Holocaust survivor shares story of hardship, loss, then hope

By SABRINA ALDRIDGE
Contributing Writer

Holocaust survivor George Lucius Salton lived through 10 concentration camps, the deaths of his mother and father to the Nazis and the still unknown fate of his brother—whom he hasn’t heard from the still unknown fate of his brother—whom he hasn’t heard from since the last time they saw each other.

On Nov. 1, Salton shared his experiences with the USFSP community. Salton was 14 years old when German soldiers took over his small town in Poland. He said the Germans made it “legal and official” that Jews were considered “less than fully human.” He described the Jews as “people with dreams and loves who were sent to prison, forbidden to work or go to school. They were executed for no reason, with no investigation.”

“Within months of the occupation, this challenged my fundamental beliefs of human beings,” Salton said.

The town’s synagogue was vandalized and copies of the Torah were burned in the street. Devoid of reason, German soldiers shot and killed Jews in plain sight.

“Resistance was suicide,” he said. The German soldiers forced all Jews to live in crowded ghettos, only allowing them to bring valuables they could carry.

The rule of the ghetto: any Jews caught outside the gates would be shot on site.

Life continued as normal outside the ghetto. People worked and went to the movies. Inside the ghettos, starvation was part of daily life. People spent every day wondering what would happen next.

One day the Germans shipped Jews to work on an SS farm in Ukraine. Salton’s parents were sent by train along with thousands of others whom were not seen as “young and fit” to remain behind to work for German companies. Those trains never made it to that Ukraine farm. Instead, they were on a death march.

Salton teared up while sharing the last moments he spent with his mother and father. Upon saying goodbye, his mother said to him, “If you have to grow up without me, promise me that you’ll grow up to be a good person,” he said.

Salton and his parents again. Not long after, he and his brother were separated. He said he felt “forgotten and forsaken” and what sustained him was that he “lived until tomorrow.”

After three years, something unexpected happened—a “wonderful surprise,” he said. After a train failed to show up to take his group to the death march, they returned to camp.

“If you have to grow up without me, promise me that you’ll grow up to be a good person,” he said.

And then there was one

History majors Laura Duvekot and Joshua Paletti vote for Student Government senatorial candidates during the second and final day of the midterm election on Nov. 1. The election filled 19 of the 20 open seats. Student participation exceeded both the previous midterm and general elections with 369 votes tallied, versus 238 and 306, respectively.

Students petition concern about RHO changes

By TAYLOR GAUDENS and ANTHONY PATTERSON
Life Editor and Contributing Writer

The removal of the front desk in Residence Hall One has raised safety concerns and a group of students who oppose the change started a petition. They want their voices heard.

Residents Kelly Miyar, Juliet Morales and Meghan Habuda are petitioning the change, set to happen on Nov. 28. Morales started the petition immediately after she learned the news at a mandatory floor meeting on Oct. 25. The petition is online and in hardcopy and they hope it will help them gain more support.

Morales said she started the petition because she is concerned about safety and wanted to know if others feel the same way. The removal of the desk means no one will monitor who enters and exits the building, even though the RAs and SAs are not security.

“Some of the RAs are pushing the responsibility to the residents to see who is coming in and out [of the building],” Morales said.

Residents’ student identification cards are activated to open the front door of RHO and the courtyard entrance. RAs and SAs were able to open the door from the front desk computer if a student did not have his or her identification.

Within the past year, the policy for checking visitors in with the front desk has changed. Visitors are no longer required to leave their identification cards at the desk but visitors are still only supposed to stay three days, according to Habuda.

“The front desk gives most residents a sense of protection and safety and that is a good feeling to have,” Morales said. “We have already had one instance where someone came in the dorms armed. Who knows what could have happened if someone at the front desk hadn’t called for help.”

“The biggest concern that the residents have is that this change compromises their safety and sense of security,” said resident assistant Arienne Milkles. She feels the change is unnecessary. “If this change has to be made it should have been made at the beginning of a new contract year so that the residents would know what they were getting into when they signed the contract.”

Habuda thinks this is an issue for all USFSP students. She said she understands that it may be an unavoidable change, but she is concerned that such a change was announced with little warning.

“Nov. 28 isn’t too far into the future,” she said.

