City Council Member Wengay Newton participated in the ribbon-cutting event to inaugurate the new docks at the Waterfront. Photo by Lucas Cannistraci. Story on page 5.

INSIDE:

USFSP students living at the Hilton
Restaurant review: Acropolis Greek Taverna
USF Bulls sports: basketball preview
Nationally ranked USF Sailing Team photo story

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Hello, I am a junior here at USF and I have loved reading the school newspaper, but I immediately noticed this year that there is no longer a section for puzzles, sudoku, and such. Is there any particular reason for this? The news is important and obviously the focal point in a newspaper, but I feel like the student mind needs stimulation that goes beyond sports and politics. The interaction that it brought made an impact by involving the reader in a physical and mental connection. Can I expect to see the revival of a puzzle section or are my hopes to fall on deaf ears?

-Katie Steward

Dear Katie Steward,

The reason that you haven’t seen a section for puzzles, sudoku, etc., is because of the new changes that the Crow’s Nest has made this year.

Moreover, the puzzle section wasn’t deleted because we didn’t think that it wouldn’t work in the paper nor did we delete this section because we thought that it was boring. We’re simply recreating and restructuring the Crow’s Nest, so that we can find out what works for the paper.

I agree, Katie, having the puzzle section in the paper definitely brings interaction with our readership, so we’re working hard to find a way to put the puzzle section back into the paper.

You can expect to see these changes soon.

Thanks,

Nikeya Williams
Editor-in-Chief

Have questions or comments about this issue? Send your letter to the editor to nswilli6@mail.usf.edu.

Modern day hate crime leads to student suicide

On Sept. 19, Dharun Ravi, a student at Rutgers University, broadcast to the world that his roommate was hooking up with someone of the same sex via a live Internet stream. His roommate, 18-year-old Rutgers freshman Tyler Clementi, killed himself, jumping from the George Washington Bridge, on Sept. 22.

By now the television news talking heads have exhausted all the pertinent questions regarding Clementi’s death. Were the two events interrelated? Was it a hate crime? Was it bullying? How long of a prison sentence should Ravi and his cohort, Molly Wei, get, if any time at all?

These are good questions, but need no parroting. Equally important questions to ask are not only what kind of person does this, but in such a casual, nonchalant manner. Ravi posted an update to his Twitter page about the video. “Roommate asked for the room till midnight. I went into Molly’s room and turned on my webcam. I saw him making out with a dude. Yay” his post read.

Ravi’s attorney is most likely trying to paint this as a mistake in judgment, but this is an incomplete explanation for a larger societal problem about acceptable ways to treat another person.

Middle class, Rutgers-affording, high-achieving—Ravi is the prototypical model of moderate, young success in America, but his actions show him to be morally and empathetically hollow, at least in this instance.

Some have called for Ravi and Wei to be charged with a hate crime. But Ravi’s actions seem to point less to a malicious, intended hate crime, and more to arrogance and an extreme lack of empathy, as well as respect for another person’s privacy. He thought it would be funny. Clementi wasn’t openly gay, according to NPR, and if he had told Ravi he needed the room to be along with a girl, Ravi still could have turned on his webcam.

Ravi found an opportunity to gratify his urge for amusement and, like a classic narcissist, believed others would surely find humor in what he found funny. Ravi’s intent may not have been intentionally malicious, but his actions were.

Clementi’s gruesome death came not from the fact of the taping itself, but from the potential repercussions, the exposure that would ensue after. Ravi was the idiot conduit to the real issue that bewiried Clementi—having his homosexuality exposed.

While Ravi and Wei must be held accountable for their actions, the underlying problem is not Ravi’s particular actions in this particular situation, but the social climate toward gays that we all facilitate, whether through extreme hatred and bigotry, or more subtly, through judgmental looks, preconceived ideas, or when we use derogatory language in casual conversation.

As a society, we need to recognize that our words and our actions affect others, even without our intention.
Sustain-a-Bull: Is USFSP trashy?

Jerrod Simpson
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The average American throws away 600 times his or her body weight during his lifetime. That's a lot of trash. Over 80 percent of this trash is recyclable or compostable—and probably worth some money. Less than 16 percent of aluminum cans tossed as landfill had a market value of $60 million. The energy we would save from recycling one aluminum can could run a freezer for three hours, or a television for two hours, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

"When I'm bored, I'm thinking about how much money we're wasting," said Jerrod Simpson, a senior biology major. "You're throwing away money!" The main point of recycling, Simpson adds, is to save money and help the environment. Simpson, along with Steve McElroy, a senior chemistry major, recently started a recycling program on campus. They plan to provide every dormitory with at least a half dozen recycling bins; they will be responsible for sorting the recyclables, turning them in, and receiving money for each bin's worth of recyclables.

