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Regional skate park finds a local home

By Caitlin Ashworth
Staff Reporter

St. Petersburg will soon become home to the one of the largest skate parks in Florida.

Set to be completed by winter 2016, the 32,000-square-foot skate park will be located at Campbell Park on Fifth Avenue South and 16th Street, just west of Brooker Creek and east of Tropicana Field.

The city council approved the $1.6 million project, financed through the Weeki Wachee Fund, the reserves used for parks and recreation activities.

“We love the fact that it is close to downtown, close to USF and close to the interstate,” said City Council member Karl Nurse, who has shown his support for local skateboarders in the past.

Nick Nicks, 40, from

Continued on p.2

Murals give city a colorful makeover

By Ivelliam Ceballo
Crow’s Nest Contributor

In an effort to amplify the city’s artful image, the SHINE Mural Festival enhanced barren exteriors with vivid and eye-catching paintings around various parts of the downtown area and along the Central Avenue Arts District.

Each day for the past two weeks local and internationally renowned artists have woken up early in the morning and left the paint scene late at night to adorn the city walls with a variety of colors and imagery that support the spirit of St. Petersburg.

The Tampa Bay area art community organized the not-for-profit public art project to revive the area, awaken dialogue and connect the community.

Well-known local artist Johnny Vitale calls it a “roaming city gallery.”

“It’s inspiring for us,” Johnny said about artists who traveled to participate in the festival. “It’s opening our eyes to taking this show on the road and not just doing it locally.”

Sixteen artists transformed the streets of downtown St. Petersburg into a gallery, using city buildings as canvases

By Ivelliam Ceballo
Crow’s Nest Contributor

The Amsterdam, a building known for its continually changing street art, showcases the SHINE community mural (above) painted by Chad Mize with the help of local students.
Compass guides first-year students

By Tamiracle Williams
CROW’S NEST CONTRIBUTOR

To help first generation college students and students from low-income households navigate through college. TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) has offered access to scholarships, peer mentoring, advising and workshops. However, TRIO’s five year grant from the Department of Education has run its course.

As of Sept. 1, TRIO’s office in Coquina 101 has become home to Compass, a program designed to provide assistance to first-time-in-college students.

Former TRIO mentor and current compass peer coach leader, Nicole Messina, a 21-year-old senior, said the programs are essentially the same.

“The difference is that every incoming freshman student is matched up with a peer coach and we serve more students than we used to,” she said. “Compass is also supporting student success through programming such as Learning Journeys and workshops.”

The official mission of the Compass program is to encourage retention among freshman students by promoting a sense of belonging and integration within the USFSP community.

Thirty-two upperclassmen currently serve as peer coaches. Their job is to help students learn more about campus programs, activities and resources.

The Compass program is run by Rebecca Woskoff, a former TRIO adviser. Woskoff is just one of several TRIO staff members transitioning to Compass.

Former TRIO Director Terrye Wilson said that while the program was ending, some services will remain for students who were in the program.

Scholarships previously received through TRIO will be renewed each year as long as students meet the criteria set for individual scholarships, which include maintaining a certain GPA or earning a minimum amount of credit hours each semester. TRIO students will still have access to Coquina 101 for free printing and a place to study.

“The students who were in TRIO SSS are still welcome to use the office and we are still here to support their academic success,” Wilson said.
Campus parking: Green may not mean “go”

By Emily Tinti
Staff Reporter

There are 1,785 parking spaces on the USF St. Petersburg premises – but students have found locating a spot consistently difficult since the start of school.

To get to morning classes on time, sophomore Jerry Cano, 19, has had to park in a neighborhood three blocks away. He usually spends 15 minutes scoping out the parking garage before leaving to find a spot elsewhere.

"People literally jam their car in a spot sideways so you can't park," said Cano. "You eventually leave and they have the spot to themselves. I paid a year parking pass for no parking at all."

Cano said the garage is unsafe and "crazy," with cars speeding while students are walking to and from their cars.

Students have also brought up the financial aspect of the issue, claiming the price of a parking permit is not worth the wait.