Want to join The Crow’s Nest? Come to staff meetings, Mondays at 5 p.m. outside PRW 108.
Cellphones: The New Swiss army knife

By JANE McNINIS
Contributing Writer

Instant news from social media and contextualized news from traditional media were discussed with a group of 16 African journalists who visited in conjunction with the Edward R. Murrow Program on Nov. 3.

Monica Ancu and Paul Wang, professors in the Department of Journalism & Media Studies, presented at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library to mostly journalism graduate students.

Ancu and Wang discussed mobile journalists, or “mojos,” whose news crew is a pocket-sized smartphone.

Ancu said the cellphone has become the “Swiss army knife of reporting,” noting all the applications available for use, such as video cameras, voice recording and note-taking abilities.

“The appeal of the story is being uploaded immediately,” Ancu said.

The only quality of social news is its immediacy,“ he said.

Rademeyer had little hesitation stressing his concern for news losing the quality of context without answers to fundamental questions.

Ancu and Wang showed video examples of citizen journalism beating media organizations to the punch, gathering authentic video for public consumption. In addition to the mobility and immediacy of a smartphone, websites such as Ustream.com and Qik.com allow users to stream live video from their phones.

Media organizations such as California’s Sacramento Bee used Qik.com as early as 2008 to provide live footage of protests during the Olympic torch procession directly from a cellphone. Use of a smartphone drastically cuts production cost.

Seniors and journalists gathered in the library for a talk on the changing journalism industry.

Cesar Lagaro, mass communications major, was called on from his seat in the audience, saying big media outlets ignored the early protests of Occupy Wall Street.

Lagaro believes event coverage by citizens acted as wake-up call to media organizations.

“If it hadn’t been for cellphones and citizen journalists, it might have … kept being ignored from the big movement that it is,” Lagaro said.

Tony Silvia, journalism and media studies professor, commented from the audience, acknowledging that someone’s first contact with news isn’t the only contact.

Media research in America has suggested that after being informed by social media, people refer, ironically, back to traditional media, Silvia said.

“It actually brings people back to trusting credible journalistic sources,” he said.

While smartphones may not outsource journalists in the hands of citizens, many agreed the devices empower the community along with journalists.

No set signature goal

PETITION, continued from front page

The front desk workers will be relocated to working in the mailroom of the hall. The mailroom is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 24 hours on Saturday and Sunday.

The front desk workers will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and a decision like this is being made lacking compassion and concern for student safety or opinion,” Habuda said.

The only way we will stop fighting for the cause is if RHO decides to put some form of security in RHO during the night hours,” Miyar said.

The front desk workers will be relocated to working in the mailroom of the hall. The mailroom is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and a significant change from the hours most desk workers are able to work.

The online petition has 60 digital signatures from students, residents and parents. They plan to continue raising awareness and were shocked at the support they found.

“I honestly didn’t expect to get 45 signatures or a great deal of comments on the [Facebook] post within a single day,” Habuda said.

“Juliet and I didn’t really have a signature goal. We only posted it online to better spread the word to the student body.” Miyar expects to continue the petition until the issue is resolved. She does not think having police officers routinely check the building is enough.

“Students are scared to know a huge decision like this is being made lacking compassion and concern for student safety or opinion,” Habuda said.

“The only way we will stop fighting for the cause is if RHO decides to put some form of security in RHO during the night hours,” Miyar said.

Habuda and Morales will meet with RHO Housing Director Heath Kilians on Nov. 8. to discuss the reason behind the changes.

“The residents make up this RHO, we are the ones who have to live here all semester,” Morales said.

RHO opened in 2006 and houses more than 300 students every semester. Currently, the resident assistants and student assistants operate the desk from 4 p.m. to 9 a.m. Monday through Friday, and 24 hours on Saturday and Sunday.

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CORRECTION

In the Monday, Oct. 10 story “Late-night room checks upset students in RHO,” Assistant Director of Residence Life and Housing Heather Klisanin’s name was misspelled. The Crow’s Nest regrets the mistake.

Resilience to live

SALTON, continued from front page

They then heard a stampede and saw American soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division. They were liberated. The war ended five days later.

“A country that was civilized and created an industrial program to murder millions of people,” Salton said. “Ordinary men spent their working hours killing other people’s children.”

Salton said it is a scar on the fabric of human culture.

He moved to the U.S. at age 17 with a fifth grade education. He held himself to the promise he made to his mother. He went on to college, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in physics and a master’s degree in electrical engineering. He now says “life is great, life is wonderful.”

