Tadlocked in: He’s ‘interim’ no more

By Dinorah Prevost, dpревост@mail.usf.edu

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Joy radiated across Martin Tadlock’s face as he jumped and jived to the “Petey Shuffler” alongside students and faculty Thursday at Get on Board Day, just two days after being named regional chancellor of USF St. Petersburg.

Tadlock, 64, who served as interim regional chancellor for 11 months, has a distinctly different leadership style from his predecessor, Sophia Wisniewska, whom he replaced after her abrupt ousting in September 2017.

Jumping into the mix of campus culture is nothing new for an administrator who usually gets to work before dawn, regularly mingles with students and sends cheerful emails to employees that are full of exclamation marks.

Now that his position as regional chancellor is secure, Tadlock vows to work hard for students and faculty as the St. Petersburg regional chancellor is secure, Tadlock wants to reach.

Each week, he sends an upbeat “Regional Chancellor’s Weekly Message” to faculty and staff with updates on campus developments, personnel changes and faculty achievements. And he regularly holds campus forums to make announcements and take questions.

Family and education first

At a faculty forum in September 2017, Tadlock described his early life and his long, circuitous journey into higher education.

“A difference “in not just the heart of St. Petersburg, featuring drinks that satisfy your sweet tooth, Partnerships with the neighboring bars ensure an exciting night out.

Psychological analyses help explain why we contribute to the stigma of those with HIV. Those diagnosed learned to empathize more with those they thought lost of and find solidarity in the fact that no one is alone.

BOOKING IT TO POVERTY

By Whitney Elfstrom, welfstrom@mail.usf.edu
and Emily Wunderlich ewunderlich@mail.usf.edu

Making sure students have every opportunity possible. “I’ve never been shy about expressing the needs that we have in St. Pete,” he said.

Last spring he started what he calls “Sailing with Tadlock,” where students can put their names into a raffle for a chance to take to the sea with the regional chancellor.

Instead of having an employee pass out flyers or post them around campus, Tadlock himself walks around and hands them to passing students.

Tadlock also said he wants to start biking around downtown and taking pottery classes with students. It’s important that students know their voices are being heard, he said.

“It’s not just the student body Tadlock wants to reach.

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Family and education first

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“Dirt poor” as a youngster, Martin Tadlock worked at six universities before ascending to the top post in St. Petersburg.

By Amy Diaz amydiaz@mail.usf.edu

A longtime university librarian and Pinellas County historian who became one of USF St. Petersburg’s most popular figures has been convicted of possessing child pornography and sentenced to two years in state prison.

James Anthony Schnur, 53, was sentenced in Pinellas County Circuit Court Aug. 1 and surrendered to state prison authorities Aug. 7, according to the Florida Department of Corrections website.

He is scheduled for release June 17, 2020.

For a quarter century as a dedicated volunteerism, commitment to student success and dedicated volunteerism, for example, are legendary. These aspects of Jim are not forgotten.”

Schnur’s arrest and resignation constituted a stunning fall from grace for a man who seemed to grow up just as the campus did.

He arrived as an undergraduate student in 1986 and earned his bachelor’s in history in 1988.

Schnur was described in his USF St. Petersburg alumni portfolio as an “archivist, author, faculty (and) public speaker.”

Schnur became a student leader, winning the USF Golden Signet Service Award for student leadership twice. He went on to earn master’s degrees in history in 1995 and library science in 1996. He taught courses at Eckerd College and USF Tampa, and worked as the special collections librarian at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

Former librarian sent to prison

By Amy Diaz amydiaz@mail.usf.edu
She was paid, but not by USF

By Nancy McCann
Contributor

The secret is out, but the mystery endures.

“LaRae is highly supportive and has been my entire career,” he said. “She was always my sounding board. We’ve been married since ‘74.”

About every decision, it’s always been our decision.”

“I could not be doing this work or any of the work that I’ve been doing in education if it wasn’t for the support of my family,” he said. “That’s just critical.”

As he followed his career in education, his family had to move while his children were in various stages of their K-12 experience,” Tadlock said.

And, of course, it’s been a family conversation about those kinds of things. It’s been that way my entire career.”

