1-11-2016

Crow's Nest : 2016 : 01 : 11

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.
Florida’s first Earthship, incomplete and up for sale

For over a decade, Michael and Denise Pfalzer have worked toward a dream of living completely sustainable in an Earthship – an energy-efficient home constructed from recycled materials such as rubber tires and tin cans, complete with solar-powered electricity and rainwater plumbing.

According to the Tampa Tribune, rainwater gathered from the rooftop would be used for drinking, washing dishes and flushing toilets before it trickles back out to nourish the gardens.

Although the Earthship would not have an air conditioning system, Pfalzer said it would maintain a cool temperature due to the cave-like design.

This is the first Earthship in Florida.

However, today the project lays dormant as overgrown grass and weeds consume the more than 4,000-square-foot foundation and tire walls.

Continued on p. 2

St. Petersburg shares ideas and stories at 4th annual Zine Fest

BY DEVIN RODRIGUEZ
Staff Reporter

St. Petersburg’s 4th annual Zine Fest was held at the Venture Compound on Saturday. Over 30 artists came to show and sell their work inside the warehouse space. Zine’s (pronounced ZEEN) are self-made magazines that share ideas or stories.

Some use visual imagery like comics or photography to develop and express a point. In the ‘90s, zines were big with bands and music reviewers and have since re-emerged as a way for people to share ideas.

“There are absolutely no rules when it comes to creating zines. There are no boundaries holding you back, and you can create what you want, publish it and give it to people,” says Kelly Steele, local author and creator of Zine Fest.

“Sharing your ideas like this is one of the greatest, most liberating feelings.”

Local Author Bob Dixon (right) poses next to his newest book Rags and Ruins, at the 4th annual Zine Fest on Saturday, held at the Venture Compound in downtown St. Petersburg.
News Briefs

Welcome Back, Students!
On Monday, Jan. 18, the USF System will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. There will be no classes.

Tuesday, Jan. 12
Get on Board Day
USC Ballrooms // 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The USFSP community is invited to attend Get on Board Day, where students will promote their clubs and organizations. This is the perfect opportunity to get involved on campus and network with fellow Bulls. Stop by before, after or in between classes.

Orientation Leader Info Session
SLC 210 // 5 — 6:30 p.m.

Find out how you can be one of the next orientation leaders — an exciting way to make money and have a positive impact on incoming students! If you can't make it, visit usfsp.edu/orientation/apply to learn more and submit an application. They are due Jan. 18.

Wednesday, Jan. 13
USFSP by the Decades
Nelson Poynter Memorial Library — Poynter Corner // noon to 1 p.m.

The library will host a lively discussion on the topic "Cultivating Town and Gown Relationships." Jim Schnuer, Special Collections Librarian and Susdy Tschiderer, university graduate and longtime staff, will discuss the college's history and culture with special guests Dr. Ray Arensault, Gert Anderson and more. Light snacks will be provided.

Mr. and Miss USFSP Info Session
USC Palm Room // noon to 1 p.m.

Join Victor Sims and Tannish Johnson as they discuss their roles as Mr. and Miss USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP and what it means to represent USFSP

1. StudentRate.com

This site collects student deals and discounts on electronics, clothes, travel and much more. Instead of searching for individual vendors that offer student discounts, StudentRate compiles the lists for you. If you haven't purchased textbooks yet, check out StudentRate's textbook price comparison tool. Search by book name, author or ISBN and the app will put together a list of textbook sellers and the rates of each.

2. Sleepyti.me

This website and app (available on IOS for $0.99) uses the REM cycle science to calculate a person's optimal amount of sleep depending on when they plan to wake up. It's pretty simple, just plug in the time you want to wake up and sleepytime will show you the best time you should go to bed in order to feel well-rested. You can also switch it up if you know when you plan to go to sleep, but not when to wake up.

3. Codecademy.com

Codecademy is a free resource to learn coding. Need I say more? If you don't know how to code in our digital world becomes incredibly important. This computer lingo will help you in countless ways, predominantly, to land jobs after graduation.

In addition to breaking down programming concepts and syntax like HTML, CSS and JavaScript, the site teaches specific web development skills that include building interactive websites and applications.

Whether it’s business or personal, having a free option for something this coveted is an obvious win.

4. Twinword

Have you ever been in the middle of writing an essay, blog or story, and finding the same word over and over? Then, even after you've found a few decent substitutions, another word would begin to re-appear. It’s a vicious cycle.