“My story was sad, but I was impressed with his resilience to live with love and not hate,” said Jaclyn Cayavec, junior journalism major.


Petition

PETITION, continued from front page

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Outside learning

By CHRISTOPHER GUINN
Contributing Writer

Beyond the table piled high with baked delectables—peach cobbler, coffee cake, whole wheat scones and homemade pumpkin muffins with cream cheese—students were learning to connect the abstract causes from public policy to the concrete effects in the community.

Students from Professor Dawn McLauchlan’s Gender and Crime course organized a bake sale and a clothing drive to support CASA, an organization dedicated to preventing domestic abuse and providing funding for women’s shelters nationwide. Education through doing is part of a method of learning called citizen scholarship, which is gaining traction as a better way to engage students.

Citizen scholarship “get(s) students out of the classroom and into the community,” said Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, founding director of the Center for Civic Engagement. During the fall 2011 semester, 28 percent of courses at USFSP, 60 in total, have a civic engagement component. The center’s mission since its founding in 2006 is for “every student that comes to USFSP to take at least one citizen scholar course,” McLauchlan said.

“I am a huge proponent of experiential learning,” she said.

McLauchlan, a political science professor, directs the “Road to the White House” course, where students spend a semester working for a presidential primary campaign. The walls of her office are covered in mementos from her citizen scholar programs—a photo covered in thank-you notes of USF students shaking hands with President Bill Clinton, a shot of her sharing the stage with Bill and Hillary Clinton in the Rose Garden, and a photo from inside the Oval Office.

“When you’re out there in the field … you can put what you’re learning into practice,” she said. “There is no substitute for that.”

The citizen scholar program grew from McLauchlan’s experiences in the classroom. When she taught American National Government, a required class, she first taught it as a typical lecture class. It was difficult, however, to get students to connect to the material. When she required a campaign internship as part of the course material, the students’ reactions were “remarkable,” she said.

“The experience … dramatically increased the students’ interest in participating in government and their willingness to take an active role as citizens,” she wrote in the paper “Learning Citizenship by Doing,” which documented her experience.

“Too often education occurs in the bubble of the classroom and here, especially since we are an urban campus, you have so many resources in the surrounding community to learn from and contribute to,” said Cecil, whose students raised almost $200 from their bake sale and filled over a dozen plastic bags with donated clothing.

Cecil uses her service-learning component to show students not only the problems of women caught in the criminal justice system, but to show the cause and effect that leads to incarceration.

“Since women commit fewer crimes than men, there are fewer resources dedicated to their incarceration. Women’s prisons tend to be further from their home and have fewer quality of life and personal betterment programs, but things are starting to change a little bit,” Cecil said.

As a result of women’s shelters, there are fewer partner homicides, she said, a trend that has shown itself in the last 10 to 15 years. Women now have ways to escape from bad situations.

For women, “victimization and conviction are tied together,” she said. Female offenders are very likely to have been victims of abuse. Civic engagement projects in the classroom also have other benefits. As a result of students working with organizations in the surrounding community, students spend a semester working with the victimization of women CASA helps prevent.” Thigpen said.

St. Petersburg Mayor Bill Foster talked about the trials of working with city council and the difficulty of municipal level government to a group of students as guest of Leader Speak Oct. 27 in Davis Hall.

“We have to interface with everybody above us because we are the lowest of the low on the totem poll,” Foster said about city government.

He spoke without using microphone or podium, projecting to the audience.

“We are here where every other government gets to kick the can … Where am I going to kick the can? I can’t. So we have to deal with it,” he said.

Foster said national problems roll down to municipalities. He used mental health funding as an example. If federal government and state don’t mandate mental health, those patients are left to fend for themselves, he said. In most cases, they don’t have the social skills for getting a job or a means of income, he said.

“Where are they going to sleep?” he asked. “On the street.”

Working on St. Petersburg’s social issues must be done in concert with the county, state and federal levels, he said. Safe Harbor, for example, a homeless shelter in Pinellas County, opened after collaboration efforts of city and local government in January of this year.

Foster was elected in 2009 as mayor of St. Petersburg after serving as a city council member for nine years.

He explained that St. Petersburg works under the strong mayor system. The system makes mayor the chief executive and finance officer of the city, sans city manager. The mayor is responsible for running day-to-day operations of the city.

An eight-member council holds the power of policy-making and city budget approvals, among others.

His ideas need approval by council, and take a lot of time, Foster said.

