Crow's Nest : 2006 : 04 : 12

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Campus celebration eyes environment

Harbor Day Celebration Info
WHO: The campus and community.
WHERE: Presentations, performances and organizations.
WHERE: Harborside Lawn.
WHERE: Wednesday, April 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
WHY: To celebrate and learn about Bayboro Harbor, and what everyone can do as a campus and a community to protect it and other coastal environments.
HOW: Co-sponsored by the Student Environmental Awareness Society (SEAS) and the Honors College.

Community organizations will be situated on the Harborside Lawn with tables, literature, and posters presenting information on a wide range of environmental issues relevant to Florida.
Food and refreshments will be available.
A total of 16 participating groups have been confirmed, including the Florida Yards and Docks program and the Environmental Education Network.

BY EMMA SYLVESTER
STAFF-WRITER

Nature lovers, environmentalists, students and staff alike are all invited to enjoy the final event of the Harbor Day Initiative.

The first annual Harbor Day Celebration will be held on Wednesday, April 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Harborside Lawn.

The Harbor Day Initiative is an ongoing effort by students, faculty, staff, affiliates, and community members to raise awareness about coastal pollution and its prevention.

The event is co-sponsored by the Student Environmental Awareness Society (SEAS) and the Honors College.

It will feature a brief presentation at noon, during which time Christopher Zeffata, vice-chancellor of Graduate Research, and John O'glen, director of the Florida Institute of Oceanography, will say a few words.

The noon presentation will also feature representatives from the city, including council member Jeff Daniel.

The theme of the event is research, awareness, and prevention of coastal pollution.

Regional Chancellor Karen A. White will also address the crowd, if her schedule permits. She will discuss the importance of "campus and community collaboration in the effort to be more environmentally aware."

"She has been very supportive of our efforts in the Harbor Day Initiative, campus recycling, and the Campus Ecology Program," said Abbie Harris, SEAS member.

Belly Dancers will perform at 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. followed by a performance by blues/folk musician Katrina Marine. Starkey has opened for such musicians as Willie Nelson and played at the Palm Millennium concert in front of 80,000 people.

Governments, student, academic, and community organizations will be situated on the Harborside Lawn with tables, literature, and posters presenting information on a wide range of environmental issues relevant to Florida.

Food and refreshments will be available.

A total of 16 participating groups have been confirmed, including the Florida Yards and Docks program and the Environmental Education Network.

see Harbor page 8
Will student center get off the ground?

Student Government tries again with a resolution

BY JOHN TERRANA

STAFF WRITER

The USF St. Petersburg Student Government passed a resolution at its March 22 meeting supporting the need for a student center.

The center would be built on the gravel parking area across Sixth Avenue South from the Florida Center for Teachers. The resolution includes support for raising student fees to fund the construction of the building.

The student center has been an ongoing project that is seemingly stuck in its infancy at least in part because of Gov. Jeb Bush.

Tom Piccolo, president of Student Government in 2005, visited the capital last year to lobby for the construction of the student center to the legislature and Gov. Bush.

The legislature overwhelmingly supported the student center but the governor did not.

Governor Bush vetoed the legislature's bill, which would have allowed the University to increase student fees. The governor said it would cost a full-time student an additional $489 a year and that USF could seek funding elsewhere for the building, but chose not to.

Regional Chancellor Karen White disagreed with the governor's decision last year, and said that the governor's logic was flawed. USF St. Petersburg cannot use tuition or state-appropriated funds to support the construction of the student center and therefore money for the project has to come in the form of student fees, White said in the Tampa Bay Business Journal last June.

Piccolo, in his remarks to USF's board of trustees in September 2005, said, "Although the news was disappointing, the Student Government will not be deterred." His determination has carried over to the current student representatives.

Diana Macdonald, Student Government president, visited Tallahassee this week to ask the governor and legislators, yet again, to allow USF to build the student center and seek the appropriate funding.

Macdonald called the need to revisit the capital "a little frustrating," but added that the need for the student center is great. The student center will serve as a hub in game room organization meetings and study lounges. "We have the Davis [Hall] lounge and the CAC [Campus Activities Center] being utilized beyond capacity," Macdonald said.

Student Government supports a fund increase and any other financial resources the USF administration can come up with to get the student center project rolling. The resolution seeks financial support "in a timely manner."

"We're at the point where we are looking into the details of the project and we [student government] fully support the administration's funding choices," Macdonald said.

