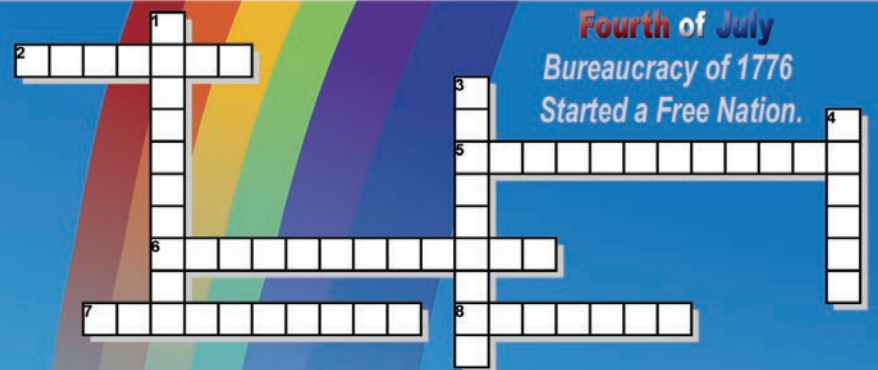
Independence Day became a recognized holiday, but if federal workers wanted to spend the day picnicking, they did it without pay. That changed in 1938 when Congress voted to make Independence Day a legal holiday.

Since then, the holiday has been celebrated in good times and in bad, in war and in peace. American communities rally together, all because of that small act of bureaucracy in 1776 that started a free nation.

<http://www.history.com/videos/fourth-of-july-history#fourth-of-july-history>



- Down:** 1 - But when England subjected her subjects to increased control over colonial affairs, it started a...?
 3 - This outlined the colonies' desire for life, liberty, and the pursuit of...?
 4 - American communities rally together, all because of that small act of bureaucracy in 1776 that started a free...?



- Across:** 2 - the equestrian statue of King George was hacked up and reportedly smelted into...?
 5 - The first Fourth of July celebration happened on July 8 when the document was publicly read...?
 6 - On Sunday, July 4, the Congress approved the Declaration of...?
 7 - Most American colonists were still loyal to...?
 8 - America was healing from the Civil War and African-Americans were freed from...?

Name _____
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GFWC Donates to Felicity House



(L-R) Club members Barbara Booth, President Elayne Bassinger, Annette Bellingar & House Manager Krysta McIntosh

GFWC Lutz-Land O'Lakes Woman's Club members recently delivered an SUV full of handbags stuffed with needed and requested personal hygiene items to Felicity House, a new 4-month transitional shelter for homeless women in Hudson, a facility run under the auspices of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. The woman's club was pleased to have a tour of this lovely facility by house manager Krysta McIntosh, who explained the services provided to help women in need restructure their lives and regain housing and employment. The woman's club has provided many donations over the years to women's shelters and continues its support.

GFWC PCF Pinwheels Campaign



GFWC Lutz-Land O'Lakes Woman's Club members Gail Howard and President Elayne Bassinger recently attended a seminar and meeting in Tampa speaking to the 'Putting Children First Pinwheels for Prevention' Campaign to raise funds through the sale of blue pinwheels to aid groups working with children who have suffered abuse.

While there, the clubwomen met large and very committed group of "Bikers Against Child Abuse" who are similarly working to raise funds and bring awareness to the child abuse problem. The Woman's Club has raised funds for a number of years through this program and donated to the aid organizations. For more information on this volunteer community service organization, please visit gfwlutzlandolakes-womansclub.org or its Facebook page.

(L-R) Member Gail Howard & President Elayne Bassinger

Adjusting to Vision Loss for Improved Mental Health and Self-Esteem



The loss of vision is often a traumatic experience, exacerbated by other losses that can include independence, livelihood, and self-esteem. Successful adjustment to vision loss is often a continual process that involves developing adapted skills and maintaining them through periodic training and counseling.

Lighthouse provides an Adjustment to Vision Loss Program (AVL) to help adults and seniors who have vision impairment or blindness with accepting and adjusting to vision loss and improving self-esteem. The program, facilitated by Lighthouse Social Worker Nancy Branciforte, is based on "Passages" which is one of the programs used by practitioners in the field of vision impairment to help people adjust to a life without vision or with a vision impairment.

Lighthouse's AVL Program is provided in groups over 5 to 7 sessions. Activities are customized based on client strengths and weaknesses. Activities may include physical relaxation training, anger management, depression causes and treatments, personal growth and self-esteem exploration, and guided discussions provided specifically to increase self-awareness and to create a network of support. A recorded life story is provided to demonstrate actual life experience with the stages of adjustment, which are trauma, shock, mourning, and depression.