“I have to convince five of them that whatever it is I’m proposing we’re spending your money on is a good idea,” Foster said. Foster recognized he’s playing hard with the organization, but for good reason.

“We—when I say ‘we’ I mean you guys—still owe $90 million on the house that we built for them,” he said of Tropicana Field, which opened five years before the organization was signed to the area.

Foster also brought up the use-agreement between the organization and the city that extends to 2027.

While the Rays may be a regional asset, Foster says he isn’t a regional mayor, and the region didn’t pay for Tropicana Field.

An audience member inquired about the Pier redevelopment. Both the Pier and the inverted pyramid will be torn down, he said. The Pier was built in the early 1920s, and has little structural integrity. The inverted pyramid has proved too challenging to keep tenants, he said.

Three designs from international competitors will be see FOSTER, page 6
By SABRINA ALDRIDGE  Contributing Writer


Mathee called the 100 trillion cells which make up the building blocks of the human the “magic of life.” Mathee is associate professor and chair of the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at Florida International University.

“If you take and stretch just one cell end-to-end it will stretch to be six feet long,” she said.

Cortada was inspired to “bring a molecular vision to life” so he teamed up with Mathee to create an art piece of a DNA molecule. Cortada first sketched the image of DNA with charcoal and cut it into 400 pieces.

“Four hundred participants each received a postcard, and by touching this postcard they gave over their DNA in exchange for one of the 400 cut-up pieces,” he said.

They then assembled them along a wall, to create a visual of DNA. Cortada and Mathee were then able to sequence the participant’s DNA.

Cortada called Sequentia “a collaborative engagement of art.” He announced plans to deliver an art piece at USFSP. With the help of graphic design students Malley Moyer and Kristine Richard-son, they will create Sequentia III: A USFSP event. They will conduct “a collaborative engagement of art to figure out what sequence the 400 members generate,” he said. The art experiment will run from Nov. 14 to Nov. 19.

In another piece of art, “The Four Nucleotides,” Cortada created portraits of the four bases of DNA—adenine, cytosine, guanine and thymine.

“These bases make up all we are, have been and will ever be,” he said. “The art exhibit was created to make you think and act.”

Cortada said he wanted to “change the way we see ourselves via DNA.” Mathee described Cortada’s art looking at “what it means for evolution and life, in an artistic way.”

Demetrios Kiriopoulos, a senior bio medical science major said the event was “intellectually enhancing.”

Dr. Leon Hardy, professor of physics, mathematics, and statistics, said this century is an exciting time to be alive.

“It’s going to be the century of biology,” he said.

The next Genome event, “Finding the Human in the Genome,” will take place Thursday, Nov. 10. The reception is at 6 p.m., with the lecture at 7 p.m. in the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

The art of DNA

Real-life zombie game infects campus

By AMANDA STARLING  Contributing Writer

A zombie apocalypse has arrived on campus. On Monday, Nov. 7, humans and “zombies” will launch a battle in a game hosted by students. Freshman Scott Mange organized a group to gather and play for seven days to see who will survive.

According to humansvszombies.org, the game “Humans vs. Zombies” began at Groucher College in 2006, where a group of students formed the rules. Since then, the clash of the living and the dead has spread to over 650 colleges through social networking.

Students arm themselves with Nerf guns or balled up pairs of socks (to stun zombies for 15 minutes) and a bandana, to signify whether they have been infected—bandanas on the arm means human, around the head is zombie.

To determine the first zombie, students draw an index card at random. The card with a green sticker marks the first zombie. The final battle will take place on the Intramural Field on the seventh day, where zombies can be killed with the socks and Nerf darts.

Mange was inspired by a game at USF Tampa and said he wanted to bring the event to USFSP.

“I feel like our campus has real potential to make a great game,” Mange said. “I know how much potential to make a great game,” Mange said. “I know how much fun the students here can have.”

The game will remain open to all interested students. On Nov. 7, meetings will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and again from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the fourth floor of Residence Hall One to draw cards.

“The more people there are the more exciting it is,” Mange said. For more information, visit the Facebook page “Campus Wide Humans vs. Zombies Tag.”

The Crow’s Nest. For more information about print and online advertising options, please email advertising@crowsneststpete.com

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Students take political journey in spring 2012 class

BY AMANDA PRETULAC
Arts Editor

In spring 2012 students will have the opportunity to get hands-on experience with presidential campaigns by registering for The Road to the White House course, POS 3931, taught by Professor Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan. The class will offer more than traditional lessons from a textbook.