In 2004, the Pfallers acquired the land in Myakka, Fla. and began implementing the project in 2008. Manatee County’s strict building methods and technologies. Earthship lacks a roof, interior walls and a solar panel electric system. Pflaler said constructing the Earthship was “very labor intensive.”

“The costs were far more than we could have afforded. We got as far as we could,” he said.

Originally, the group envisioned the Earthship was “very labor intensive.” According to Earthship Florida, the group was interested in the Florida Earthship. The Hemingway application started out as an online-only text editor that aimed to improve people’s writing based on the simple language style of author Ernest Hemingway. It has since expanded as a desktop editor ($9.99 on Mac and Windows) that allows you to open and save files. Regardless of which you choose, this app really does it all.

8 helpful apps and websites every student should know about

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It offers a counter that keeps track of the paragraphs, sentences, words and characters in a piece, and a grading system that is based on how readable your writing is. If it’s complicated and dense, the grade will be worse.

The app also analyzes the grammar and sentence structure of a piece by highlighting in various colors. For example, a sentence highlighted in yellow indicates it’s too long and complex, while a phrase in green is marked to show passive tense, and so on.

7. Mint

Money: Most of us don’t have much of it. But for those who may struggle to keep track of the bills while juggling a fresh batch of classes, Mint is here to help.

Available on Android and IOS, this free website and app allows you to view all your financial accounts in one place.

Create budgets (in case you just can’t help yourself sometimes), track your spending, receive alerts for unusual account charges and get tips on how to reduce fees, and save money.

8. Lynda.com

This digital library offers over 4,000 video courses on almost every skill and technique imaginable. Interested in audio and music production? Want to enhance your InDesign skills? You’ll find it on Lynda. Whatever you want to discover, or even just practice, it’s there.

The collection can be accessed on a computer, tablet or mobile device.

The Earthship’s walls are created from recycled materials such as tires and beer cans. Pflaler said he spent years collecting materials before his team began building.
Although no major government organization has confirmed the claim, 2015 is said to be one of the hottest years on record.

Global temperature has been measured and recorded since about 1850. According to the data collected, the past 15 years have been record-breaking. On average, global temperatures have been growing progressively hotter.

On May 23, 2015, Alaska hit 91 degrees, setting a record for earliest day of the year to reach summer temperatures, according to a Climate.gov article.

World Meteorological Organization Secretary-General Michel Jarraud said 2015’s global climate will make history.

“Levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere reached new highs,” Jarraud said. “Carbon dioxide crossed the 400 parts per million barrier for the first time. This is bad news for the planet.”

What did this mean for those soaking up the sun in St. Petersburg?

Gov. Rick Scott announced in November that Florida had welcomed the most visitors over a nine-month period of any time in the state’s history.

Several thousands of those tourists were concentrated in St. Pete Beach, infusing the area with sightseeing dollars and creating more job opportunities for those in the hospitality industry.

So far, regional wildlife does not seem to be too adversely affected.

Barbara Stalbird, a supervisor with the Boyd Hill Nature Preserve in South St. Petersburg, stated there were no negative effects linked to climate change noted with the captive wildlife rehabilitated in the park.

“We did note a general reduction in the number of baby alligators during the 2015 nesting season and have theorized it was related to the amount of rain and flooding the preserve experienced during the summer nesting months,” Stalbird said. “But we have not conducted any research to confirm this.”

There are still some dissenters to the idea of global warming.

The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT), a group established in 1985, lobbies Washington for what they deem more sensible approaches to environmental regulation.

In December, the group cited a study that suggested the temperatures recorded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a federal agency, were warmer than reality. CFACT claimed stations monitoring the temperatures were adversely affected by local urbanization.

However, the study did not touch on the higher-than-average temperatures recorded consistently in less developed parts of the world.
2015

A year in review

By Devin Rodriguez
Staff Reporter

7: Charlie Hebdo shootings in France.
Two masked gunmen with ties to terrorist organizations stormed the offices of the weekly satirical newspaper. Twelve people were killed and 11 more injured. The gunmen were killed after a long manhunt. "Je suis Charlie," French for "I am Charlie," became a widely used slogan in support for the newspaper in public gatherings and on social media.

14: Blues legend B.B. King dies at age 89. King (above) is considered one of the most influential blues musicians of all time, and he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He was nicknamed "The King of Blues."

22: Ireland becomes the first country to legalize same-sex marriage through popular vote. Voter turnout was high as steps were taken to change the constitution in order to allow same-sex couples the right to marry.