Now with his four grown children living in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Idaho and Texas, Tadlock and his wife are alone here in St. Petersburg.

“We’re the modern American family,” he said. “We have no remaining family in this area so the community, faculty, staff and students really become our family here. That’s what helps make up for that distance we have from each other.”

Impressive metrics

Tadlock is the seventh leader of the St. Petersburg campus since Judy Genshaft became USF system president in 2000.

After outgoing Winniehsia, Genshaft said she would begin searching for a permanent replacement for Tadlock by early fall of 2018. Tadlock, who had arrived as regional vice chancellor for academic affairs just a year earlier, didn’t make the payment.

The total cost … for Ms. Lev’s work and the persuader company, is $315,000 a year in his new position, plus a performance-based stipend determined solely by Genshaft’s discretion.

The contract directs Tadlock to “provide proactive, collaborative, leadership and work with student success, citing the 10-point increase in freshman retention.

“It’s not just about me, it’s about President Genshaft’s trust in everyone at USFSP,” Tadlock said.

Although his contract extends through June 2021, Tadlock said he’s open to discussing the priorities already set forth by campus faculty, students and administration.

“I’m not going to think about what comes three years from now. I don’t know. That’s just something you don’t know. Student success comes first; that’s why we’re here.”

Under the contract, Tadlock will earn $315,000 a year in his new position, plus a performance-based stipend determined solely by Genshaft’s discretion.

The contract directs Tadlock to “provide proactive, collaborative, leadership and implement the Consolidation of the USF System with no lapse in accreditations, preeminence or opportunities for our students to graduate on time,” to “keep the third (USFSP residence hall project on budget and on schedule” and to “continue to focus on meeting student success goals and the Performance Based Funding metrics for USFSP.”

Once his contract expires, he can opt to return to an active faculty position after completing a semester of professional development.

For a list of Tadlock’s contractual duties outlined in the letter from Genshaft, visit http://crowsneststpete.com/2018/08/24/campus-reats-to-tadlocks-appointment-as-regional-chancellor/

The Crow’s Nest’s Martha Rhine contributed to this report.

By Seth Payan
Contributor

W hen masses of assignments are piling up, it’s not you in stress, resources to help you succeed are a must-have.

Luckily, USF St. Petersburg has the Student Success Center, which is dedicated to providing many resources and benefits to the students.

The transition is one of the most popular services of the SSC. There are 20 student tutors who offer help with numerous subjects from science and math to business and English, so finding the right tutor is easy.

This fall, the SCC began duration sessions led by student tutors, for five traditionally challenging courses, according to Cynthia Edwards, assistant director of the student success center.

“Sessions are designed for students of all abilities and learning styles. Research has shown that students who participate in supplemental Instruction earn higher grades and are more likely to stay in college and graduate. It’s cheaper and faster, and you’ll graduate faster,” Edwards said.

The SCC tutors conduct one- hour sessions each week after they attend the classes sessions, to take notes and read the course material.

“Understand that not all students in these particular classes will be able to take advantage of the sessions due to scheduling conflicts, and the SCC will continue to support them through tutoring,” Edwards said.

In addition to tutoring, the SCC also provides textbooks for students to use during their visit, free printing with a student ID and links to useful education-based organizations on its website that provide course overview and additional practices.

For more features and services go to www.usfsp.edu/success/
For grad student, AIDS research holds personal meaning

By Emily Wunderlich ewunderlich@mail.usf.edu

Hunter Drake is not afraid to disclose that he is HIV-positive.

In the 20 years since his diagnosis, Drake, an experimental psychology graduate student, says entire rooms of people have cleared upon discovery of his status.

“Do you know what’s the power of being HIV-positive? I’ve been here four years, I’ve been at the University of Miami. I’ve been to the International AIDS Society. I’ve been to the AIDS conference. I’ve been to all the places where people are like, ‘Oh, how could you?’” Drake said.

Drake, with the assistance of Brianna Onufriak, both experimental psychology graduate students, presented the effects of sexual objectification on men’s willingness to have sex with HIV-positive men.