“This is a course about the history and politics of presidential campaigns and it includes a presidential campaign internship,” McLauchlan said. “We mix the actual hands-on campaign experience with the framework of a course with scholarly readings about various campaigns.”

In the past, this course has taken students to New Hampshire for their campaign internships.

“This year we’re going to do something different,” McLauchlan said. “We’re still going to include a significant campaign internship, but this time it’s going to be in Florida.”

“I would like to see students over in Tampa for the Republican National Convention,” she said. Florida is always important in the general election. We’re a major battleground state.”

She also hopes students will get involved with the Obama state-wide headquarters located in Tampa.

“All eyes are going to be on Florida, and our students are going to be right in the heart of what’s going on,” McLauchlan said.

McLauchlan will help her students pick the proper internship that fits their political ideals.

“I’ll make sure everyone has a job that will give them experience and that will be a good learning opportunity regardless of where they’re coming from politically,” McLauchlan said.

Students may decide on a candidate using the appendix of the syllabus, which will include all the campaigns with contact information and websites. This information will also be available on the course website, www.usfsp.edu/whitehouse.

Besides completing hours with their assigned internships, students will be expected to keep a journal about their experiences, and complete papers, like one on their findings on a presidential campaign of their choice. McLauchlan brings in guest speakers and incorporates Skype lectures to allow for her students to get the most out of the course.

With the 2012 presidential election heating up, McLauchlan wants her students to have the best learning opportunity possible. She incorporates the internship into the course because she feels that students will gain more knowledge than from just reading the textbook and listening to lectures.

McLauchlan has worked on six presidential campaigns, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the White House.

Through this course “[students] are not just going to see the news, they’re going to really be the news, be living the news,” she said.

McLauchlan may be contacted at jsm2@usfsp.edu for additional information on the course.

THE ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE
CRN: 24506
SUBJECT AND COURSE NUMBER: POS 3931
SECTION: 601
TITLE: The Road to the White House
CREDITS: 3
SEATS: 22
DAYS: Tuesday/Thursday
TIME: 11 a.m - 12:25 p.m.
BUILDING: Davis
ROOM: 250
INSTRUCTOR: Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan
Her experience includes:
- six presidential campaigns
- U.S. Supreme Court
- White House

MORE INFORMATION:
Course Website: www.usfsp.edu/whitehouse

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Arts & Life | 5

The Florida Orchestra Upcoming Concerts

St. Petersburg Times Masterworks

Beethoven’s Violin Concerto

Hailed by The Washington Post as having “talent that’s off the scale,” Stefan Jackiw performs Beethoven’s Violin Concerto with its glorious blend of beauty, elegance and bravura...in stark contrast to Prokofiev’s elegy to the losses of war in his Symphony No. 6. Stefan Sanderling conducts.

Nov 11 - 13

Raymond James Pops

The One & Only Frank Sinatra

Get into the swing of things with a tribute to the velvet voice of Frank Sinatra and the dance band sounds of Tommy Dorsey with such signature hits as Come Fly with Me, The Best is Yet to Come, I’ve Got You Under My Skin, Fly Me to the Moon, and New York, New York. Jeff Tyzik conducts.

Nov 25 - 27

Student Tickets Only $10

Students, teachers and education staff can purchase $10 tickets with a valid school I.D. Limit two tickets per concert. Some restrictions apply. Tickets may be purchased through The Florida Orchestra Ticket Center. Call 727.892.3337.

For more information call: 1-800-662-7286
Or visit: www.FloridaOrchestra.org

Clay Elefunko, Principal Flute © Thomas Bruce Studio
Battles rage in St. Petersburg over Kerouac legacy

By JON TALLON
Contributing Writer

Late in the evening of Oct. 19, 1969, the “King of the Beats,” Jack Kerouac, began vomiting blood after drinking and watching television all day at his home at 5169 10th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg. Several hours of surgery and 15 liters of blood later, he succumbed to massive hemorrhaging brought on by years of hard drinking.

Kerouac’s third wife, Stella Sampas, was not allowed to be with him in the recovery room, and the author died alone at 5:45 a.m. on Oct. 21, 1969. The St. Petersburg Times quoted Stella, saying Kerouac “died a very lonely man.”

Kerouac’s mother Gabrielle’s full-grocery bag, which by appearances looked like the repository of all his worldly possessions.