The new Student Government resolution states that it is the responsibility of the USF administration to seek additional funding, but as of June 2005, the only other option was to raise current student fees beyond their five percent annual cap.

Several details on the student center itself are scant: no final price tag, no date for the groundbreaking, and no computer generated rendering of what the building might even look like.

The design plan for the building will follow once, if the project receives funding. James Grant, director for facilities planning and construction, said, "We have completed the feasibility study for the building. The next step would be to develop a program while continuing to seek funding. The architect selection process would follow funding approval, followed by the development of a design."

The student center is part of a campus master plan that also includes the construction of the parking garage, Residence Hall One, and the Science and Technology Center.

Designer inspires audience

David Carson stresses importance of individuality

BY MELANIE COHEN

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Renowned graphic designer David Carson spoke Thursday at the Karen A. Steidinger Auditorium in the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute.

Throughout the free two-and-a-half-hour lecture, Carson emphasized how vital individuality and emotion are to design.

"Listen to your own voice, your own background," he said. "Trust your gut."

Carson, who wrote the best-selling graphic design book "The End of Print," presented many slides of his own work. He also presented other work that interested him and spoke about each of the slides in context.

Carson said that a large part of being a designer is being open to new ideas. "It's important to stretch yourself a bit in design," he said.

Carson got a degree in sociology and never had any formal design training. Before his first big design job, Carson was a sociology professor. Designing for a skateboarding magazine was his schooling, he said.

To attract people to his work, Carson looks for designs emotional message. One can send messages in shape, form and color. He added that it is also important for each personality and each voice to come through in everything he or she does. Carson said that there's no personality in a design project, then there's no point. Just because something is legible does not mean it communicates anything.

Carson also spoke about some technical elements of graphic design. The best work, he said, is either "very extreme and detailed, or very simple." In a design, the picture should dictate the layout. Obsession with details is also important, Carson said. One should look at the whole picture, not just the "tag." Carson does not believe that people should always try to emulate others when creating and designing. It is important to have "the freedom to do what you do," he said.

After his lecture, Carson was happy to sign his books and to "pown" his business cards to those present. It is clear, though, that Carson did not have to "pown" off anything. His admirers were more than eager to meet him.

USFSP SAILING

Bulls take district championship

BY ANTHONY SALVEGGI

EDITOR

The USF coed sailing team took first place at the SAISA Dinghy Championship at the College of Charleston this past weekend.

Seniors Kevin Reali, Ashley Reynolds and freshman Tim King were first out of nine teams in "A" division. Of the nine races that were sailed on Saturday and Sunday, Reynolds and King came in first five times.

Sailing for the "B" squad, junior Jesse Combs, King and freshman Liz Foy came in second place, 10 points behind host Charleston.

They picked up a first place finish and second place finishes out of four races that were sailed on Saturday.

After finishing fifth in the first race of each division, neither USF squad did any worse than third place for the remaining races.

USF will return to Charleston, April 22 when the women's team competes for its district championship.

CROW'S NEST • APRIL 12, 2006

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One-minute news

BY ANTHONY SALVEGGI

EDITOR

Harbor Day — The Student Environmental Awareness Society (SEAS) is sponsoring Harbor Day Wednesday, April 12, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the Harborside Lawn.

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The event is intended to bring awareness about coastal pollution and will feature speakers and information about Bayboro Harbor.

Port Safety Lecture — Peter Lecro, dean of the College of Marine Science, will present "Port Safety and Technology" in the Marine Science Lab conference room on Friday, April 14 from 12 to 1:15 p.m.

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The lecture is part of the Community, Science and Environmental Policy Brownbag Lunch.

CAS A COLLECTION — The USF Ambassadors are sponsoring a drive for Community Action Stops Abuse (CAS A) through April 23. Collection boxes are in the Perryman Library, bookstore, Campus Activities Center and the College of Business.

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Items for collection include bar boxes, gas cards, darts, and new clothing for women and children. A complete list of items can be found on the flyers on the collection boxes.

Save the date — Summer/fall registration for degree-seeking students begins April 17.

CAS dean committee completes search — On April 5, Associate Journalism Professor Robert Raffinville, chair of the College of Arts & Sciences dean search committee, turned over the committee evaluations and faculty, staff and administration comments on the three candidates to Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Mark Durand. Durand said he hopes to announce the new dean in three to four weeks.

New prefix — The USF St. Petersburg campus recently changed its official telephone prefix to 873.