Kara, a program graduate, said "I don't feel so alone anymore." Kara's blindness is almost total and her adjustment process has been complicated by gradual losses over the years. Her self-esteem and mental health are affected by her vision loss and the isolation she experiences because of it, combined with being a widow and living alone. Kara came into the program when the pandemic intensified all of these feelings. By the end of the program, she demonstrated improvement despite her loneliness and isolation. And she knows she can reach out when she feels low or anxious and that there is no shame in asking for help.

Adjustment to Vision Loss is provided at no cost to our clients thanks to the generosity of our donors. In Pasco County, the program is funded in part by a U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Community Development Block Grant from Pasco County Board of County Commissioners, administered by the Community Development Department.

The mission of LVIB is to educate, empower, and employ people who are visually impaired and blind. To meet our mission, we provide residents of Pasco, Hernando and Citrus Counties with no-cost vision rehabilitation and opportunities to maintain and increase independence. To learn more about the Adjustment to Vision Loss Program, call Nancy Branciforte at 727-815-0303. To learn more about the Lighthouse, visit www.lvib.org.

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GFWC Essay Contest



Student Essay Contest Winners with members Cheryl Winegar and Linda Buzzee (in green shirts)

GFWC Lutz-Land O'Lakes Woman's Club recently sponsored an Essay Contest for fifth graders at Lutz Elementary School to encourage and reward students' writing skills.

Members of the club's education committee, Cheryl Winegar and Linda Buzzee, announced the winners of the contest and awarded the 1st Prize of a \$100 Barnes & Noble gift card,

2nd Prize a \$50 gift card and two 3rd Prizes of \$25 gift cards. Two additional students were awarded Honorable Mention Certificates. The Woman's Club congratulates all the winners and encourages them to continue honing their reading and writing skills.

For more information on this very active community service organization, please visit gfwlutzlandolakeswomansclub.org or its Facebook page.

GFWC Provides New Comforters for Local ALF



GFWC Lutz-Land O'Lakes Woman's Club members worked for over a year on a project to furnish each of the 100 residents of the Angels Senior Living ALF in Tampa, with a fresh, brand-new comforter for their rooms in a choice of several colors.

The club women worked hard to secure a Walmart grant for part of the required funds and the club provided the balance. The green

shirt ladies delivered and distributed these comforters to the residents who were absolutely delighted by this very generous gesture and several were even moved to tears in gratitude. Afterwards the club provided a treat of ice cream sandwiches for all to enjoy while socializing with these seniors.

Mitre Donates to Liberty Manor



Mitre Corporation of Tampa rallied together with their staff to donate gift certificates and many items that showered the veterans at Liberty Manor for Veterans. Mitre is a non-profit corporation that focuses on cybersecurity and AI to defense, transportation, health, and more, they pair deep expertise with objective insights to tackle whole-of-nation challenges. The MITRE corporation touch your life every day, their research, prototypes, and partnerships result in safer skies, more secure networks, broader access to healthcare, groundbreaking defense and homeland security technologies, and more. The corporation is an independent, leading technology and research and development (R&D) company. Mitre's breakthroughs and systems thinking make the world a safer place—and have for 60+ years.

They deliver impact through the federally funded R&D centers and operate, MITRE Labs, their independent R&D program, public-private partnerships, and their tech foundation. Mitre brings government, industry, and academia together to tackle big societal challenges, from pandemic response to highway safety to social justice. Mitre's impact is through federally funded R&D centers, labs, independent research, strategic partnerships, and tech foundation, Mitre pioneers for a better future. Every year the Mitre corporation volunteers thousands of hours in our community.

The mission of Liberty Manor for Veterans; Inc. is to promote the developmental and social needs of disabled and honorably discharged veterans who have fallen victim to homelessness providing transitional; supported housing and establishing objectives designed to attribute to self-sufficiency. Anyone interested in assisting this meritorious initiative please contact Connie Lindsay (813) 900-9422, or Liberty Manor for Veterans (a 501c3 non profit organization), website <http://www.libertymanor.org>, 10015 N 9th Street Tampa, FL 33612; or the mailing address P.O. Box 274081 Tampa, FL 33688-4081. Veterans are certainly worthy of our help. EIN #02-0775720.

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Get your Smile on!
Think about this:

- * Many folks want to serve God, but only as an adviser.
- * 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 something to sing about and something you can dance to.

AVAILABLE NOW!

I heard about this elderly lady. She was at the store and accidentally locked her keys in the car. She had a coat hanger and she was trying and trying but she couldn't get it open, so she prayed and asked God to help her. About that time, this guy pulls up on a motorcycle, rough-looking dressed in leather tattoos and a skullcap. Fifteen seconds later, he had the car open. She hugged him and said, "Lord, thank you for sending me this nice man. He said to the lady, "I'm not a nice man, I just got out of prison for auto theft. She hugged him again and said, "Lord, thank you, you even sent me a professional."
"Say it like you mean it." Joel Osteen

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Yesterday is history,
Tomorrow is a mystery,
Today is a gift. That's why it's called the present!