“In one particular exercise, participants went through a simulation in which a doctor diagnosed them with HIV. ‘He says, you know, “Unfortunately, I have to tell you that you’re HIV positive, and you need to let me know in the future and I need you to repeat after me: I, and then he says your name, “am HIV positive.”’”

“‘I tell everybody, but I’ve never once put my name beside that phrase,’ he said. ‘I got like halfway through the phase and the phrase and choked up.’”

Drake called it the “longest fifteen minutes” of his life.

Onufriak said the conference showed him how often people discriminate others without realizing it and he learned how to be more empathetic toward others.

“I was surprised by how much empathy still needed to be made in many different areas regarding equality,” he said. “While it was important to bring much attention this issue has received, there is still a lot of progress that needs to be made, especially in certain locations and within certain demographics.”

How it began

Drake’s abstract at the conference stemmed from his graduate thesis at USF St. Petersburg, which explored how meeting online versus in person affects people’s willingness to have sex with HIV-positive partners.

“Venue matters specifically for people who are interested in meeting people who are HIV-positive,” Drake said.

“For people who met in person, they were less likely to have sex with a partner who disclosed they were HIV positive. People who met online were more likely to have sex with an HIV-positive partner.”

That may be because you’re sitting across from them in a public space and other people might see you talking to someone that they know is HIV positive, so you’re less likely to engage with that person,” Drake said. “When online, you’ve got that sense of privacy that nobody knows what you’re doing and people are more willing to be more open.”

“While it was important to bring much attention this issue has received, there is still a lot of progress that needs to be made, especially in certain locations and within certain demographics.”

For grad student, AIDS research holds personal meaning

By Emily Wunderlich ewunderlich@mail.usf.edu

Hunter Drake, right, presented in July his research with the help of James Onufriak and Brianna Suite at the 2018 International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam.

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“What troubled Drake most was that when people didn’t disclose their HIV status, potential sexual partners just assumed they were negative.

“‘It’s everybody’s responsibility to take care of their own health. You should ask, and people should tell,” he said.

Drake, from Suite and Onufriak, Drake credited Tiffany Chenelleve, associate professor of psychology, with his success.

“I’ve been at USF for four years,” he said. “‘When I first got here, people were really interested in talking about labs. People were really interested in doing their research and helping out in labs.’

Drake, who shares similar interests with an HIV-positive partner.

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Hunter Drake, right, presented in July his research with the help of James Onufriak and Brianna Suite at the 2018 International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam. Drake’s abstract was about how objectification affects whether men having sex with HIV-positive men.
New sustainability murals grace SLC

By Dinorah Prevost
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The murals started appearing in the spring. Four in total, they cover the one-bland walls you encountered when entering the Student Life Center. In the center of the smallest mural, high above the hallway leading to most of the building’s offices, is one word: sustainability.

The idea for the murals came from Ann Wykell, the campus’s public art consultant and the Clean Energy and Resource Conservation Conservation Council (CERCC), student group, in an effort to raise awareness about three aspects of sustainability.

“We wanted to raise the awareness for sustainability issues and we also wanted to highlight the three facets of sustainability, which is the social, economic and environmental aspects,” Todd said. “The students, when they walk through that building, can see what sustainability means and these issues are affecting every one of us.”

In April and May, all four murals were done by Elio Mercado, a South Florida-based muralist known in the art community as EVOCA1, as part of a two-phase, $25,000 project. The whale mural was completed during the project’s first phase in late April. It represents the environmental angle of sustainability.

Wykell put together a project committee of students and SLC staff to set the criteria for the murals and choose an artist. The project was launched in 2015 with a Florida-wide call to artists, but suffered delays.

“It took a long time, we had a lot of delays, but eventually we came through with the designs that you see,” Wykell said.

Wykell funded the project with money from CERCC, Student Government and campus administration. The sustainability theme of the project was chosen to “honor and speak to the CERCC mission.”

“This really speaks to this campus’ identity, identifying itself as a green campus where various kinds of sustainable energy initiatives are developed … So we thought it was relevant,” Wykell said.

Todd wants the murals to bring attention to sustainability, an issue she heavily advocated for during her junior and senior year here.