25: Magnitude 7.8 earthquake strikes Nepal. Causing more than 8,000 deaths and injuring more than 21,000 people, it was the worst earthquake to hit Nepal since 1934.

To make this protein-packed plate, I used frozen brown rice and pre-cooked grilled chicken from Trader Joe's. The items are still whole foods with no added chemicals, so I can't feel too bad about it.

It saved me a lot of time on the stove and got a healthy, low-fat dinner on the table in less than 20 minutes.

I'd call that a win-win.

Ingredients
Serves: 1
For the avocado crème:
- ½ of an avocado
- the juice of 1/3 a lime
- ½ teaspoon of cumin
- 1 teaspoon of chili powder
- salt and pepper to taste
- 4 tablespoons nonfat Greek yogurt

For the plate:
- 4 ounces of grilled chicken breast
- ¼ cup of brown rice
- ¼ cup of cucumber, sliced thin
- cherry tomato for garnish

Directions
Place the salt and pepper, avocado, lime, cumin and chili powder into the blender and purée.
Add in the Greek yogurt and blend until the sauce is smooth.
Place ½ cup of brown rice in a measuring cup and flip over onto the plate (this is how I created the cylinder shape of the rice). Garnish with a sliced cherry tomato.
Slice chicken at an angle and add to the plate.
Using a spoon, take a dollop of avocado crème and dollop a spoonful onto the plate, and then drag the spoon to create the shape in the photo.
Circle the plate with cucumber slices.

Enjoy!

A look back at USFSP in 2015
14: The Iran nuclear deal. In negotiations spearheaded by President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry, Iran and six other nations came to a consensus regarding Iran’s nuclear development. The agreement stipulates setbacks in uranium and plutonium processing and could mark a historic turn in the relationship between Iran and the United States.

6: Jon Stewart makes final appearance on the “Daily Show.” The comic-turned-influential commentator gave a heartfelt goodbye to the long running comedy news show aired on Comedy Central. Trevor Noah became his successor.

4: Miss Piggy and Kermit the Frog announce divorce. In devastating news, the Muppet couple announced their divorce on Facebook. Still being civil, the two agreed to continue making television appearances. But it didn’t take long for Kermit to find a new love interest in Denise the pig.

12: USFSP celebrates 50th anniversary. Five decades after the campus first offered classes, the university kicked off a yearlong celebration with campus ceremonies. A Bayboro Blonde Ale was released by 3 Daughters Brewing, and Second Street S was co-named University Way in an announcement by Mayor Rick Kriseman.

12: Beirut double suicide attack. The bombing, which took place in a mostly Shiite residential area, scoured a busy shopping district during rush hour. The attack was the worst to hit the city in years, resulting in 43 deaths and over 200 injuries.

2: San Bernardino attack. Fourteen people were killed and 22 injured in a terrorist attack in the California city. The terrorists were a married couple who lived nearby. They were inspired by terrorists groups outside the country, but apparently had no direct connection to any specific cell.

July

18: Star Wars: The Force Awakens opens in theaters. (Bottom) Shattering previous box office records, J.J. Abrams’ epic space drama surpassed Avatar as the highest grossing film. The movie has reached sales of $11 billion worldwide.

August

13: Paris attacked by terrorists. Six locations were attacked in and around Paris, leaving 128 dead from the shootings and bombings. Of the dead, 89 were killed in the Bataclan concert venue. Much of the world watched in solidarity following the tragedy.

18: Pope visits the United States. Visiting Washington, New York and Philadelphia, the pontiff (left) shook hands with the president, members of Congress, celebrities, prisoners, homeless people and the disabled. He spoke of compassion and understanding to crowds of hundreds of thousands.

November

USF football team makes bowl eligibility for the first time in five years.

December

University Master Plan is approved with the vision to nearly double in size within 10 years.
Challenges for international students at USF St. Petersburg

By Indhira Suero Acosta
Crow's Nest Contributor

As an international student, one of the first things to learn is how to be independent in a foreign country.

In countries like mine – the Dominican Republic – and especially in Latin American nations, we are used to having things easy. Our mothers and fathers are always there for us. Most of us live with our parents until we get married, and we know how to get to every corner of our cities.

But when you arrive in a new country, you tend to feel disoriented. My own experience helped me realize that international students really do need some extra help, something I wish our campus would offer more.

I understand that because USF St. Petersburg is a small campus, the international services department is at the Tampa campus, in a city with a much larger foreign population.

According to the university, there were 42,030 students enrolled at the Tampa campus in fall ‘15, compared to 4,725 in St. Pete.

