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Sarai Arias’s heart was racing. Her arms were wrapped tightly around her friend’s waist as he drove his newly purchased 2007 Kawasaki motorcycle. Then she loosened her grip. Sarai was with Mason, someone she could trust. She had known him her whole life. Mason always put others first. He would never put her in danger.

As they cruised over the Courtney Campbell Causeway, Sarai closed her eyes, her mind at ease. “He felt like it (the motorcycle) was an escape from everything else in his life,” she said. “He was free.”

Mason Storm Apple, 20, was known at USF St. Petersburg for his 1970s sea-foam-green Chevrolet Chevelle, which always seemed to need a jump for his commute from Tampa to St. Petersburg. Some knew him as “DJ Storm.” He often provided the music at campus events. “He was always the one to keep the energy alive in a room,” said USFSP student Dawn Rogers. “Mason loved music and his passion rubbed off on everyone else around him.”

His friendship was pure, friends and family say. He did not judge people by their looks, and he defended others from bullies. “He was Superman,” said high school friend Jonathan Bucheli. “He was always protecting everybody.”

In mid-October, Mason died in an accident while riding his beloved motorcycle. He was born on Dec. 14, 1994. His blond hair and blue eyes stuck out to his brown-eyed parents, Lisa and Sunny Apple. “Probably one of the ugliest babies,” his dad joked, calling him Uncle Fester from the Addams. He was respectful and kind, he often put others before himself.

Mason Apple attended USF St. Petersburg from 2013 to 2015. He passed away after a motorcycle accident in mid-October. Friends and family say that Mason was respectful and kind, he often put others before himself.
Does Greenpeace only want the green?
Organization turns to college students for funding

By JULIA MARCUZZO
STAFF REPORTER

Greenpeace has been soliciting on campus, asking students to donate a minimum of $15 per month to help provide a “green and peaceful future.”

Continued from Front Cover

He loved people, music and adventure

Family. “He grew into a handsome young man.”

As he grew, his parents said, Mason became like a third parent to his brothers and sister, Landon, London and Madison.

His mother said Mason surrounded himself with great friends and had a good sense of character – some became as close as family.

He acted as a protective big brother although his sister was younger than he. By example, Mason showed Madison, now 23, how a man should treat a lady.

His romantic side came from his dad, who helped Mason make the corsages his girlfriend, Briana Morejon, would wear around her wrist at military balls, prom and homecoming dances. Briana’s mom, Wilima, remembers Mason delivering chocolate chip pancakes to their doorstep.

Mason’s brother, 17-year-old Landon, gained confidence to talk to girls with the help of Mason and his best friend, Ariel Carrillo. Mason helped teach his 15-year-old brother, London, how to play basketball. “I’m on the team because of him,” said London.

He loved to take care of other people. He would drop whatever he was doing to help. He often babysat for family friends and played games with their children as if he were still a kid.

“He had a love for life,” said his father.

In 2013, Mason graduated as a cadet ensign in the Naval ROTC program at Leto High School and started at USFSP shortly after.

Over the summer of 2015, Mason moved to Colorado to work for Vivint Inc., as door-to-door salesman of security systems. To improve his sales, Mason filmed his pitches on his GoPro camera and studied the videos to perfect his technique.

He could do anything, said his brother, London, and Madison.

“He always came home. "When I woke up and he and his bike weren’t there, I knew," said Lisa. "It was mother’s intuition."
Increasing sexual assault awareness on campus

The Semblers also are well-known for their philanthropic endeavors and fundraising for Republicans.

Brent Sembler is vice chairman of the Sembler Co. He serves on the Florida State University Board of Trustees, and he and his wife maintain a philanthropic fund that supports numerous charities. In addition to her service to USFSP, Debbie Sembler has served on committee boards for organizations such as All Children’s Hospital, the Florida Holocaust Museum, the Florida Governor’s Mansion Foundation and preparatory schools such as Shorecrest and Academy Prep.

Debbie and Brent Sembler have a daughter, Taylor, and two sons, Logan and Preston.

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Debbie and Brent Sembler have a daughter, Taylor, and two sons, Logan and Preston.

She became involved with USF in 2003, when then-Gov. Jeb Bush appointed her to the 13-member Board of Trustees. She was reappointed by Gov. Charlie Crist in 2007 and Gov. Rick Scott in 2011.

The university’s decision to name the Student Success Center in her honor “came as a surprise,” she said. “I was amazed and felt humble being honored.”

She may be leaving the board, Sembler said, but she is not leaving USFSP.

“The campus will always be a big part of my life, even off the board,” she said. “I’m not done with USF yet.”
10 ways USFSP students shake off stress

**By Lauren Hensley**
**STAFF REPORTER**

Let’s face it, college is stressful.