Level 1 of the parking garage is reserved for gold permits, which are purchased by staff for $431. Levels 2-5 are reserved for green permits which are open to commuter students (semester: $88; annual: $173) and staff (semester: $129; annual: $256). On-campus residents can only park on levels 6-7 (semester: $118; annual: $232). The motorcycle/scooter annual permits cost $58.

Students and staff can also purchase monthly permits for $49.

Shauntavius Prince, a 20-year-old junior, said she was excited to get an apartment off campus and thought commuting would be considerably cheaper, until she found out how much it cost.

"The garage is so small and if it's full, you have to park behind the waterfront area," Prince said. "But the most outrageous thing to me is the price. My car payment is $273. My car insurance is $134. I pay $3000 in tuition. And for (about) three months, parking is $88. What exactly are we paying for?"

Students are paying for parking services.

Since Florida does not offer funding for university parking programs, the Parking Services Department is considered an auxiliary, or self-supporting, entity on campus.

Purchasing and Parking Services Manager Bill Benjamin said all money generated from parking permits, citations and events goes toward the total parking revenue.

"[Funds] are paid out as an expense for permit inventory, parking construction, parking improvements, maintenance of the parking garage and surface parking lots, parking facility debt service payments, staffing and operating costs for the department," Benjamin said. After those expenditures are paid off, remaining funds are reserved for future parking needs. This includes expansion, facility construction, parking lots and improvements.

According to Benjamin, these services must be paid for with parking funds.

According to Parking Services, the university has administered approximately 2,569 parking permits to students and staff to date. Commuters account for the bulk with 1,605 permits sold. The rest consist of 369 resident, 376 non-gold staff, 204 gold staff and 15 motorcycles permits.

According to USFSP Parking Services, single day permits can be purchased in the garage at the walk-up permit machine located on the first level next to the elevators.

There is no current information from the university regarding plans to increase parking space on campus.

As per the 20/20 Strategic Plan, the university is aiming for 10,000 students in 10 years. Without swift accommodation for these additional students, the parking situation may only get worse.

Former student reflects on passing of adviser

By Moriah Parrish
Crow’s Nest Contributor

A button-down oxford with the sleeves rolled just beneath the elbow, dress slacks, running shoes, and a backpack tossed jauntily over the shoulder was his everyday work uniform.

Nothing too remarkable for a new professor, but there was an air of on-the-go youthfulness that bespoke his attitude toward his career.

Professional, but ready to dig in for the long haul when necessary. Dr. Dan Reimold was the faculty adviser to the Minaret at the University of Tampa from fall 2010 to spring 2013. I was lucky to be under his tutelage for his first year on campus. I wrote restaurant reviews and copyedited the articles on Tuesday nights when we were all assembling our publication before deadline. He attended the staff meetings, typically doing more listening than talking, offering tidbits of advice and direction here and there.

Whenever he had something to say, it was a suggestion given gently and usually with a smile. He always stayed on into the evening with us, ensuring the layout and editorial for the week were good to go before calling it a night, often until midnight or 1:00 a.m. Many were the jokes he and I personally shared, getting slap-happy as the night wore on. He made the tedious work of editing better, just with his presence and laugh.

These are the lasting impressions I have of the professor who passed on all too soon. I was shocked and dismayed to hear of his death on Aug. 21. He was 34 years old.

He had many accolades to speak of, even with a life cut so short. He was a Fulbright scholar, and his first teaching job was at a school in Singapore. Dr. Reimold loved to travel, and his seminars took him all over the U.S., Iraq, Senegal and Malaysia. In addition to his first scholarly work on sex columns in student-run press, he also published a textbook for journalism students in the spring of 2013. Its chief design and focus is to aid students in coming up with creative and fresh story ideas, and has been hailed as an essential tool for 21st-century J-school attendees.

He contributed to USA Today, the Tampa Bay Times and the Poynter Institute, to name a few. I would venture, however, that his most vibrant and well-known publication was the blog he maintained for the Associated Collegiate Press, "College Media Matters." I asked him about it once, and yes, it was always meant as a double entendre.