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* Both the old prefix — 553 — and the new one will work for the next year.

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LETTER TO THE CROW'S NEST

Dear Editor,

Chris Girandola missed a few superlatives descriptors for the Grand Prix. How about: noisy, disruptive, expensive? Just estimate the fossil fuel consumption to put all those concrete barriers in place and then remove them. Oh, yeah, then the fuel for the race cars. And did you check out all the gas hogs in our parking lot on Saturday and Sunday? "Hi, my name is St. Pete, and I'm addicted to oil."

— Dave Carr

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* Discounts for USF modest organizations and imprint advertisements.
* Contact Ad Manager Michelle Bocchin at mbocchin@mail.usf.edu for more information.

Student Government Needs U to VOTE!

Monday - Thursday, April 10 - 13

Davis Lobby
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
6 & 7 p.m.
Must have a valid student ID
Nelson Poynter Memorial Library

BY MONA GALE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nelson Poynter, owner and editor of the St. Petersburg Times, died on June 13, 1978, just hours after receiving lavish praise at the groundbreaking for what would become USF St. Petersburg. It was as if he had accomplished his dream, said Jim Schurr, assistant librarian at USF whose office held the special collections of Poynter's papers. USF St. Petersburg honored his contribution by naming its library the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

When the City of St. Petersburg took possession of the site in 1954, Poynter lobbied local and state authorities for years to create a university campus in downtown St. Petersburg. It wasn't for personal acknowledgement, but for the good of the community that Poynter believed that St. Petersburg absolutely had to have its own university for educational access.

Poynter was born into the newspaper business. His father, Paul Poynter, was the publisher of the St. Petersburg Daily Times. Poynter eventually struck out on his own and gained experience at various daily newspapers before becoming the editor of the St. Petersburg Times in 1939.

Poynter was considered an innovator in journalism. "As an industry we must improve and expand - or we will dwindle and die," he once said. To further improve the journalistic talents of newspaper professionals, he formed the Modern Media Institute, a non-profit school for journalists, journalism students and journalism teachers. It was renamed the Poynter Institute after his death, and is located across Third Street South from the Poynter Library.

Poynter believed that those who run news organizations and those who practice journalism have a "sacred trust" to serve communities and citizens. The foundation of his belief was in the value of independent journalism in the public interest.

Two buildings - facing each other - now stand in tribute to his love of journalism and his love of community.

Snell House

BY KELLY SCHUR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Snell House, a Dutch-Colonial home built in 1904, now stands as an architectural and historic centerpiece of campus. But it came very close to becoming a pile of rubble - until USF St. Petersburg came to its rescue.

Serving the house would have been a relief to Perry Snell, who came to St. Petersburg in the late 1800s on his honeymoon and soon began developing businesses and homes in the city. He invested his wife's fortune wisely and by 1911 he "owned nearly the entire northeast quadrant of the city," according to a St. Petersburg Times story from 1991.

"The house was considered one of the most unique and impressive mansions when it was built in the early 20th century," said Soley Tschiderer, events coordinator at USF St. Petersburg. Tschiderer, a fixture at the university for nearly 40 years, knows the campus history and witnessed the move of the Snell House in 1993.

Bay Plaza Cos., hired by the city for redevelopment of downtown St. Petersburg, acquired the land occupied by the Snell House. The company began clearing buildings that preservationists considered of historical value, including the Soreno Hotel. When Bay Plaza officials offered the Snell House to USF campus officials accepted. But getting it to campus was more complicated than the acquisition.

Several businesses and individuals collaborated to complete the move. Florida Progress moved cables for 10 traffic lights, free of charge. The city closed the streets and provided permits. GTI, now Verizon, and Paragon, now Bright House, waived their fees and costs as well. Possibly the most tedious and laborious process was completed by A.B. Thomas Movers. According to Tschiderer, the late Toby Sullivan, owner of the company, said it was the move that he was proudest of in his career.

Once successfully relocated, renovation and restoration began. This, too, was a collaborative effort. The primary contractor was Gas Fitters, who donated a barge after scrapbook to the house. GFS included architect Randy Wells, interior designer Linda Winters and the American Society of Interior Designers, which later contributed the staircases. Winners Inc., colors throughout the house in contemporary for its time and color with USF colors, gray, ivory, and green.

Overall, the historical and architectural value are maintained. The original structure was taken fixture and reconstructed. The enclosed kitchen was the bane of the process, as was the enclosed kitchen at the back, the porch, and some hallways, as well as modifications handicap accessibility.