The recycling bins on campus are the same kind used in several other universities, according to Simpson. Simpson and McElroy recently met with officials from the University of South Florida to discuss the recycling program. The University of South Florida has a successful recycling program that Simpson was impressed with.

"They're doing a great job," Simpson said. "Some schools don't even use bins." Simpson and McElroy are using bins similar to those used at the University of South Florida. They plan to provide every dormitory with at least a half dozen recycling bins; the bins will be responsible for sorting the recyclables, turning them in, and receiving money for each bin's worth of recyclables.

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Many GLBT students and faculty feel the need to stay invisible, Windmeyer said. He said this idea of invisibility among the GLBT community allows people to think it is ok to make jokes and be anti-the group. One-fourth of GLBT students have reported harassment or discrimination on their campuses, and he has seen this more frequently and blatantly with transgender students.

Harassment and discrimination at different levels is a reality for many students, he said. Being comfortable with one’s sexual orientation can be difficult without a supportive environment.

"Gay don't live in the world of 'Will and Grace,' or 'Modern Family,'" Windmeyer said. "They live in the real world of what it's like to come out to family and friends." Young adults have varying experiences with coming out, and the reactions they receive from their families is often overlooked and misrepresented.

"We still have to laugh at gay/lesbian portrayals," Windmeyer said. "We usually don't hear about real lives."

Multicultural Affairs invited Windmeyer to visit USF St. Petersburg as part of its Celebrate Diversity events calendar.

Windmeyer visits between 25 and 50 universities a month, he said, to talk about GLBT issues. He works to make campuses safe, welcoming environments for GLBT students. He is also the author of the "College Guide for LGBT Students," the first college guide profiling the 100 Best LGBT-Friendly Campuses.

Windmeyer's discussion was intimate and interactive, with sandwiches outnumbering the students who came to the event. The small crowd allowed him to interact with all members of the audience. His message was passionate and powerful, reminding the audience that gay, transgender, and bisexual students are often overlooked and misrepresented.

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Artists discuss breast cancer and activism

Tom Chang Staff Writer tmchang@mail.usf.edu

Artist and activist Matuschka met with students at USF St. Petersburg on Oct. 6 in Davis 103. She spoke about her career as an artist, a model and a pioneering activist for breast cancer awareness. During her visit, she also spoke to various classes in addition to her lecture.

Matuschka expressed a message of inspiration, originality and changing the negative to something positive.

"Particularly in art, you can turn an adverse situation into a position or a constructive work that can help benefit others," Matuschka said. Her best-known work is the 1993 award-winning cover picture of the New York Times Magazine where she first became major attention to breast cancer.

"I think it's great that we have someone like Matuschka and her body of work as an artist coming to our campus," said Lottie Watts, a student in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies. "I think you can't look at the (NY Times) picture without stopping and thinking about all the tragedies that are still happening."

Matuschka said her work is an ongoing project and she uses her work to help benefit others.

"I'm going to do a memoir," Matuschka said. "I find my life morem collage done to the computer now." Matuschka said the accessibility of the web has benefited her work. She has been using her inspiration to create art. She has been using her art to help benefit others.

"You can get access to more stuff. I can look at stuff from places like China, which isn't something I could do really 30 years ago, but I'm not sure that the spirit is there anymore," Matuschka said. "There were movements where artists got together, like the Dada movement or the surreal movement. People are now particular about that thing she won't do, that movement." Matuschka said she was a part of the movement "Ragit," which was released last year.

Campus clubs plant trees and raise awareness for climate crisis

Keesley Sherman Managing Editor kmshereman@mail.usf.edu

Student and community organizations came together to add a little more green to the USF St. Petersburg campus on Oct. 10.

Ten groups sponsored 11 new trees that were planted in the areas behind Davis Hall and the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. The trees were planted earlier in the week, and the Student Environmental Awareness Society hosted a dedication ceremony on Oct. 10 to recognize the organizations that donated time and money to bring the new trees to campus.

The group had a lot of volunteers help with the planting, according to Stephanie Lawler, president of SEAS.

"We had a lot of people coming out of the woodwork to help," she said.

SEAS got the idea from the 350.org 10/10 Global Work Party initiative. 350.org is an "international campaign that's bringing a movement to unite the world around solutions to the climate crisis," according to the group's website.