He spotlighted, questioned and celebrated issues pertaining to collegiate-level media. In doing so, though, he emphasized an important outlet for a large group of people.

What college students wanted to write about, and making sure they had the opportunities and resources to do it, mattered.

It shaped careers and lives across the country, and it behooved the general population to pay attention. This was his stance. His colleagues, especially in light of his recent death, agree that no one in the field of journalism had a dedication to the field.

Dr. Reimold relentlessly researched and posted issues pertaining to student media outlets across the nation. He averaged one to two posts a week, four seasons a year. He created podcasts, discussion threads and held seminars from the platform of this blog, all in pursuit of aiding students to push for inventive ideas. Truly, the word passionate was defined by his dedication to the field.

I have yet to read an announcement from ACP stating whether or not the blog will be continued, and if so, by who. Rest assured, however, those will be some big sneakers to fill. A passion like Dr. Reimold’s is rarely found in this age of limitless distractions.

Because it would make him laugh to know this is the last and least important information in this article, I end with this: His favorite candy, bar none, were Kit-Kats.

Visit Dr. Reimold’s blog at collegemediamatters.com

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Brewing Arts program serves students information by the pint

By Sean LeRoux
Staff Reporter

It isn’t quite a full-blown bachelor’s degree program yet, but USF St. Petersburg is now offering a certificate program in brewing arts. Yes, students can actually go to school to make their own beer now.

After recognizing the level of impact the craft beer industry has already had on the Bay area’s economy, the USFSP College of Arts and Sciences reached out to seven local breweries and got to work. According to a study by the Brewers Guild of Florida, as of 2013, combined direct and indirect economic impact from the industry was estimated at $432 million. The study suggests that before long, there may be as many as 500 breweries in the area. The estimated total impact? Upwards of $2.5 billion.

The program is both online and hands-on, providing students with the unique opportunity to work closely with the local breweries that chose to collaborate with the university.

According to the course description, the Brewing Arts Program will provide students with the foundational knowledge and hands-on training for a successful career in the fast growing industry of craft brewing. In addition to learning brewing processes, students will participate and practice in one of the breweries’ laboratories. Although the course certainly seems more oriented toward the career-minded brewing enthusiast, the site claims that those pursuing brewing as a weekend hobby are certainly still members of the target audience. However, the program’s hefty $5,000 price tag and six required textbooks don’t exactly welcome the less serious brewing student with open arms.

“You’re paying five grand for it, so this course isn’t really meant for the casual brewer,” said Jim Kensinger, 52, a longtime Tavern employee. “It’s for people who take brewing seriously, not the guy who wants to brew at home on the weekends.”

According to Kensinger, the Tavern at Bayboro will assist with the marketing side of the program, which helps students understand the proper steps to take once their own brews have been completed and packaged.

The course’s curriculum is all inclusive. It begins with the archaeology and indigenous knowledge of brewing and ending with a lesson on how to successfully start your own brewery; the lesson plan comes off as clear and well-defined. Along the way, students will also learn about ingredient selection, sanitation, safety procedures, quality control and packaging.

The course will conclude with each student brewing their own personal batch of craft beer and a “friendly taste competition” at the graduation ceremony. With the brewing, management and marketing knowledge these students will take away from the program, there could be some alumni-owned breweries popping up in the near future.

In 2014, Florida ranked No. 5 in the country for the amount of breweries opened that year, according to a study by the University of Florida.

**ARTISTS WHO HAVE ALSO MADE THEIR MARK:**

- Bask // Edge District // 1120 1st Ave. N
- Ya’ Laford // The Ray’s Tunnel // 1399 Central Ave.
- 123Klan // Techno-solis // 301 20th St S
- Evoca1 // Furnish me vintage // 1246 Central Ave.
- Pep Rally Inc. // Ricky P’s Orleans Bistro // 1113 Central Ave
- Hitnes // U-Haul // 975 2nd Ave S
- Greg Mike // Goldman Wetzel // 915 1st Ave N
- Shark Tool // The State Theatre // 687 Central Ave
- Ricky Watts // The Sage // 600 1st Ave N

**MICHAEL VASQUEZ AND HOXXOH**

Grand Central District - 2260 1st Ave. S.