Today the Snell House is home to the university's Florida Studies Program of Distinction and Its Honors Program.
Lowell E. Davis Hall

BY BRYAN W. WHITE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The northwest corner of Davis Hall bears a 12-by-24 inch plaque placed in memory of Lowell E. Davis. The plaque seems inappropriately understated as a reminder of a man so crucial to USF St. Petersburg in its formative years. Lowell E. Davis served three years as dean — the highest-ranking position on campus — before suffering a fatal heart attack in 1989. During his brief tenure, his forceful, outspoken and energetic style set the stage of the campaign path to greater stature and autonomy.

Jamaican-born Davis passionately waged the administrative battles to break the grip of a student residence. His drive resulted in classes, a campus activities center and an expanded availability of courses, a campus activities center and a student residence.

"He would go to whomever he needed to go to get it done," she said. James Schnur, special collections librarian at Poynter Memorial Library, was a student at USF while Davis was dean. He said Davis was adamant that the campus needed to offer more courses to fulfill its potential. Schnur produced a thick folder of news clippings about Davis. About half of the stories concerned Davis' death. The other half of the stories concerned Davis' willingness to fight the school administration in Tampa over allocation of resources. History professor Ray Arnau said that Davis' outspoken advocacy sustained faculty morale. In May 1990, the state legislature unanimously passed a bill honoring the first black dean at USF by renaming Bayboro Hall the Lowell E. Davis Memorial Hall. The bill recognized Davis for giving of "his time and talent to his community and the state." An elegantly framed version of the bill adorns the north wall of Williamson's office in Bayboro Hall.

Williamson said Davis would speak to any group that wanted to hear him. She passed on a collection of his speeches to the library. A line in one speech, delivered to the National Society of Black Engineers Students, seemed to epitomize his philosophy as dean: "I hope that you will remember always that one person of courage makes a majority."

Jannus Landing

BY ANGELA M. CHIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Downtown St. Petersburg's Jannus Landing is one of Florida's oldest and largest outdoor concert venues. Artists from Snoop Dogg to Phish have performed at Jannus Landing. It's hallowed ground, but not because of its musical history.

Tony Jannus, a marine mechanic, fell in love with aviation after he answered a wanted poster for a job. He took flying lessons and later gained recognition for his flying exhibitions, including one that featured the first parachute jump from a plane. Jannus' greatest claim to fame occurred at 10 a.m., Jan. 1, 1914, when he piloted the first scheduled commercial passenger flight in the world. St. Petersburg Mayor A.C. Peil earned a place as first passenger by bidding $400. Piloting a Benoist Flying Boat, a two-seat bi-wing seaplane, the 23-minute flight was from St. Petersburg to Tampa. Some historical accounts reflect his flight as the birth of commercial aviation, although the concept didn't catch on until the mid-1930s.

In 1982, Jannus Landing opened as part of a revitalized downtown shopping district. Today, when people think of Jannus Landing, it is as a brick-walled courtyard off of First Avenue, a downtown concert venue. But legend has it that Tony Jannus and Mayor Peil met there before taking off to make history.

Williams House

BY MEGHAN RULISON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Williams House, named after the "Father and Mother" of the city of St. Petersburg, has a moving history, literally. The historic house sits in dignity along Second Street, between Fifth and Sixth Avenues South. John Constantine and Sarah Williams built the two-story Queen Anne-style home in 1890 at Fifth Avenue South and Fourth Street. The Williams helped establish St. Petersburg by providing the land that allowed the Orange Belt Railway to pass through the city on its way to Tampa Bay.

John Williams also campaigned to become the first mayor of St. Petersburg once it was incorporated on Feb. 25, 1892. Williams lost by a vote of 10-22 to an Indiana-born farmer named David Moffett. According to Raymond Arenas, author of "St. Petersburg and the Florida Dream 1884-1956" Moffett possessed neither the wealth nor the stature of Williams. Perhaps his defeat at the polls took a toll, because Williams died later that year.

Studying Sarah's diary, special events coordinator for the university, said keeping heritage in the community was a complicated process. It required a huge flat bed truck to carry the Williams House slowly to campus. Every car parked on the side of the street was moved and every traffic light lifted.