SEAS used ideas from the website to come up with its own 10/10/10 activities, including the tree planting.

SEAS worked with the university to bring native trees to campus. The trees had to meet certain requirements, and not interfere with signs on buildings or underground piping, or future plans for development. The university and maintenance staff was supportive of the project and in helping them to comply with the requirements, Lawler said.

Organizations that sponsored trees included SEAS, the Botanical Club, the Garden Club, Student Government, the Siesta Club, Solar Source, Reower Armosa, a student chapter of the National Association of Environmental Professionals and the Student Environmental Awareness Society.

"It's an incredible opportunity to show students how passionate we are, and the clubs are about this," Ellington said.

The trees were picked specifically because they are native to the area, with special considerations for tolerance to things like salt and sunlight, according to Kim Barrera, community outreach coordinator for SEAS.

After the dedication ceremony, attendees rode bicycles to Little Bayou Park in South St. Petersburg to participate in a tree party. They cleaned up the park, removed invasive exotic plants to make room for native plants, and had a tree give-aways.

The Urban Gypsies provided music and T-shirts, and offered free bicycle tune-ups.

In addition to planting the trees, SEAS also planted native foliage in the beach area behind Davis Hall, as part of an ongoing effort started on Earth Day. They planted things like beach el­lipses, sunflowers and morning glories in the area.

They plan to continue working on it as they see which plants work best, and hope to add chains later so students can enjoy the area.

"We want to show the school that it can be beautiful," Lawler said.

Matuschka said. "I'm looking to do a retrospective of his work and my work. I bought some of his work after his death, I'm going to do a memo­rial, a tribute to my teacher."
USFSP's Waterfront gets new docks

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The USF St. Petersburg marine looks different this year, because of the newly completed docks that sit nestled on the Waterfront. This comple-
tion of the new docks called for a ribbon-cutting celebra-
tion.

On Tuesday, Oct. 12, USF St. Petersburg de-
cided to dedicate the new docks at the Waterfront
Ribbon-Cutting event.

"In order to get this project completed, as you
see today, it took city guidelines, to seek
the man's review; it took the marina, and it took the
students," said Margaret Sullivan, regional chan-
cellor.

The new docks project took USF St. Peters-
burg some time to complete, but the completion
finally happened. "The project has been in the
works for 5 years," said Zac Oppenheim, water-
craft programs coordinator. "Construction was
completed in late September."

The new docks project was funded by student
fees, which were dispersed from the capital im-
provement trust fund.

"The trust fund is dispersed every few years
by the capital improvement trust fund commit-
ttee," Oppenheim said. "Other projects the [trust
fund paid for include the renovation at the
journalism department, who hosted the event.

The funding and support for the new docks
wasn’t easy to get for the campus. Student Gov-
ernment had to create an awareness for the new
docks.

"It was more informal pressure, we had some
sailors on senate in [SG]," said Christian Hass,
SG senate president. "It was basically [SG using
our relationship with administration to say that
the docks] are a huge incentive that [administra-
tion] needed to push forward on it."

Although the funding and support for the
new docks took some convincing and debate, the
new docks are ready for use.

According to the USF St. Petersburg news
website, the summer renovation for the new
docks added a kayak and canoe ramp, space for
30 flying junior sailing dinghies and slips for sev-
len larger sailboats.

Ukrainian journalists and students share experiences

Tom Chang
Staff Writer
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Eight Ukrainian journalists visited the Depart-
ment of Journalism and Media Studies on Oct.
7, to share their life experiences as journalists in
their country," said Amanda Decker, a graduate stu-
dent in the Department of Journalism and Media
Studies. "Seeing an outside perspective gives the
students here the opportunity to reflect on our
own system of education and media practices."

With aid from a translator, the group spoke at
length about various issues, such as shield laws,
access to information, and journalism education
in the Ukraine. The group also asked questions
about journalism in the US.

I was shocked at the fact that the Ukrainian
government has their own government-run news
station, although the visiting journalists did say
that the government station is not as popular as
the privately-owned ones," Decker said.

Dardenne explained many facets of the Amer-
ican media to the Ukrainian journalists, from the
decline in print media to the emergence of blog-
ging as a media force. Students added to the ex-
change about life in the journalism program.

"The ownership structure of the media
around the country always interests me and Uki-
raine, and other countries in that area have similar
structures or have structures that are so different
from ours in a lot of ways," Dardenne said.