At some point during the semester, you might find yourself buried beneath massive amounts of reading for that British literature class your friend convinced you to join. Maybe you’re reminding yourself that you need to call mom back, taking on extra shifts at work, cleaning up after your slob of a roommate, dodging your ex on campus, or spending way too much time procrastinating when you really should be writing that lab report.

Breathe in, breathe out. Relax. College is hard and it’s important to keep those stress levels low.

So, here are 10 ways your fellow Bulls deflect the stress.

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**“One of my favorite things to do when I’m stressed is an activity, mainly dancing!”**

Erin Murphy, junior

**“I go running when I’m stressed, because when I’m blasting my music and pounding out miles, the only thing I can think about is that I need to keep going. For those few hours, I can forget about everything else.”**

Elizabeth Toney, sophomore

**“My favorite way to de-stress is to write. A lot of the time, this will manifest itself in the form of typing out a prayer or a blog post, but often what helps me calm down after a hard day – is journaling. There is something relaxing about writing out my thoughts with good old fashioned pen and paper.”**

Mary Keller, junior

**“To release stress, I like to hang out with friends and longboard. On the weekends, to decompress and release stress, we sometimes go to parties, or we’ll just hang out at one of our houses. If everyone is busy, I longboard by the bay which is really relaxing. I usually go to the beach at Vinoy Park and just reconnect with nature.”**

Jared Bolton, junior

**“I de-stress by going to Walt Disney World, walking around the parks, going on the rides, eating at one of the many restaurants and seeing the shows. It’s relaxing to go to the ‘happiest place on earth’ and be around positive energy; it’s very nostalgic.”**

Cat Kouretsos, senior

**“When I feel like I need to take a step back from studying and classes, I hit the gym. For me, regular weightlifting and cardio training are key to de-stressing from school. It is important for students to exercise because it helps relieve stress and promotes a healthy lifestyle.”**

Hunter Patrick, sophomore

**“Food Culture Through the Lens.”**

(Above) As part of a yearlong multimedia series, photographer Penny De Los Santos delivered an inspiring talk about her work in the presentation “Food Culture Through the Lens.”

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To view De Los Santos’ food artistry and photography visit her website

PennyDeLosSantos.com

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Food & Culture

continued

multiple images where fire, smoke or light were a large part of the scene.

One photograph she shared was from an assignment in Senegal, West Africa. Two women laboring over pots of food on the floor of a small space, one standing over the pots and the other sitting on the yellow tile floor. The women are dressed in bright traditional clothing, the steam erupting from the hot food covers much of one woman’s face – a powerful image.

De Los Santos told the crowd that she always starts in the market; where a plethora of story leads can be found because everyone – from all walks of life – will be there.

“I photograph what is happening around food,” said De Los Santos.

Two men are sitting at a table eating at one end of the photo, behind them is a stark white wall.

In the far right of the scene, way up high, is a hanging framed picture of a couple. This image gave more of a story around where the subjects were and also left the gazer wondering who the people were in the picture on the wall. It is a brilliant photograph.

There were several photographs that simply exposed working hands tending to food.

Other images revealed men fishing or women laboring in fields, market scenes, tables of food; all capturing the profound spectrum of food and culture.

As the lights came back on, De Los Santos had given the audience so much to chew on with her anec- dotal stories, exotic images of the world, all the while conveying the passion she has for what she gets to do for a living.

“Assign your own dream assignment,” she said in her closing.

Staff writer Angelina Bruno contributed to this report.

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Ready to rock and roll? Check out these upcoming local shows at Jannus Live, Local 662 and State Theatre.

**LOCAL 662**

662 Central Ave.

727 295-4829

Nov. 7 // Battle of the Bands

Watch 11 bands duke it out for a first place, $1,000 prize. Bands include Goodnight Neverland, DEA and Saint, and Twisty Chris and the Puddin’ Packs. Tickets are $10 and the event starts at 6 p.m.

Nov. 14 // Rock for R.A.K.

Listen to great tunes, and feel good while doing it. Free admission to see the 7 bands with a donation of warm clothing, bags, blankets, or non-perishable food items to help the homeless charity R.A.K. Doors open at 5 p.m. All ages.

**JANNUS LIVE**

200 First Ave N.

727 565-6550

Nov. 5 // Chance the Rapper

Catch Chance the Rapper on his “Family Matters” tour at Jannus Live. The gates open at 7 p.m., and tickets are $32.50. All ages.

Nov. 12 // St. Pete’s Got Talent

Another feel good show allows for entertainment while helping local charities. This talent show will feature 20 acts, all competing to benefit a charity of their choice. Tickets are $40, doors open at 6 p.m.

**STATE THEATRE**

687 Central Ave.

727 895-3045

Nov. 6 // Public Image

Check out English post-punk band at the historic State Theatre, featuring John Lydon from The Sex Pistols. Tickets are $29.50 in advance, $32 at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Nov. 13 // Hollywood Undead

Jam out with California’s masked rap-rock crew Hollywood Undead. Tickets are $25 in advance, $30 at the door. Doors open at 8 p.m.