The Serralles Group: Giving Homeowners Hope

By Karen McBride



Eddie Serralles is a third generation Tampa native. He inherited not only his strong Italian roots, but also his entrepreneurial spirit from his family tree. His great grandfather was one of the founders of the Italian Club. His other grandfather was the owner of a cigar company, Josefina Cigars.

It wasn't until his father started a title company, that God placed it in Eddie's heart to enter the real estate world. So, when Eddie was 18, he got his real estate license. At 19, he got his brokers' license. By 25, he added a degree in architectural engineering and construction and became licensed in contracting.

In 1997, with his all-encompassing real estate education and licensing, he started The Serralles Group. It is now a one-stop shop - real estate, mortgage brokerage, and construction company. With his love of the real estate world and the desire to help future real estate agents, he began offering free training classes on the technique of buying and selling real estate.

"I wanted to give back and educate people for free," said Eddie. "It's an earn while you learn program and it's a proven system."

In the class, students will learn the tools for buying and selling commercial, residential, vacant land real estate, and more. Classes are held on Tuesday evenings. The fundamentals are covered to get the new agent started and students are invited to return as often as necessary. There is no charge for the classes. Students will learn the art of appointment setting. Before placing a call, a real estate agent needs to be prepared. A great deal of research needs to be done before the first phone call is made.

At the end of class, each student is provided with a list of twenty-five leads. The student is then responsible for doing the research prior to making a call to educate themselves on the homeowner's current situation to best determine how to help them.

"It's like a real estate gym. We give you the tools. But, if you don't do the work, you don't get the results."

Many of the sellers are people in financial trouble and don't know where to turn. They need the help from a mortgage real estate expert. That's where The Serralles Group can help. If the client doesn't get help, they risk losing their homes or businesses to the banks. Serralles Group gives them hope and offers them possibilities.

For more information, go to <https://www.serrallesgroup.com> or call 813.307.0007.



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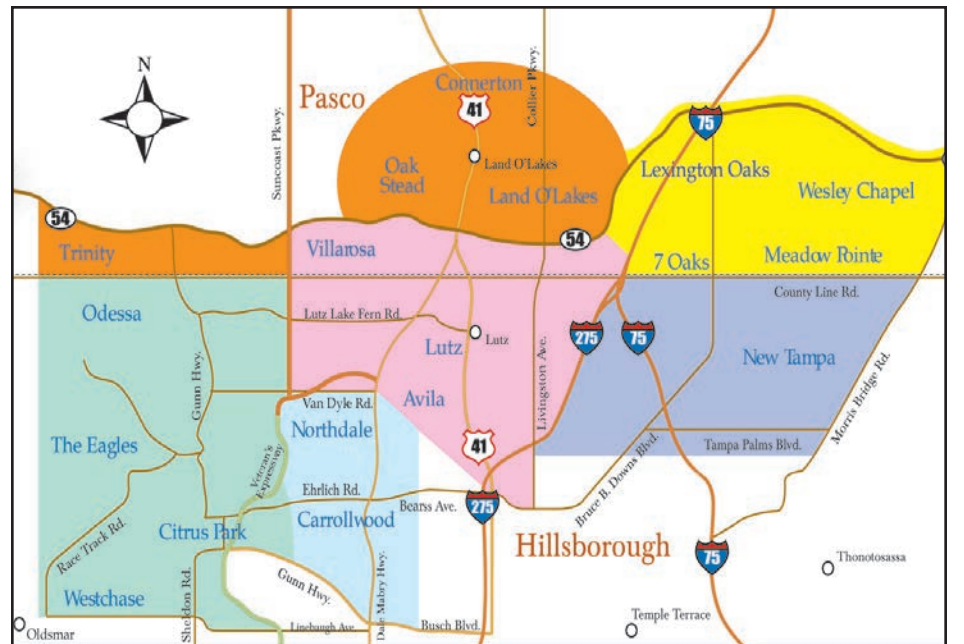


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In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. "The Big Bang" Genesis 1:3 "Let there be light..."

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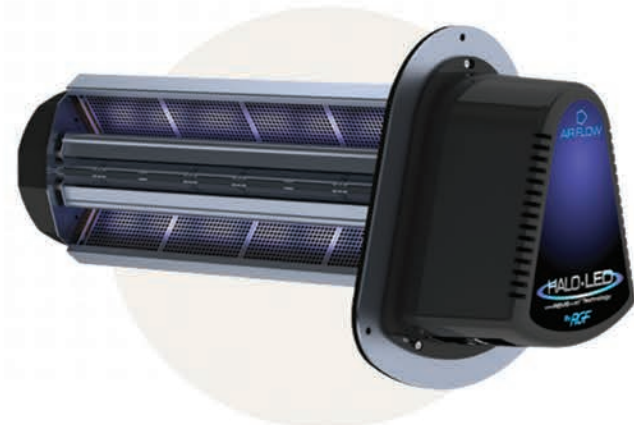


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