Government-owned media is prevalent in
other countries, Dardenne said, though govern-
ment-produced news is not often popular.

"But they don’t have to worry about advertis-
ing, because government pays for it. Then they
have corporate-owned media, individual-owned
media and independent media," he said.

"They have a much more complex media struc-
ture that we do. That makes for a lot of different
ideas for sure, but there’s also a lot of competi-
tion."

One common trend American and Ukrainian
journalists share is the need for the journalist to
be more self-sufficient. One Ukrainian journal-
ist recalled telling an oparat reporter to learn to

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Unfiltered thoughts from a dude on "Sex and the City 2"

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...Somehow, on my own accord, in some weird line of thought... no, enough excuses. I watched "Sex and the City 2." Wow, that felt good.

Released back in May, "Sex and the City 2" is now slated for DVD and Blu-Ray release on Oct. 26. Apparently this little number's got a few home features you missed in theaters including "Back in the 'Bib" which reflects on the four girls days-gone-by out time together in late 80's Manhattan, and a behind-the-scenes feature with Alex Karev—show song with Jay Z, "Empire State of Mind," served as the movie's opening theme.

"Sex and the City 2" is not bad—definitely not good, but not bad either. I expected some chick flick about an interesting, at least bearable, foursome of rich, white women getting tipsy and prattling on in Abu Dhabi.

From the dude perspective, it's a lot of women to handle, almost two and a half hours worth, in fact.

We start with our book-wititing pen-pal Carrie Bradshaw (Sarah Jessica Parker)—or Carrie Penison now—as she's married to some big guy nicknamed Big. I guess they got married in the first one or something. I'm a guy. Just watching this movie is devastatingly reputation-crushing enough, so you can Google that if you really want to know.

So Carrie's married, and so is Miranda (Cynthia Nixon), and so is Charlotte (Kristin Davis). Samantha (Kim Cattrall), the crazy blonde one who likes to have sex, is the only single one, but is slowly succumbing to the dreaded pitfalls of menopause at the age of 52. They get to a wedding between two of their gay friends, Stanford and Anthony, and nothing happens except for a couple forced, awkward moments to show how unique and quirky Carrie is, while Lisa Minnelli sings "Single Ladies" and the crazy one who likes to have sex.

Then we get our first scene between Carrie and Big exclusively, and this kind of won me over. In fact, every scene between them was quite real and believable. Marriages are tough, they insinuate. Carrie wants to maintain the social butterfly status she cherishes so much now that she's tied down, and Big wants to get takeout and watch TV every night.

It's seemingly trivial, but indicative, I think, of that schism between male and female expectations in a marriage. The dialogue between them is always smart, charming and human. Carrie gets Big a vintage Rolex for their anniversary. Big gets Carrie a flat-screen TV for their bedroom after remembering one nice time they had watching "It Happened One Night" in their hotel at the wedding.

"Did I f— up?" Big asks at Carrie's obvious dismay. She nods. It just felt real—whatever that means—which was nice because nearly the entire next two-thirds of this movie are completely pointless.

Carrie, the wild one, gets an invitation to go to Abu Dhabi to do PR for some hotel that's opening. In some twist of woman-logic, all her friends just have to go too, because we all bring our three best friends on important business trips. They get there and—I'm not kidding—the plot just sits there like a fat blob for the next hour. They shop. And each have their own Maybach (that's an approximately $350,000 car, by the way). And, and, and, it's just fabulous! And Carrie just happens to run into her most significant ex-boyfriend while shopping for shoes halfway across the world. So that's a nice, little, completely obvious and forced plot twist.

I'll stop barfing up the plot for you now. Pop in the DVD and relive the cinematic genius. Just know this movie is about one-third a real, honest and very makes-you-think examination of what it's like to be married, and two-thirds moderately attractive, overdressed women, prattling crazy dialogue and whining about being middle-aged, rich, and on vacation in, arguably, the most luxurious vacation destination in the world—for free.

"Sex and the City 2" is out on DVD Tues., Oct. 26.

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Restaurant Review: Acropolis Greek Taverna

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My first thought when I walked through the doors of Acropolis Greek Taverna was, 'what is with all of the napkins? They're everywhere.'

The Greek restaurant—taverna as they call it—is recently opened at 515 Central Ave. in downtown St. Petersburg. It's taken the place of the well-received Italian restaurant Bella Bpeech, which has now moved to Beach Drive.