But when Gabrielle Kerouac passed away in 1973, her will indicated that the entire estate would go to Stella—news that shocked Kerouac’s remaining blood relatives, his daughter, Jan, and his nephew, Paul Blake Jr.

The Sampas family insisted the letter itself was a forgery, and legal documentation and fighting a lengthy and difficult process.

In 1994, after Jan Kerouac first noticed the misspelling on Gabrielle’s will, she took a trip to Florida to interview the surviving witness to the will and filed a lawsuit. Blake was missing at that time and could not join her. Before the case made it to court, Jan died from kidney failure in 1996.

Following Jan’s death, Blake was the only known surviving Kerouac blood relative. He pressed forward with the forgery case. Blake was often homeless during this time, struggling with alcoholism and poverty.

Despite these obstacles, the ruling in July 2009 by Judge George W. Greer in the sixth Judicial Circuit Court in Tampa, Fla., declared that the original will was not signed by Gabrielle Kerouac, and was therefore a forgery.

The royalties from Kerouac’s books, which generate a good income, continue to go to the Sampas family. “On the Road” alone sells upward of 60,000 copies a year.

Legal experts predict Blake may be entitled to a third of what is left of the Kerouac estate, but fighting the loopholes in the convoluted legal documentation and fighting the Sampas family could prove a lengthy and difficult process.

See an extended version of this article online at www.crowsneststpete.com.

arts@crowsneststpete.com

Food trucks a possibility

FOSTER, continued from page 3

lected by jury and displayed to the public at the Museum of History as soon as December, he said. With public dialogue in the mix, the jury will decide on the winning design in January.

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editorial

St. Petersburg Times name change was long time coming

Newspaper focuses more on Tampa, less on St. Petersburg

What’s in a name?

Some names represent 110 years of top-tier news and features stories, historical ties to some of the great- est figures in journalism, and eight Pulitzer Prizes. They embody the blood, tears and sweat earned under the Florida sun chasing dirty secrets about topics such as the Church of Scientology, the Florida Turnpike Authority and three murdered women found floating in Tampa Bay.

Others represent droll jabs at competition and cheap attempts to win fans.

On Nov. 1, Paul Tash, chairman and CEO of the Times Publishing Co., announced that The St. Petersburg Times would change its name to become The Tampa Bay Times, effective New Year’s Day. Tash said the name “reflects the growth of our newspaper and our vision for this region.” Since The St. Petersburg Times covers Hillsborough and Pasco counties and all of the towns and cities they contain, Tash said it only makes sense to change the name to reflect that coverage.

Many see the change as a bold attempt to push The Tampa Tribune toward bankruptcy. With billboards with the message “Tampa Bay’s Best Newspaper” plastered across the area, and both paper’s circulation numbers posted side-by-side on its website, the Times makes no qualms about that goal.

St. Petersburg residents are bitter about the change—and rightfully so. The paper has spent more time focusing on Tampa in recent years, and St. Petersburg has seen decreased coverage. The Times has been St. Petersburg’s in name only for some time. With The Times’ recent layoffs of 6 percent of its full-time staff, and a 5-percent pay cut for all of its full-time employees, expect that problem to get worse before it gets better.

At its core, this is a whore of Akron moment. Much like basketball player LeBron James’ decision in 2010 to announce his new team on an ESPN special, The St. Petersburg Times has publically cast off the last vestiges of its soul in search of dominance. St. Petersburg’s newspaper has grown so big for its britches that it has finally and officially dropped all pretense of still being St. Petersburg’s newspaper and gone searching for a bigger revenue stream.

Whether that dwindling stream will pay dividends is a question unto itself. The Times posted a 6.6 percent Sunday circulation increase between April and September, but its daily circulation fell 1.4 percent. Newspa- per circulation is down 8.7 percent annually. The Times may experience a brief circulation increase for a year or two if the Tribune does go under, but how long will that last?

Changing the name of a newspaper to make it more regional might not even work the way Tash expects. The New York Times is a national newspaper, yet it retains its New York name. Should it become The United States Times? The World Times? The paper’s rich history makes that impossible to fathom. The same goes for The St. Petersburg Times—or at least it did, until last week.