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“Food Culture Through the Lens.”

It’s the one time where I’m not thinking about my long to-do list of homework, mainly because I’m focused on how achy my body is. Working out not only gets my mind off my responsibilities, it also helps me blow off steam, whether it’s midterms, important papers, or overdue readings.”

Jade Taylor Isaacs, junior

“Food Culture Through the Lens.”

I de-stress by going to the gym every weekday morning. This is my one time where I’m not thinking about my long to-do list of homework, mainly because I’m focused on how achy my body is. Working out not only gets my mind off my responsibilities, it also helps me blow off steam, whether it’s midterms, important papers, or overdue readings.”

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“I de-stress by going to Walt Disney World, walking around the parks, going on the rides, eating at one of the many restaurants and seeing the shows. It’s relaxing to go to the ‘happiest place on earth’ and be around positive energy; it’s very nostalgic.”

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Cat Kouretsos, senior
By Sean LeRoux

Vinyl LPs turn the tables on digital music

Vinyl records are practical by no means. They’re large, fragile, costly and can only be played on turntables that are far from portable.

Regardless of the format’s lack of convenience, the LP has seen record growth in popularity in recent years.

As the system continues to grow in popularity, record stores are forced to expand LP selection to keep up with demand. Daddy Kool Records, a St. Petersburg music store on Central Avenue, was forced to cut back on new CD selection and completely stopped buying or selling used discs.

Thanks to the growth vinyl has seen, record stores around the country have reported significant increases in business.

Although some owners had to close their doors in years past, the vinyl comeback has been so significant that several new record stores have opened.

Many credit “Record Store Day,” which falls on the third Saturday of April each year, with the format’s comeback. The day’s festivities include sales, special releases, promotional products and artist appearances at record stores across the country. Another factor in vinyl’s survival is the community involvement most record stores aim to generate by putting on special events throughout the year.

Though plenty of older enthusiasts buy records for the sake of nostalgia, Kristin Stigaard, former Daddy Kool employee and USFSP graduate, stresses that a sizable portion of the store’s customers are under 25.

“Kids as young as 15 are buying records,” Stigaard said. “We get a lot of high school kids in here.

While many see the comeback as a fleeting fad, Benny Normal, IT specialist and sales associate at Daddy Kool, argues that the signs show just the opposite.

“Interest in vinyl started to increase.

Continued on p. 7
Tuition hikes: In Canada, they prompt protest

By Candice Reshef
Crow's Nest Contributor

In March 2012 university students in Montreal reacted to a proposed tuition hike of $1,242 over six years.

A month later, around half of the student population was on strike. Smoke bombs disrupted 300,000 commuters on the Metro, and students were beaten and arrested at what started as peaceful demonstrations.

Their signs read: “For Sale: Our Education,” “Education is Not a Business,” “Education is a Right,” and “R.I.P. Democracy!” Students, professors, their families and, of course, topless women (“J’adore les femmes du Québec!”) marched in solidarity for months.

An entire movement sprang up, working side-by-side with political parties, teachers and workers unions. An emergency law was enacted to make the protests illegal, then repealed four months later. The opposing political party was elected, the tuition hikes frozen (as promised during the campaign), and classes resumed.

The protests are called the Printemps Érable, or the “Maple Spring.” The name is a hat-tip to the 2010 “Arab Spring,” when young people across the Arab world, using the power of social media, tried to topple the governments they opposed.

According to the Tampa Bay Times, in 2012 the USF system prepared to raise tuition 11 percent. This followed what the paper called “several years of consistent 15 percent tuition hikes at every university in the state.”

While these steep tuition hikes in Florida have gone relatively unnoticed, students in Montreal shut down their city over a proposed tuition increase of 11.8 percent.

Tuition isn’t the only thing going up at USF. USF President Judy Genshaft makes a six-figure salary, and last year a six-figure performance bonus on top. The Times reported in 2005 that, in her first four and a half years as president, Genshaft’s pay increased by nearly 50 percent.

Then in 2010 Genshaft signed a new contract that included a retention bonus, according to the Tampa Tribune.

“The raise will make Genshaft one of the highest paid public university executives in the country – at an institution where professor pay is near the bottom,” the Tribune reported.
As demand for vinyl continues to increase, Daddy Kool Records has adjusted inventory to account for the change. While half the store was dedicated to vinyl ten years ago, LPs now make up 75 percent of its inventory.

"There is no indication of this growth being fad-based, as interest does not seem to be waning," said Normal. "In a digital world where convenience is key, many fail to understand the appeal that LPs offer. Collectors attribute the attraction of vinyl to the platform’s unique sound quality, collectability and overall experience."