The Williams House now serves the university in a multitude of ways. On the second and third floors are offices for University Relations. The first floor hosts benefits, ceremonies and other functions that are generally open to the public.
Health 101: Health Educator Shannon Cho answers your health questions and offers advice for healthy living

Q: Stress is very common, particularly among college students, because of the busy schedule and multiple demands they are dealing with. I don't see it as something to downplay, but instead to let you know you are not the only one who is managing self. Can you provide some suggestions for stress relief?

A: Stress is very common, particularly among college students, because of the busy schedule and multiple demands they are dealing with. I don't see it as something to downplay, but instead to let you know you are not the only one who is managing self. Can you provide some suggestions for stress relief?

Dear Shannon,

STRESS

Dear Shannon,

I don't see it as something to downplay, but instead to let you know you are not the only one who is managing self. Can you provide some suggestions for stress relief?

I AM SO STRESSED OUT.

I am having a terrible time managing school, work, and life. Any suggestions?

CAROL

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Dear Shannon,
"Broken Flowers" breaks with predictability

BY CHRISTINA CASTELLANA

Many movies follow predictable patterns that lead to tidy endings. When a film ends before reaching a resolution, the reader of the unfinished business remains and leaves many viewers in limbo. Besides providing better entertainment, movies help people escape the minor to major trials of everyday life; when movies fail to offer the comfort of happy endings, the uncomfortable feeling of an unpredictable and unfair ending prevails.

"Broken Flowers" is one such movie that ends the same way it begins. Don Johnston (Bill Murray) plays a man who finds out he has a son from an anonymous letter he receives in the mail. Initially, he decides not to search for his son until his persuasive neighbor convinces him to go on the journey. Johnston's plan is to visit all the women from his past to figure out who sent the letter. Details that finely weave throughout the movie make every woman suspect. As the film progresses, Johnston continues to meet with opposition. Although he desperately wants to forgo his plan and go home, he forges ahead. At one point Johnston believes he finally finds his son through a series of coincidences. When these coincidences prove to be false, and the young man he thinks is his son is not Johnston, quickens Johnston is keen to realize that coincidences have no meaning in life. In the end, he realizes he was as he was when he received the infamous pink envelope in the mail; clueless and alone.

Viewers can relate to Johnston because he lives a random and unfair reality. Thoughts and questions linger after seeing the film. Will he ever get to see his son? Alas, the residue of an uncomfortable feeling of an unresolved unspoken question lingers after seeing the film. Johnston continues the film progresses, Johnston continues to meet with opposition. Although he finally finds his son through a series of coincidences. When these coincidences prove to be false, and the young man he thinks is his son is not Johnston, quickens Johnston is keen to realize that coincidences have no meaning in life. In the end, he realizes he was as he was when he received the infamous pink envelope in the mail; clueless and alone.

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Neighborhoods Program, Keep Pinellas Beautiful, and the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, which will be there with birds.

"We have focused on Bayboro Harbor because it is our little piece of the ocean," said Harris, "but the prevention of coastal pollution is an effort we can apply to all of our beaches and coastal waterways."

The Harbor Day Initiative also ties in with SEAS efforts to expand campus recycling and meet the requirements of the Campus Ecology Program, which is part of the National Wildlife Federation.

The goal of the Celebration is to celebrate and learn about Bayboro Harbor, and what everyone can do as a campus and a community to protect it and other coastal environments.

SEAS members hope to make the Harbor Day Celebration a yearly event.

"It should be a nice day," said SEAS President Danie Cutler, "We really hope to have a good campus turnout to support the goals of a cleaner and greener USFSP as well as the greater community."

Organizations that will be at the Harbor Day Celebration:
- Assistant Professor Barnali Dixon and her teaching assistant class (Geographic Information Systems)
- Assistant Professor Tom Smucker's research on xeriscape
- City of St. Petersburg - Marketing, Water Conservation and Stormwater departments
- Clam Bayou Marine Science Education Center (with USF College of Marine Science) Restoration Project
- Eric Steinle (Environmental Science, Policy and Geography)
- Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program
- Keep Pinellas Beautiful
- Mark Luther's College of Marine Science class
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Nelson Poynter Memorial Library
- Pinellas County - Solid Waste (will have recycling containers)
- SEAS
- Sierra Club
- Tampa Bay Estuary Program
- The Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary

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The Headliner of the Harbor Day Celebration --

The USF St. Petersburg campus features Bayboro Harbor. The Harbor Day Celebration on Wednesday, April 12, hopes to educate the campus and community about the Harbor and means of coastal conservation and preservation.

Photos by Mary Russell