Beans and Barlour: here’s the scoop

By Amy Diaz
amy Diaz@mail.usf.edu

Story Stuart was on track for medical school with a major in molecular microbiology when she decided business management was her real passion. This discovery led to her sweetest business endeavor yet.

Open for just a month now, Beans and Barlour, 538 1st Ave. N, has become the go-to coffee shop in south St. Petersburg.

Stuart, 26, started the coffee bar and dessert lounge with her boyfriend, Steve Bliven, 25, who owned his own gelato shop when he was 18.

“We’re both very passionate about businesses and keeping a classic quality product but also being innovative with it,” Stuart said. “When we had the idea for Beans and Barlour, we knew it would be perfect for St. Petersburg.”

Stuart cited the potential for collaboration as one of the big drawing factors of the shop in south St. Petersburg, Story Brooke Craft Coffee Bar, which she opened early last year. Due to issues with crime, she decided to close the coffee bar, but she took the menu with her.

“We’ve kept a lot of our classic drinks like the Campfire Story and the Crème Brulee Cappuccino, but now we’re able to add a little something extra,” Stuart said. “If you want to add a shot of something like Irish cream or whiskey or coffee liqueur that we make in house, we’re able to do that now.”

The recipes are elaborate and unique, combining artistic techniques with interesting ingredients.

“The Campfire Story, for example, uses a glass that has first been filled with the smoke of torched hickory wood chips. “As you drink it you can smell the smoke and you can experience being around a campfire, but it’s coffee,” Stuart explained. “That’s what we’re most passionate about. Creating an experience that you’re familiar with and then transforming it into a new experience. Like making a cocktail but serving it as an ice cream.”

Customers have the choice for their treats and drinks to be alcoholic or not. They also have a section of the menu that caters to plant-based eaters.

“We have six non-dairy options, and we don’t charge extra for them,” Thomas said. “Even one of our boozy scoops, the Avocado Margarita, is vegan. Our Strawberry Daiquiri Float and the Dole Whip Float are vegan too.”

You can take comfort in knowing exactly what you’re eating and drinking because everything from the chai and syrup, to the infused spirits and ice cream made from scratch. The clientele for the restaurant includes families coming to enjoy non-alcoholic ice cream, friends and couples craving dessert, drinks and occasional live music, and students looking for good coffee to get them through a study session. A strip of electrical outlets under the bar counter and a back room that is equipped with a community table and sofa make the shop an ideal study spot.

“We’re open until midnight on weekends and 10 p.m. on weekdays, so even if you were coming to study and not partake in cocktails or alcoholic ice cream, it’s a cool place to hang out,” Stuart said.

The dreamy decor, including an old-fashioned espresso machine imported from Italy — lovingly named Carmen Elektra — combined with the sounds of grinding coffee, and hints of lavender and chocolate in the air, gives the shop a distinct fantastical charm.

“I have so much fun making everything here,” Thomas said. “It’s whimsical. It’s magic.”
Who's that? About those names on campus

By Crow’s Nest Staff

Their names adorn prominent campus buildings, but the people behind those names are a mystery to many students.

Here's a quick introduction to some of the important people whose contributions and legacies are honored here.

Kate Tiedemann

When she got off a steamer in New York in 1955, the German immigrant had $30 and spoke no English. Undaunted, she began a climb that became a classic American success story.

She found a job as a maid – to former New York Gov. and presidential candidate Thomas E. Dewey – and then a clerical post at a business that sold surgical instruments. That led eventually to her own ophthalmic surgical supply business, which made her a millionaire many times over.

Tiedemann (pronounced TEE-dee-man) retired to South Florida based in Pinellas County, and in 2014 she gave $10 million to USF St. Petersburg – the largest gift in the university's history. The College of Business is named for her.

Lynn Pippenger

Her name adorns the building for the Kate Tiedemann College of Business, which apparently was the first business school in the United States America where both the school and the building that houses it are named after women.

A St. Petersburg native, Pippenger attended both the St. Petersburg and Tampa campuses of USF and eventually earned a master's in business administration. For years, she worked at Raymond James Financial, rising from payroll clerk to chief financial officer.