But foreign students still need some kind of assistance – whether it’s to help them get to the office in Tampa, find safe and affordable places to live, or how to navigate around town.

These things are important when you arrive in a new country. Every student has an advisor, and while they are certainly helpful, international students aren’t just leaving their parents for the first time. They aren’t just transferring from another U.S. school. These students just left their country, left everything they’ve ever known, to come study here.

And while there is an international student adviser that foreign students can contact, it simply isn’t enough.

I know USFSP is a considerably smaller campus, I don’t expect the same international services that are offered in Tampa, but I do think administration should make implementing additional resources for foreign students a priority.

My department and professors have guided me during this process, but as an international student, sometimes you need someone to tell you, for example, which neighborhoods are safe and which aren’t, where the closest or cheapest grocery stores are, and so on.

This college can offer so much to an international scholar, and I hope that other foreign students who come in the future will be able to get more guidance and advice.

All the challenges we face at different points in our lives are part of becoming an individual. I can say that, after my first semester, I feel stronger. I’ve seen how we just have to do things for ourselves and survive.

I would advise any international student not to be afraid to express your feelings, it can save you a lot of frustration. When it comes to asking for help, approach your classmates and professors. You will be amazed at the amount of people who are willing to give you a hand.

It’s like a labyrinth, you might not see the exit right away, but eventually, you’ll be able to get out of it.

All of us can get overwhelmed by the new faces and fresh course loads that come with a new semester, but imagine all of that happening in a country that you just set foot on – for the first time.

Indhira Suero Acosta is an international graduate student in journalism and media studies. She can be reached at indhirasuero@mail.usf.edu

Make the most out of your New Year’s

By Tamiracle Williams
Staff Reporter

It’s the beginning of a new semester and a new year, and in the midst of juggling new courses and schedules, we are still desperately trying to cling to our optimistic New Year’s resolutions.

Few make it to December, others last a whole month. But most of us can’t get past the first week.

I’m definitely one of those people who tend to forget about their resolutions within the first few weeks of January. So, I started using visual complications to help me stay motivated and keep track of my goals.

As a visual learner, writing resolutions down on paper doesn’t inspire me at all. Instead, I’ve tested out a few fun ways to display them.

I usually have a small set of goals I want to achieve each year, and once I establish a list I go on Pinterest to find do-it-yourself (DIY) projects to display around my dorm room.

Here are three of my favorites:

Rotating Goal Poster

You’ll need:
- poster board
- magazines
- scissors
- markers
- glue
- and creativity.

This project is basically a collage, but one that holds a deep meaning with the pieces you will add. Once you have a clear picture of your vision and how you want it represented, leaf through a stack of magazines. Cut out any words or pictures that heighten your goals. After you have a substantial amount of cutouts, start on the board. Create a big and bold title, which can serve as motivation.

You’ll need:
- markers
- photographs
- butcher paper
- scissors
- -glue
- -marker
- -pen
- -poster board

This is a productive design for those who prefer to break up their yearly resolutions.

Vision Board

It’s a productive design for those who prefer to break up their yearly resolutions.

Polaroid Display

You’ll need:
- reminiscent Polaroid-style photographs

Polaroids are a creative way to display memories from past adventures, which can serve as motivational reminders of things you may want to do again or improve. This method can be especially useful if you aim to work on health, fitness or travel.

Write down a word or phrase for each picture that best represents a goal.

These displays can be placed on a mini fridge or arranged on an empty wall, perhaps accompanied by string lights.

If you’re feeling crafty, a popular approach seems to be hanging installations, which often comprise string, command strips or clothespins.

Tamiracle Williams, a junior majoring in journalism and media studies, is the photo editor. She can be reached at tamiracle@mail.usf.edu
“I don’t know where I’m going, but I promise it won’t be boring.”

David Bowie, 1947 - 2016

Sudoku #1

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SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS...

Want to comment on a story or a campus issue?

Get it off your chest with a letter to the editor. The Crow’s Nest welcomes letters from students, faculty and staff. Send your letter to Ann21@mail.usf.edu.

Letters, which may be edited for length, clarity and taste, must include the writer’s name and telephone number (though the number will not be published).
Learn a language through cultural immersion, taste cuisine in France and Germany or study business in a foreign country. These are just some of the things students can experience while traveling with USF St. Petersburg’s student abroad program.

All education abroad trip fees include health insurance, accommodations and program courses with university credit. Airfare, meals and personal endeavors are not included. For most programs, the deadline to apply is Feb. 15 and a $500 deposit is due within five days after committing to a program.