Best known for his urban and street culture focus, St. Petersburg native Michael Vasquez collaborated with Hoxxoh on “Let’s Go Back (Fishing with Father),” a piece on the iconic inverted triangle pier that is now undergoing demolition.

See more of his work at michaelvasquez.info
Artists make the streets **SHINE**

**VITALE BROS**  
Evil Don Tattoos - 2063 Central Ave.

Known as the Vitale Brothers, Paul (left) and Johnny Vitale (right) have painted murals and signs in the community for 22 years. Before getting started on their own wall, the brothers served as the local mural crew for guest artists—providing projectors, generators and lights when needed.

As full-time dads, the Vitale Brothers were inspired by the ones they love most, creating a design based off their children.

*See more of their work at vitalebrothers.com*

**HOXXOH**  
Grand Central II - 2130 Central Ave.

The Miami-based artist Douglas Hoekzema, aka Hoxxoh, paints his vibrant pieces freehand. He "attempts to show us a different way of viewing time through a means of exploring its natural fabric."

*See more of his work at elhoxxoh.com*

**MORNING BREATH**  
Kevin Brady Studio - 2042 Central Ave.

Artists Doug Cunningham and Jason Noto started working together in San Francisco designing skateboard/snowboard graphics. Now the two are based in Brooklyn, NY, and collaborated to create Morning Breath, Inc., which has expanded their business to music packaging, apparel and advertising. They say their art is "breathing life into discarded visual ephemera from popular culture."

*See more of their work at morningbreathinc.com*

**ERIK JONES**  
Grand Central District - 2260 1st Ave. S.

St. Petersburg native Erik Jones, who attended Sarasota’s Ringling College of Art and Design, now resides in Brooklyn, NY, and paints primarily for galleries. His pieces are described as "vibrant and colorful, expressing a heightened sense of realism in his female subjects, juxtaposed with sporadic mark making and non-representational forms."

*See more of his work at erikjonesart.com*
The 2016 presidential nominees: A race of the deceitful

By Sean LeRoux
Staff Reporter

With 2016 quickly approaching, the upcoming election’s myriad of presidential hopefuls have wasted no time with mudslinging and hefty promises. With a leading line-up consisting of Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump, Bernie Sanders and Jeb Bush, there has certainly been no shortage of ammunition in this political firefight—and, unfortunately, no shortage of empty promises, useless arguments and downright lies either.

Bernie Sanders

Controlling a substantial percentage of the young progressive demographic is Bernie Sanders, a surprisingly competitive democratic candidate. Currently a Vermont senator, Sanders is known for his grassroots campaign style, the ability to attract large crowds of college students and his passion for passing off socialist ideals as liberalism. A long-time supporter of the free tuition, free healthcare and free money policy, Sanders has proven to be a successful candidate in the democratic party. His policies, drawing quite heavily from socialism, have proven to strike fear in the hearts of conservatives everywhere.

Donald Trump

On the other end of the spectrum is Donald Trump, the most outspoken, misogynistic stereotypical politician has to offer this time around. A major fan of profiting at the expense of others, condemning Central America in it’s entirety, and talking down women across the globe, Trump is certainly the most likely candidate to destroy any chance the republican party has at taking back the white house.

Hillary Clinton

Moving back to the democratic party, current frontunner and national security expert Hillary Clinton, unfortunately, cannot be ignored. Despite the recent scandal that severely threatened by the recent campaign success that Sanders, the underdog, has seen. Regardless, it is more probable than not that she will be the nominee from the democratic party. Although her social policies seem fairly solid, she’s about as skilled in the I.T. department as your senile grandmother, and a majority of her decisions will undoubtedly be made with influence from her husband, former president Bill Clinton.