Upon entering the Greek taverna, we were greeted with loud, live music and a polite server, who seemed eager to please. "Would you like to sit inside or outside?" she asked. As she guided us to our booth on the first floor inside, I was careful not to slip on the napkins on the floor.

The restaurant offers a full menu with appetizers, salads, sandwiches and entrees. The prices average from $6 to $15. For a college student on a budget, this is fairly decent price for a nice, sit-down restaurant.

For a mixed drink, you'll pay about as much as you do for your meal. Most of the drinks cost around $8. But if you don't want to order a special drink, go Greek all the way and order a Greek beer for $4. I tried Myrto, which our server said was the most popular. I also tried the Alpha. Both of these beers were light and went great with my Greek food at reasonable prices. With a cultural influence on the environment, there is no need to travel across the globe for an unforgettable dining experience. Welcome to Greece, St. Petersburg.

The live music was comfortably loud. We could converse during our meal. The music was just loud enough to prevent to table talks or from eavesdropping.

Throughout the evening the servers participated in zumba dancing, which is a type of traditional Greek dancing. They joined hands and created a line, dancing around the restaurant. As they danced, the music got faster.

Some servers ran throughout the restaurant and started throwing napkins at the different tables, yelling "opa!" This explains the napkins. They throw them at you whether you're eating or not, and they fall onto your plate.

Speaking of plates... once the dancing is finished someone in the back of the restaurant breaks a stack of plates using a single plate, catching the remains in a trashcan. I'm assuming they break them into the trashcan for safety reasons. Napkins are one thing, but glass on the floor is probably not recommended here in the flip-flop town.

When I searched online for the tradition of breaking plates, I found that it is actually banned in some Greek restaurants now. According to the Acropolis website, they break the plates because, "Worldwide, noise is believed to drive away evil, and the sound of the plates smashing against the stone or marble floors of Greek houses would be loud enough to scare off almost anything."

Hopefully these smashing plates are not loud enough to scare off anyone in St. Petersburg. "You don't have to travel across the globe for inspired Mediterranean cuisine because we've brought the very best home to you," the Acropolis Greek Taverna ad claims. Acropolis offers Greek food at reasonable prices. With a cultural atmosphere complete with zumba dancing, falling napkins, live music and smashing plates, Acropolis is an unforgettable dining experience. Welcome to Greece, St. Petersburg.

The passage of time and influence of environment are rampant themes throughout the band's EP, "Nychthemeron" (nii-THEM-er-on). The title is taken from Greek, meaning a 24-hour period, thus the song titles: "Dawn," "Noon," and "Twilight.

Each song is meant to represent the amount of light present. Darkness makes way for light, just as melancholy for joy. The EP is the manifestation of the band's perception of the human experience, an interest that permeates the members' lives way beyond their music. As anthropology, psychology and criminology majors, they have spent countless hours studying the human conditions and applying their knowledge to their musical journey.

Yet, they know the importance of not taking themselves too seriously. "It's all about the free beer, self-satisfaction and good times," Handal said. You can't get more philosophical than that.

Expect good things to come from these guys as they perfect their chemistry. "Nychthemeron" is available for free download at their website, nychthemeron.com and it is due for release in hard copy on Nov. 13 at Fubar in Downtown St. Petersburg.
Amy Heckler
Contributing Editor
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The premiere of "Dry Creek," directed by USF St. Petersburg professor Debbie Wolfe, aired Oct. 5, at 9:30 p.m. on In Country Television, a national satellite network.

"It's a western that addresses timeless human issues, but we try to keep everything kind of fun and light-hearted," Wolfe said.

"Dry Creek" is scheduled to air weekly, with a designated timeframe of Tuesday nights at 9:30 p.m., EST. Producer Lee McDowell said he has a contract with the network through Dec. 31, 2010, with the option to renew the contract for 2011.

In Country Television airs nationally to nearly 14 million households on DISH Network, channel 236 and "will soon be available to millions more via the Internet," according to the network's website.

The show is a throwback to Little House and Dr. Quinn. It's set in a small town in California, where neighbors know each other, and your word was good.

The Haines Road Thrift Shop is owned and operated by Mary People-Lee, a native of the St. Petersburg area.

Lee, a single mother, remembers a time when she was trying to find her son's clothing. She went to every second-hand store in the area, and still could not find something within her budget.

"It amazed me that people had the audacity to sell things at that price with the economy the way it is," Lee said. She decided to open her own thrift store about a year and four months ago. Like many start-up businesses, it came with challenges.