This might prove to be a good business decision—or as good as it gets in the newspaper industry right now—but it’s terrible news for the news, especially on this side of the bridge.

stpetetimenchange.com

quotesandnotes

Quote of the week

“The marriage of poor kim kardashian was brushed like a kar in a krashian. Her kris tried, not fair! Why can’t she just get a divorce? But kardashian fell klean outa fashian.”

-Salman Rushdie, the Indian-British novelist, mocking socialite Kim Kardashian’s 72-day marriage and divorce, in a limerick, on Twitter

Throwback

Forty years ago, on Nov. 8, 1971, Led Zeppelin released “Led Zeppelin IV,” the third-best selling album ever in the U.S. It features the song “Stairway to Heaven,” which is considered by many as the best rock song ever recorded. On Nov. 7, 1991, 20 years ago, Magic Johnson announced that he was infected with HIV and retired from the NBA.

Johnson continues to live a full life as an AIDS activist with the help of antiretroviral therapy.

We want to hear from you.

The Crow’s Nest will accept and publish, in print or online, letters to the editor at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.

Letters to the editor must meet general standards for accuracy of facts and must not contain language that is offensive or libelous in nature. Anonymous letters to the editor will not be accepted for publication.

Email your submissions to editorials@crowsneststpete.com.

column

Over it:
The broke student thing

By TAYLOR GAUDENS

Life Editor

Drip, drip, drip. Plunk.

As I sit on my too-small bed, writ- ing my second and last opinion column, I hear water dripping from my bathroom ceiling and hitting my toilet. Again. I get up and move all of my beauty and hygiene products off my bathroom counter to my desk. This Thursday night I’ve housed the leak has happened once before, about a month ago. I immediately called my landlord to send someone down to fix my leaky ceiling. A week passed and no one ever showed up.

I live in a crapy apartment on the first floor of a small complex in Northeast. My rent is $575 a month for a two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment. Some might consider my apartment to be “suitable living quarters.”

It would be suitable if I didn’t have to call my landlord once or twice every few weeks because something else is broken. Or the maintenance guys neglected to fix the wall, the air conditioning and the fridge. For the fifth time, I’m over it.

I’ve over it because $750 is a lot of money for a college student. For the location and space, what my roommate and I pay is pretty decent. Most two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments in the same area cost about $900 per month. I bet residents who pay that price don’t have issues with saturated carpet and ceilings like my room- mate and I do.

I graduate in December, and all I can think about is my future liv- ing quarters. I plan to move out of the Sunshine State and live in an adventurous city, have an average 1-just-got-my-undergrad-degree salary and live in cozy one bed- room apartment with a small office space and an amazing bookstore.

I’m going to work hard for my money and hopefully I’ll live comfort- ably—realistically, of course—once I get my big girl job.

But with five weeks left until I say goodbye to my undergraduate career, my future is so near—may- be even too near. The holidays are like, tomorrow, I don’t have my big girl dream job yet, and I’m not sure how long I’ll be in this craphole. I feel like I’ve done the broke- student thing and I’m ready for the real world. I think.

Until I have to pay for health insurance.

And now the bulge of water in my ceiling is growing. I think I need to call my landlord again.
Fantasy football: Personal growth edition

By TOM CHANG
Contribution Writer

Early this week, I felt like a fantasy football analyst for the first time. A friend asked me a straightforward “this player vs. that player” question for the first time. And I dealt with the anxiety of possibly giving the wrong answer for the first time.

It’s not that I doubt my skills—my 7-1 record this season can attest to those—but I recognize there are many more qualified than I. Since my columns are restricted to printing once a week and distributed on Mondays, I am limited in the topics about which I can advise.

I write before the Sunday games, so I can never rely on those for inspiration. I try not to name specific players because whomever I mention could get injured by the time my words hit paper. Anyone could find a Yahoo! sports expert who will give you an unexpected advantage.

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I read about the Cleveland Browns veterans starting to turn on Peyton Hillis. Hillis is still hurt, so this doesn’t affect whether you are going to play him, but it’s interesting to consider.

I was a fan of Tom Withers wrote about the team being tired of his money drama. It’s bugging the players, which could change team dynamics, even with Hillis out.

Some teams leave the problems in the locker room, but lots of players bring theirs to the field. How about Randy Moss in 2010? Staying up-to-date on player drama might give you an unexpected advantage.

*If you ever encounter a scene from the movie The League*—something actually football related: keep an eye on Peyton Hillis. Hillis is still hurt, so this doesn’t affect whether you are going to play him, but it’s interesting to consider.

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