For more information, visit usfsp.edu/education-abroad.

**FOOD AND TRAVEL WRITING IN FRANCE AND GERMANY**

May 24 to June 3 / Strasbourg, Paris and the Black Forest region of southwestern Germany

Students will experience different meals throughout culinary capitals of France and Germany. Many of the meals and tastings are included in the course fee as well as an entrance ticket to the Eiffel Tower.

**Courses:**

- **Undergraduate:**
  - MMC 4936 Special Topics: Food Writing, 3 credits
  - MMC 4936 Special Topics: Travel Writing, 3 credits

- **Graduate:**
  - MMC 6936 Special Topics: Food Writing, 3 credits
  - MMC 6936 Special Topics: Travel Writing, 3 credits

**Faculty:** Janet Keeler

$4,175.00 plus airfare

**USFP BUSINESS IN EUROPE**

June 23 to July 6 / Amsterdam, London and Munich

Students will study the history and culture of the European economies in Amsterdam, Munich and London, as well as tour local and international businesses and government institutions.

**Courses:**

- **Undergraduate:**
  - MAN 4930 / GEB 4935: Doing Business in Europe, 3 credits
  - MAN 4600: International Management, 3 credits

- **Graduate:**
  - MMC 4936 Special Topics: Food Writing, 3 credits
  - MMC 4936 Special Topics: Travel Writing, 3 credits

- **Faculty:** Dr. Dan Marlin

$3,475 plus airfare

**USFP BUSINESS IN GERMANY**

July 8-18 / Abstatt, Erlenbach, Flein, Heidelberg, Heilbronn, Löwenstein, Stuttgart and Untergruppenbach

The 10-day program focuses on Germany’s Mittelstand companies in the Heilbronn-Franken region. Mittelstand companies are small and medium-sized enterprises that serve as the backbone of Germany’s export-oriented economy.

**Course:**

- GEB 6930: Study Abroad in Germany, 3 credits

- **Faculty:** Dr. Hemant Merchant

$3,800 plus airfare

**USFP BUSINESS IN THE BALTICS**

July 3-23 / Vilnius, Lithuania

The capital of Lithuania, Vilnius, is seen as a rising economic star in business and is said to attract young professionals. Students will study at the top-ranked ISM University of Management, and will also visit local and multinational businesses.

**Courses:**

- GEB 4935: Study Abroad in Lithuania, 3 credits
  - GEB 4945: Independent Research, 3 credits

- **Faculty:** Dr. Hemant Merchant

$2,650 plus airfare

**SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN SALAMANCA**

June 19 to July 10 / Salamanca, Spain

The program is in collaboration with Estudio Sampere and is designed to teach students about the Spanish language while allowing them to become immersed in the Spanish culture.

**Courses:**

- All students will enroll in SPN 4470 Advanced Overseas Studies, 1-6 credits, and select one of the following courses:
  - SPN 1120 Beginning Spanish I, 4 credits
  - SPN 1121 Beginning Spanish II, 4 credits (PR: SPN 1120 Spanish I or equivalent)
  - SPN 2200 Intermediate Spanish III, 3 credits (PR: SPN 1121 Spanish II or equivalent)
  - SPN 2201 Intermediate Spanish IV, 3 credits (PR: SPN 2200 Spanish III or equivalent)
  - SPN 3300 Advanced Grammar and Composition, 3 credits (PR: SPN 2201 Spanish IV or equivalent)
  - SPN 2240 Spanish Conversation I, 3 credits (PR: SPN 2201 Spanish IV)

- **Faculty:** Janet Keeler

$3,950 plus airfare

**FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN NICE**

June 12 to July 2 / Nice, France

Students will study the French language through cultural immersion by living with French host families. The intensive learning program features courses from beginning language to advanced and proficiency level courses.

**Courses:**

- All students will enroll in FRE 3470 French Overseas Study, 1-6 credits, and select one of the following courses:
  - FRE 1120 Beginning French I, 4 credits
  - FRE 1121 Beginning French II, 4 credits (PR: FRE 1120 French I or equivalent)
  - FRE 2200 French III, 3 credits (PR: FRE 1121 French II or equivalent)
  - FRE 2201 French IV, 3 credits (PR: FRE 2200 French III or equivalent)
  - FRE 3420 Written French in Cultural Context, 3 credits (PR: FRE 2200 French III and/or FRE 2201 French IV)

- **Faculty:** Richard Burnette

$3,340 French for Business, 3 credits

During a trip to France, students stayed in Strasbourg, a city in with a mix of German and French culture.