"Caring for a diabetic son and living from the proceeds of her brother's estate, Lee decided to take her struggles and turn them into a project.

"Through Dry Creek, we get to address our good 'ol country raising. When neighbors know each other, and your word was your contract. Back before your address had an SS in it. Everybody knows where Dry Creek is...cause it's inside of all of us."

The premiere was held at Renningston's St. Luke's Church in Wesley Chapel. Wolfe explained that the restaurant was selected as the venue due to the fact that they subscribe to DISH network, the network that airs In Country Television.

"It was standing room only," said Elias Jones, bartender at the event. "You couldn't even get in on the deck."

"It's a great night," said Randy Burke, the actor who plays a blacksmith and "troublemaker" on the show.

The creation of the show began with a chance meeting between Wolfe and McDowell as a book store earlier this year, Wolfe said. McDowell hired Wolfe to produce short videos for his website to promote his cowboy poetry books. Upon completion of the first few videos, Art Farhan, "the voice of Dry Creek," suggested they submit the video to a television station as a series.

"It all happened so fast," she said.

McDowell said everyone on the show, from the actors to the camera crew, "is a volunteer. A lot of the actors are actual cowboys, he said.

"While of my right-hand person in this project, the believability in 'Dry Creek' continued on page 9

Local thrift store offers affordable merchandise

Lesay Ruhl
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If you're looking for a deal, you can't miss this town—literally.

The big sign in front of the bright yellow building with eye-catching oddes and oval doors, "Haines Road Thrift Shop!" brings underfoot is "Best Dad ever!"

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"Caring for a diabetic son and living from the proceeds of her brother's estate, Lee decided to take her struggles and turn them into a project.

"Through Dry Creek, we get to address our good 'ol country raising. When neighbors know each other, and your word was your contract. Back before your address had an SS in it. Everybody knows where Dry Creek is...cause it's inside of all of us."

The premiere was held at Renningston's St. Luke's Church in Wesley Chapel. Wolfe explained that the restaurant was selected as the venue due to the fact that they subscribe to DISH network, the network that airs In Country Television.

"It was standing room only," said Elias Jones, bartender at the event. "You couldn't even get in on the deck."

"It's a great night," said Randy Burke, the actor who plays a blacksmith and "troublemaker" on the show.

The creation of the show began with a chance meeting between Wolfe and McDowell as a book store earlier this year, Wolfe said. McDowell hired Wolfe to produce short videos for his website to promote his cowboy poetry books. Upon completion of the first few videos, Art Farhan, "the voice of Dry Creek," suggested they submit the video to a television station as a series.

"It all happened so fast," she said.

McDowell said everyone on the show, from the actors to the camera crew, "is a volunteer. A lot of the actors are actual cowboys, he said.

"While of my right-hand person in this proj- ect, the believability in 'Dry Creek' continued on page 9

Fall fashion 101

Amanda Pretulac
Contributing Editor
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College fashion revolves around comfort, but that does not mean that sweats are the only option. Look to the fall runways for inspiration.

This season's trends include military style, plaid, oversized knit and 20's-inspired looks. I have se- lected four types of personalities to fit each trend, with budget friendly and comfortable options.

The Overachiever: The military trend is perfect for people that are really into the theme. Look to the fall runways for inspiration. This season's trends include military style, plaid, oversized knit and 20's-inspired looks. I have se- lected four types of personalities to fit each trend, with budget friendly and comfortable options.

The Premiere of "Dry Creek," directed by USF St. Petersburg professor Debbie Wolfe, aired Oct. 5, at 9:30 p.m. on In Country Television, a national satellite network.

"It's a western that addresses timeless human issues, but we try to keep everything kind of fun and light-hearted," Wolfe said.

"Dry Creek" is scheduled to air weekly, with a designated timeframe of Tuesday nights at 9:30 p.m., EST. Producer Lee McDowell said he has a contract with the network through Dec. 31, 2010, with the option to renew the contract for 2011.

In Country Television airs nationally to nearly 14 million households on DISH Network, channel 236 and "will soon be available to millions more via the Internet," according to the network's website.

The show is a throwback to Little House and Dr. Quinn. It's set in a small town in California, where neighbors know each other, and your word was good.

The Haines Road Thrift Shop is owned and operated by Mary People-Lee, a native of the St. Petersburg area.

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Festival celebrated Caribbean backgrounds

Lauren Martin
Staff Writer
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The Black Student Association, Latin American Student Association, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored the Caribbean heritage event on Oct. 3, to celebrate students’ cultures.