"It’s music you can actually hold in your hands," said Sam Chaffman, USFSP senior. "Artwork-wise, there are picture discs, colored vinyl, splatter discs and even ones cut into cool shapes like hearts and pentagrams."

"Vinyl has something to offer that no other formats do," said Normal. "It is still the highest fidelity physical music format available, and when paired with good equipment, is the closest thing to having the artist right in front of you. Rather than being background noise while checking Facebook or driving to work, listening to a record gives you a sense of involvement."

Unlike digital downloads, LPs give artists more room for creativity. Rather than only being able to express themselves through their music, vinyl allows them to choose colors, designs and artwork that digital formats simply cannot offer.

Record sales in 2014 hit a high of 9.2 million copies – a 52 percent increase from 2013 sales. If vinyl record sales continue to rise as projected, more than a billion records will be produced before the end of the year.

There are only 15 pressing plants nationwide that remain in operation today. If each plant were to produce an equal amount, that would mean each would bear the burden of producing roughly 67 million records this year.

Due to the cost of the materials required to press records, the likelihood of any plants investing in expansion is slim.

The supply issue, however, only adds to the product’s already high level of appeal.

At 666 Central Ave., Daddy Kool Records has been serving the Tampa Bay area since 1985. Stop by the shop Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sean LeRoux | The Crow’s Nest

At 666 Central Ave., Daddy Kool Records has been serving the Tampa Bay area since 1985. Stop by the shop Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
For farmers, food is more than just taste and a price tag. Food production is a creative process, food is the product of attentive care and labor.

By Emily Tinti
Staff Reporter

Cole Turner wakes up before dawn and tends to his farm.

He plants, seeds, weeds, trelises and even does some office work, often until the sun sets.

He and his fellow farmers rotate lunch duties, usually trying a new recipe with the day’s harvest, and spend most of their days cultivating the land.

They discuss goals and concerns, watch movies and share a beer to watch the sunset.

Growing up on a lake in Tampa, Turner, 22, was exposed to nature from the beginning.

He spent his time on the water learning about plants, soils and cultivation. In high school, he volunteered and lived on a farm. He quickly adopted a passion for gardening.

Taking the interest further, Turner established the Little Pond Farm in 2013 on a small plot of land in rural Sumter County, Fla., accompanied by his two “canine sidekicks.”

His vision: Communicate the importance of knowing your food.

Little Pond Farm works closely with the land, ensuring all farming processes are regenerative and nondestructive. It aims to serve as a reliable food source for customers, reduce reliance on outside resources, and build trust within the producer and consumer relationship.

“I want them to know more than just who grew it, but how many times we planted and replanted, failed and succeeded,” said Turner. In 2014, Turner sought out more farmers to work for his growing business.

Ellen Trimarco joined the team in 2014, contributing a specialized knowledge of microbiology, botany, soil, and a passion for farming. Trimarco now lives on the farm and according to Turner, has “helped the farm progress by leaps and bounds.”

Today the farm boasts 26 acres of land, four of which are currently being used for crop development.

Turner and his fellow farmers grow an array of produce, amounting to more than 200 varieties of fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers. While vegetation is Little Pond’s focus, the farm is home to three Florida cracker cows, laying hens, two dogs and Trimarco’s cat.

From harvesting dozens of black beans a day, to gathering bouquets of vibrant flowers, even to operating the farm tractors, Turner considers farming a creative, yet scientific process.

“It’s not sterile or constant; it’s alive and moving and growing. The farm itself is an organism,” he said. “We are working with and facilitating natural processes. In that, there is a lot of room for experimentation and innovation - we are always working to produce the best food, be efficient, and steward the land in a way that’s respectful.”

Turners work certainly seems to be paying off, but not without some challenges.

“The biggest hurdle has been establishing the farm as a business,” he said. “This includes utilizing and remodeling existing infrastructure of the land and fine tuning our growing methods.

A lot of challenges arise in the form of bad weather, diseased crops and unexpected equipment failures. The nature of farming is unpredictable, and we have to always be thinking on our feet.”

Though he doesn’t come from a family of farmers, Turner’s family and friends are supportive of his farm.

“My family loves and supports my farm efforts. And (they eat) more vegetables than ever.”

In fact, his parents are his “generous” landlords.

Turner’s parents can be found at the Little Pond Farm helping with crops on the weekends in their freetime.

In 2014, Turner welcomed 12 aspiring farmers to the farm as interns through WWOOF (Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms).

Now, he has two dedicated full-time interns and two employees. The second farming season was so successful, that Turner decided to bring in four more apprentices for the first full season.

But while a majority of modern food producers aim for business expansion and profit, Turner continues to grow local for the sake of improvement. He doesn’t have plans to attend college, as he expects to be farming for the rest of his life.

“Being attached and dependent on the land and our own ingenuity frees me. There is so much opportunity to create and do better.”