She gave $10 million to the business school on the Tampa campus in 2015 and $5 million to USF St. Petersburg in 2016.

C. W. Bill Young

He was a high school dropout, but the longtime member of Congress from Pinellas County steered millions of federal dollars to the university – and many millions more to marine research, MacDill Air Force Base, roads and overpasses, beaches, public health and the Veterans Administration.

In 2004, the university and city saluted Young by putting his name on the marine science complex along Bayboro Harbor and the Port of St. Petersburg. The complex is a cooperative venture that includes the USF College of Marine Science, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Florida Institute of Oceanography.

Early in his political career, however, Young was no friend of USF. As a state legislator in the 1960s he was a member of the notorious John's Committee, which was established to root out communists in the civil rights movement.

Finding no communists, the committee turned its focus to "perverts" (read: gays) and "commies" (people who favored integration) in public schools and universities. Its shameful witch hunt ruined numerous careers and, according to Florida journalist and historian Martin A. Dyckman, "nearly strangled the University of South Florida at its birth."

Young died in 2013.

Nelson Poynter

For 40 years, Poynter ran the St. Petersburg Times (now the Tampa Bay Times), which over that time became one of America's best newspapers. Poynter was a champion of St. Petersburg and education, and his support of the university reflected those passions.

In the 1950s, he and the paper campaigned – unsuccessfully – to have the new University of South Florida based in Pinellas County instead of Tampa.

Poynter then became a generous contributor to the tiny branch campus on the St. Petersburg waterfront. He died of a stroke on June 15, 1978, just hours after he proudly took part in the groundbreaking for the first major expansion of the campus.

Poynter's name adorns both the university library and the Poynter Institute, a private, nonprofit school for journalists a block south of the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. The institute owns the Times.

Lowell E. Davis

Davis, a biologist and academic administrator, came to St. Petersburg from Syracuse University in 1986 to be dean and chief executive officer of the campus.

It was a heady time, and the popular Davis led efforts to expand the university's ambition, footprint and curriculum. The community was stunned when he suffered a stroke and died in 1989 at the age of 58. One of the main classrooms and administration buildings is named for him.

Peter Rudy Wallace

The scion of a politically prominent St. Petersburg family, the legal lawyer was elected to the Florida House of Representatives at the age of 28. He served there from 1982 to 1996, the last two years as House speaker.

He helped secure funding for the Florida Center for Teachers, which opened in 2001.

Nine years later, the building was renamed the Peter Rudy Wallace Florida Center for Teachers. It houses the Department of Journalism and Digital Communication and the Florida Humanities Council.

John C. Williams

The names of these stalwarts of early St. Petersburg are on side-by-side houses on Second Street S (University Way).

Williams was a co-founder of the city and built his Queen Anne-style home in 1891, a year before his death. The house later became a hotel.

Snell, who died in 1942, was a civic leader and developer in the first decades of the 1900s. The upscale Snell Isle neighborhood in northeast St. Petersburg bears his name. He built his Dutch colonial revival-style house in 1904.

The two historic houses were moved – very carefully – to USF St. Petersburg in the 1990s. The Williams House is home to the university marketing and communications staff and a venue for student and faculty gatherings. The university honors program and Florida studies program are headquartered in the Snell House.

Compiled from a column by Robert Trigaux and other stories in the Tampa Bay Times; websites of USF St. Petersburg and the city of St. Petersburg; and the work of Pinellas County historian James Anthony Schnur.
Seeing Red: The “Red Zone” and what it means

Enrolling in classes means spending an unfortunate and perhaps unnecessary — amount of money on textbooks.

College students are typically living off limited income, and costs like $300 textbooks are what can ultimately decide if Ramen noodles and water will be what’s for dinner.

Professors should be fully aware of this, and most of them admit they may not all. It’s common for professors to require a text they have written themselves. This takes money out of students’ pockets and places it into the professors’.

Instructors are granted the privilege of being able to choose which texts they’d like to use to teach the curriculum because they should know what the best books for the class are.

However, when the options contain some of their own books, the university really put the responsibility of choosing the hands of the professor?