Jeb Bush

Finally, we have Jeb Bush, who hopes to carry on the presidential legacy of the highly regarded Bush family. Hoping to secure his spot as the third Bush to lead our country, he brings skills to the table such as the ability to take long vacations at the family ranch, the total lack of experience in foreign policy, and the talent to somehow defend the controversial “stand your ground” law he enacted while governor of Florida. If you’re interested in a moderate republican who will carry on the family legacy of warmongering at the expense of education spending and tax cuts, and an unseaslonably soft policy on undocumented immigration, then Jeb is your go-to candidate.

So here we are again standing in the shadow of yet another heated presidential race with an impressively selective collection of the stereotypical politicians. Will this election be the one to bring about true change, or will we be stuck with another four to eight years of global conflict and national stagnation at our own expense.

Sean LeRoux, a senior majoring in mass communications, is the photo editor. He can be reached at seannlouros@gmail.com

Fight or flight drives us all

By Moriah Parrish
Crow’s Nest Contributor

“Then you have no idea how tough and determined women can be.”

I left it at that and the conversation continued. I mean, we’re all taught these Betty Crocker notions of what women are supposed to be like, what did the general population think? Do we really still have these Betty Crocker notions about gender roles based on popular science?

Let’s look at the facts. Yes, men, on average, produce about 8 to 10 times more testosterone in their adrenal systems than women. Women have their own sources too, though, as both testosterone and estrogen are produced by the ovaries. Testosterone lends itself to libido in both sexes, and levels of it increase with physical exercise, especially regular exercise. High levels of testosterone have been linked to a greater inclination toward anger and leaner body mass.

Here’s the catch, though. Adrenaline occurs in both men and women.

According to a 2013 CNN report, nearly 200,000 women are active-duty in the U.S. military, including 69 admirals and generals. The well-known hormone is produced in an area near the kidneys in response to stress, triggering the whole “fight or flight” response. It works the same way in both sexes, testosterone has little to do with the situation.

It appears to me that in down-to-the-wire military situations, adrenaline is the hormone you want on your side.

Not to feed too much into stereotypes, but we’ve all seen the Lifetime specials and that one episode of “Snapped” that happened right here in Pinellas Park.

History does not support women lacking the drive to kill when pushed to it. Add to all this the established fact that women have a greater threshold of pain than men (thank you evolution and childbirth). It would seem that if a woman had trained to be able to lift the same, shoot the same, and strategize to the level of her fellow Rangers – she would be one kick-ass person I would definitely want on my team.

Then again, I’m one of those crazy people who believes women should be given the same opportunities and treatment as men.

Not to use the F-word in a school publication, but that makes me…a feminist.

Moriah Parrish is a senior majoring in biology. She can be reached at parrishm@mail.usf.edu
The running of the Bulls

BY WESLEY ELSTUN
Crow’s Nest Contributor

With recent news taking a toll on everyone’s emotions, college football isn’t on our minds. Despite this, sports networks have already begun slinging endless bar rages of statistics, and showing non-stop gameplay footage with in-depth analyses. Gamblers have already put their money on the line and football fans have already marked their territory on the living room sofa.

Every top 10 team has been guaranteed a spot in the playoffs despite playing just one or two games. Despite all of the statistics, predictions, analyses and opinions, college football is surprisingly an unpredictable sport. Sure, the storylines sound the same with teams rising and falling faster than the Roman empire, but the narratives are always different. Unless you happen to be an omnipotent deity, you don’t know what’s going to happen in every game.

Since college football is back on, some of you will want to know how our Bulls will be doing. Before I get into that however, I want to be honest with you. The hard part about discussing expectations and making predictions is that if I sound too realistic, some of you will avert your eyes and move on to the next story. The same principle applies if I sound too optimistic. So, rather than stay on the ends of either spectrum, I solemnly swear to be honest and hopeful.

USF’s record last year was 4 wins and 8 losses. This doesn’t sound good at first glance, but when you discover 2013’s record of 2 wins and 10 losses, well, you take what you can get right? Junior QB Mike White hit the road and transferred to Western Kentucky leaving sophomore QB Quinton Flowers to fill some decently sized shoes. Again, sounds really bad right? Well, it’s not.