"There are a lot of people on campus that were born in the islands or have a Caribbean background," said Rosa Bear, a member of Multicultural Affairs, who is of Jamaican descent.

As part of the homecoming week events, the campus multicultural groups gathered like they were on the islands or have a Caribbean background, but also brought awareness to the student organizations.

"This event was very successful and it got people interested in knowing more about the Black Student Association as well," McBride said. "We have more people who want to join the club."

The multicultural organizations on campus are going to be continuing the celebration of culture by putting on a heritage festival every semester.

"Last spring, we put on an Indian and Spanish festival for the students. We haven't decided what culture were going to focus on next, but there is going to be a multicultural event every semester," Tobler said.

If you're interested in joining the Crow's Nest as an Ad Sales Representative, please contact jskemper@mail.usf.edu

Continued from page 8 "Dry Creek"

Creek," he said. Wolfe explained that, in time, advertising revenues will pay for the production of the show and salaries for the personnel. McDowell worked as a traffic reporter on WQYK radio in Tampa from 1987 to 2005, and for WPSF-FM in Gulfport from 2001 to 2009. "[I'm] a real cowboy—a horse trainer, blacksmith, a trick ropers and a rangefinder builder," he said.

When McDowell was laid off from work in 2009, he decided to create his own corporation, which is for students that look forward to social outings more than their English lectures. This trend is bold and unique but also brings awareness to the student organizations.

"This was a life-changing event," she said. Wolfe works as an adjunct professor teaching photojournalism at USF St. Petersburg where she received her master's degree in 1989. She also worked as a professional reporter, managing editor and freelance for the Associated Press.

"The show is shot weekly on location in Parish at the Rock's N Ranch, owned by McDowell. The official website for "Dry Creek" is dryreek-productions.com.
Animal Shelter tries to find recognition in a weak economy

Ashley Rogers  
Neighborhood News Bureau

Animal shelters across the country care for an estimated 6 to 8 million dogs and cats every year, according to the Humane Society of the United States. Approximately 3 to 4 million of those animals are then euthanized due to overpopulation and limited housing facilities.

Promoting a no-kill, non-profit shelter dedicated to tackling the daily financial challenges in order to help animals in the community, one case at a time...

Founded in the 1980s, Pet Pal Rescue was created by two women seeking homes for animals at high risk of being euthanized. Originally based in Orlando, Pet Pal expanded its dream with the St. Petersburg by opening Pet Pal Animal Shelter in 2004, followed by Pet Pal Spay/Neuter Clinic in 2005.

Pet Pal offers medical assistance, behavioral training, and the initial housing of each animal.

The weakened economy has increased the financial concerns of non-profit organizations like Pet Pal that are not nationally recognized and must rely heavily on community funding to stay afloat, said Mary Alexander, director of development.

"Steadily but surely, we are getting our name out," Alexander said, "Donations are down, not just in the animal world, but in any type of non-profit."

Pet Pal volunteers look for opportunities to give back to the community, with a website and Facebook page, as well as monthly visits to local events, schools and dog parks.

"We are really looking for ways to get the word out through social media with friends that work well with the breed characteristics.

Due to the recession, Pet Pal has seen an increase in the number of animals entering shelters. The majority of Pet Pal animals come from Hillsborough County shelters that have hit capacity. The organization refuses to put pets on hold for prospective adopters since the lives of future Pet Pal animals rely on each successful adoption to continue the cycle.

"It's not fair for an animal to leave and come back," Alexander said, "If we hold an animal for you, we might miss out on the perfect adopter for them."

Posting a pet on hold may endanger the life of another animal, since most animals brought to Pet Pal are within 24 to 48 hours of being euthanized, Alexander said.

Pet Pal is currently at capacity with its 50 animal population. Denying animals access into the facility is a difficult task.

"It's all about what I can afford to take in," Daly said. "It comes down to money all the time. In order for me to take in animals and save lives, I have to have donations."

According to Daly, it takes about $10,000 a month to keep Pet Pal in service, and each adoption costs between $400 and $600 to complete. Most animals that come to the facility are in need of medical care that is expensive and time consuming.

"A lot of people like to see what they're donating for," Daly said. "At Pet Pal, I can literally put it in your hand and show you what you're donating for."

Young journalists spread the news on campus

Austin Arias  
Neighborhood News Bureau

The students at the Academy Prep Center of St. Petersburg are anxiously anticipating the release of their debut issue of the school's first student-produced newspaper.