One would think there’s an undefined level of trust and integrity that prevents any sort of exploitation, but textbook bills piling up to hundreds of dollars each semester indicate otherwise. Regardless of their major, students will inevitably spend hundreds of dollars on textbooks. Though science and business books do tend to sell at a higher price because of the research involved in writing them. The issue of textbook prices has been long debated and criticized, so it makes sense that Bright Futures offers a grant intended to compensate some of the costs.

However, this grant is not usable at the USF St. Petersburg bookstore. According to a bookstore employee, workers are encouraged to sell the books in-store and not mention the online alternatives, which are almost always cheaper.

The most expensive book sold at the USF St. Petersburg bookstore is the Auditing textbook, priced at $324. Other business and science books can be found for hundreds of dollars each, and English and art textbooks are slightly cheaper.

The language department requires these books, so students have to purchase not only the online version of the textbook, but the hard copy as well, which totals over $300. The reasons for this are unclear, since both books contain the same information and students should hypothetically be allowed to use their online textbook in class. A Spanish professor claims the department does not make exceptions for those who cannot afford the three hundred dollar books.

This bears the question: Where does the school get to draw the line on who can and cannot afford textbooks? Are struggling students being taken advantage of?

**The questionable ethics of the textbook market**
Kermit the Frog would not approve of all of the filthy language in "The Happytime Murders," and he wouldn’t like the movie much either.

Produced by The Jim Henson Company, "The Happytime Murders" is a raunchy buddy comedy film featuring Melissa McCarthy, Elizabeth Banks, tons of puppets and a whole lot of profanity. McCarthy, playing her usual hot-headed self as she does in most of her comedies, must work alongside her former police partner, a washed up, blue-skinned puppet named Phil Phillips, to solve a string of murders committed against puppets.

Think “Who Framed Roger Rabbit?” but with lewd Sesame Street knock-offs and not as much heart.

A lot of the film is the same tired, repetitive humor audiences have become accustomed to from comedy films from the last decade. Only now there are puppets thrown in for an especially surreal effect.

Ever wanted to see an octopus milk a cow in the back of a adult film shop? If so, that’s in the first 10 minutes of the film.

There’s a lot of focus on the puppets of this film, which actually works in its benefit. No two puppets ever look alike, and there’s a lot of creativity in how they appear on screen. The physical effects are commendable and appreciated, especially given the CGI overload that many films get stuck with.

Phil puppeteered and voiced by Bill Barretta, a veteran from Sesame Street — is a surprisingly believable and sympathetic character.

A disgraced cop-turned-private investigator, Phil has a lot on his shoulders. He blames himself for the death of a young puppet and a past tied to McCarthy that got her hurt and him kicked out of the police force.

Who would think a swearing, blue puppet would have more humanity than the others in the film?

The human actors do fine, but nothing spectacular. McCarthy offers her usual brand of humor and acting. Joel McHale and Leslie David Baker (from "Community" and "The Office" respectively) play decent enough law enforcement agents.

"Mya Rudolph as Bubbles, Phil’s sister, is probably the most likable character, as her supportive and kind words toward her boss make her sweet and good-natured.

For a comedy film, there weren’t many scenes that elicited much laughter. There were certainly a couple of chuckles here and there, mostly from the fact that such crude and obvious humor is coming out of goofy, googly-eyed Muppet rejects.

There’s definitely an attempt here, which is worth something. Combining adult situations with childhood imagery isn’t something revolutionary, but it has faded from mainstream film lately.

It’s not offensively heinous, just kind of stale and without as much heart as one would expect from the people who came up with iconic and beloved Kermit, Miss Piggy and Fozzie Bear.

"The Happytime Murders" is unfortunately just okay, which may be worse than being a memorably bad film.

2½ Stars

By Anthony Nolfi
Contributor

What to do this week: Aug 27-Sep 2

MONDAY
Relax and recharge during Yoga for Lunch at Station House, 260 First Ave. S, at noon. This donation-based class will help you stretch out all that Monday stress. Be sure to bring your own mat and an open mind.