See Mr. White was not as good as he was advertised. According to the highest authority in the land (ESPN), White only completed 50 percent of his passes and had more interceptions than touchdowns (16 to 11, respectively). White may or may not throw the offensive line under the bus for his lackluster performance, and that may be a valid claim. Although no statistics on the offensive line have been posted one can infer from the opponent’s defensive stats, mainly the total sacks (23), that the offensive line was pressured often throughout the season.

So, taking all of this into consideration, do we board Taggart’s party bus and pray to whoever is listening that we make the playoffs? The answer is not yet, but winning more games should not be unreasonable. The final record is not going to 12-0, but the win count could improve to 6 or 7 games.

Rome wasn’t built in a day and neither were Jimbo Fisher’s Seminoles or Nick Saban’s Crimson Tide. No matter how much the team practices and preaches that they’re different than they were last season, the championships won’t come until off-field issues are resolved. Taggart needs to make a name for himself, which, to his credit he is doing. The positive energy that he exudes is what the team needs, but it’s not enough. Taggart needs to sell USF as a premier destination for football players.

The recent feud between the athletic director and the president creates uncertainty to prospects and onlookers alike. Who was really in charge in that situation? The staff needs to work together in these kinds of situations, not against each other. In addition, he has to sell the Tampa area to potential prospects, and given that Tampa and Ybor City have received bad press for recent crimes, he may have his work cut out for him. Taggart is an energetic driving force, but asking him to be a coach and a salesman may be too much for him to handle.

The university’s higher ups (president, vice president, etc) need to step up to the plate and make USF a more appealing option. USF has many holes that it needs to fill before it can start eyeing championships, but that doesn’t mean that they cannot start winning more games in the meantime.

Wesley Elstun is a junior majoring in mass communications. He can be reached at wesleyelstun@mail.usf.edu
Retiree works hard at USFSP, helps community

By Lauren Hensley
Staff Reporter

Sixty-two employees at USF St. Petersburg are responsible for maintenance, custodial work, groundskeeping, mail service and more. Many people don’t realize how much goes into keeping the campus clean and beautiful. Their work often goes unnoticed but without them, the campus would fall apart at the seams.

Doris Griffin, 80, is a member of the USFSP custodial staff. The library is her current ‘stomping ground,’ but during her time at USFSP she has worked all across campus. Griffin has been a university employee for over 12 years and said she doesn’t plan on leaving anytime soon.

“I like to work,” Griffin said with a smile on her face. “I don’t run around. I was always told you get one place and you stay there, if you can.”

She said her favorite part of working at the college is helping people and making friends.

During her Tuesday morning break, Griffin sat down and told a little bit about herself. She came to USFSP after retiring from a custodial position at Eckerd College.

“I left Eckerd College in January 2002 and I came here in March 2002,” she said. “I liked being retired, but didn’t like staying home.”

Griffin is originally from Bradenton, but moved to St. Petersburg later in life. She has 13 siblings and attributes her love of people to growing up in a big family.

“I think maybe that’s why I like people so much,” she said. “I like to help people out whenever I can.”

When she isn’t working, Griffin enjoys shopping with her girlfriends, picking the neighborhood kids up from school, and driving people wherever they need to go.


She brings a lot of the neighborhood kids to New Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she has been a member since 1959. In between bites of a tuna fish sandwich, Griffin recalled a conversation she had at church last Sunday. She sought her out, asking if she knew him and though she couldn’t remember his name, he recognized her face. The man told her that she used to drive him and his friends to church and around the neighborhood, and thanked her for everything she did for them.

“She’s constantly working, even in the evenings, taking those kids everywhere. That’s why she’s blessed,” said Kenny Trussell, 57, a mail clerk at USFSP. “A lot of those kids wouldn’t even know about church if it wasn’t for Miss Doris.”

Trussell and ‘Miss Doris’ have been friends for three years. The two often share laughs in the break room, and Trussell looks out for her at work.

“She has a good heart. My hat goes off to her, it really does,” he said.

Griffin is scheduled to have knee surgery soon and said she will miss her friends at USFSP.

“I won’t stay home for too long if I can help it,” she said with a chuckle. “I’ll be back.”