"The program was recently added to the Center's roster of enrichment programs offered to increase student demand. "The students wanted to start a newspaper because they wanted to learn more about what was going on on campus," said Ali Whiteley, a fifth grade teacher and the newspaper program advisor.

The overall goal of the program is to "provide information for the school to read and for students to express themselves," Whiteley said. "The students will be able to write things that are outside the classroom."

The group of about 15 students ranges from fifth to eighth graders. The group works out of their own newspaper in the Center's computer lab and meets three times a week. The students select their own editor-in-chief and staff photographers.

Before the group publishes their premiere issue, the students have been going through educational activities to help them adjust to the news style of writing. One recent activity included challenging the students to find common news writing elements like the "who, what, when, where, and how" in news stories from local media organizations.

The group will write on a variety of topics. They are encouraged to write about topics that affect their classmates, and interesting things in the community. Everything printed in the newspaper will be student-produced, and will include news stories, artwork and photographs. They hope to receive submissions from students outside the program as well.

"The students also wanted to get to know their campus better and the things that were also happening in the community," Whiteley said.

The program recently reached out to the local community for support. They invited Nikaya Williams, editor in chief of the USF St. Petersburg student newspaper, to help them get the program off the ground.

"My experience at Academy Prep was one of enjoyment and excitement," Williams said. "The students asked me questions about how to get their paper started and published. I was very impressed with how well versed they were in news writing."

Williams plans to have staff from The Crow's Nest get involved with the Center's program. Many of the students mentioned that they wanted to learn from her staff writers and photographers to help their paper.

"The students are eager and ready to learn about journalism, and this shows that there's a need to reach out to the community to help and build this student newspaper," Williams said.

The Center hopes to reach out more to the local community and invite more guest, like Williams, to help build up their program.

The newspaper wants to begin printing soon, and their goal is to print bi-weekly, to show students that "writing can be interesting and fun," Whiteley said.
Bulls set to tip off basketball season

Bob Bibelhauser
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As the NCAA hoops season quickly approach-

es, the USF Bulls basketball team looks to pick up

right where it left off.

Last year's 20-13 record, which was one of the

best in school history, ended in disappointment as

the Bulls' early exit from the conference tour-

nament meant narrowly missing a bid of acceptance to

the NIT Tournament.

They did make the National Invitation Tour-

nament for the first time in eight years. However,

data stay in this tournament lasted just one game after

a heartbreaking loss to North Carolina State University by one point.

Head coach Stan Heath's challenge this year

will be proving that his team can compete in the

Big East—arguably the nation's top basketball

conference—without theexploreness of Do-

minique Jones. The point guard, who was drafted

in the first round with the 25th overall selection in the

NBA Draft, now plays for the Dallas Mav-

ers.

Jones was a top producer for USF in points-
game, minutes played, assists and so on. He led the Big East in scoring average last season,

and losing him leaves a huge hole in the team that

will be almost impossible to fill.

The Bulls have, however, locked down roster

spots for two new players in the upcoming sea-

son. Forward Victor Rudd recently transferred

from Arizona State University. Rudd, although

an eligible athlete, is required by NCAA trans-

fer rules to sit out this season. But he could be

a major factor on the team next season when he

is eligible.

Three-tool big man Andre Jackson has com-

mitted to USF but will likely have to sit out a year

as well. At 6 feet 10 inches tall and 275 pounds,

Jackson could be a big playmaker for the Bulls.

He averaged 9.2 points and 6.0 rebounds per

game last year while a freshman at Lee College in

Texas.

"He's not a finished product but he's not a

project anymore," Lee assistant coach Marcus

King said, according to tampabay.com. "He's one of

the few people in college basketball that's a true

3, a big, live-post presence.

The Bulls have been weak at center for years

and may never have had a player with the

physical abilities that Jackson has.

Another loss to the team was the depart-

e of graduating senior guard Chris Howard, who

was considered to be a coach on the court and

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Photo story: A look at USF's Sailing Team

Photos by Lucas Cannistraci

Team Captain Rachael Silverstein sets up the two-handed sailing boat at USF St. Petersburg's waterfront docks.

USF Sailing Team has 30 members who take to the water for practice Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to dusk.

USF Sailing Team's Abby Featherstone, a sophomore in Mass Communications, maneuvers the single-handed boat.

The Sailing Team is a diverse group of students with skills ranging from beginner to seasoned national champions.

Stephanie Reynolds, crew of the USF Sailing Team.

Rachael Silverstein, in open water, giving directions on the next practice exercise.