TUESDAY
Join in at the USF St. Petersburg Waterfront for a sunrise campus prayer every Tuesday. The 45-minute Mission from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Prove you’re the smartest witch or wizard at Harry Potter Trivia from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

WEDNESDAY
Are you an expert on all things Disney? Pour Taproom 225 Second Ave. N, is hosting a Disney Trivia Night starting at 8 p.m. Local food truck vendors offer dinner. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners. Register online at eventbrite.com. Tickets are free, but space is limited to 200. The link to register is on Pour’s Facebook page.

Hang out at Hideaway Cafe, 1756 Central Ave., for its Blues Night. Best of the Bay’s “Best Local Blues Band” Mambu, the U.N. policy processes, the mechanisms of the organization, and insight into how international policy is formed. Furthermore, he has been given access to resources he can utilize in his classes.

"I’m not only using the report (in my classroom), now I’m one of the people that created the report," said Mbatu.

It is important to Mbatu and the U.N. for young people across the globe to become engaged in the decision making process of environmental policy.

He wants young people to be informed before they become world leaders.

"The next director of the United Nations environment programme is a youth of today, why not involve the youths? Get their perspective. Get their understanding. Get their world view and what they think how they think we can join hands in resolving the problems of planet earth," Mbatu said.

Mbatu hopes that his work on the report will expose students to the challenges that our environment faces and inspire them to make a change.

Students attending his classes may already be working on conservation efforts.

Some of Mbatu’s classes have civic engagement components where students collaborate with various environmental organizations, applying the theoretical knowledge they gleaned at USF St. Petersburg toward on-the-ground efforts.

Students can make a difference by joining others on campus. Mbatu listed the sustainability club and Student Government as two effective outlets.

Eventually Mbatu would like to see a youth-led organization on campus that works on international environmental issues as well.

Unfortunately, he perceives student involvement with environmental activism on the decline and hopes that faculty members will help bring him on as a resource by supporting students.

Of course, contrary to what some would like to believe, not every problem lives and dies by faculty hands.

Mbatu is also calling upon senior student leadership to begin grousing their students toward positive change.

"Wherever you are involved, show that you are a child of the planet earth," said Mbatu.

He would also like to see students become involved in a more practical sense.

Mbatu encourages a combination of theoretical methods, such as the ones he covers in class, and practical methods that everybody can implement.

Although you may not be involved in an organization hooked on the "environment" or "sustainability," Mbatu says that you can still contribute by reducing the harm you inflict upon the environment, even if that contribution is sending an email instead of printing a document.

Small changes, such as going digital may seem insignificant at first but Mbatu promises it can still make a huge difference.

One small action may inspire another, leading to a tidal wave of positive change.

On the other hand, apathy could beget more apathy.

To individuals who have become discouraged, who feel that they are unable to make meaningful change and that it is too late to fight, Mbatu offers the view that conservation is comparable to a boxing match.

When a fighter goes into a boxing match, especially one that seems like a lost cause, he must not enter the ring mentally defeated.

"It is inch by inch that we are going to achieve something," said Mbatu. "It is in bits that we put things together to have a bigger picture.

By Ambria Whalum
Contributor

FRIDAY
End your week right at Green Bench Brewing Company, 1413 2nd St. Bolts Ave. N, for its free event showcasing indie folk and alternative music. Grab a beer, some food for the fare and drinks to the 502s, Jonni Morgan, and Nicholas Roberts.

SATURDAY
Beat the heat while supporting local businesses at Indie Market’s new indoor summer location, Nova 535 at 535 Drive M.L.K. Jr St. N, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Think disco is dead? Caddy’s on Central, 217 Central Ave., is hosting a silent disco from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. There will be three rooms, three DJs, one set of headphones per person and all the dance moves. Admission for the entire night is $10.

SUNDAY
Show up and show out at Iberian Rooster, 475 Central Ave., for its Lip Sync Battle from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sing all night and compete for cash prizes.

By James Bennett III
Contributor

What do USF St. Petersburg and the United Nations have in common? If so, that’s in the first 10 minutes of the film.

"The Thorin was not one of the best of the entire group," at 6:30 p.m., using eventbrite.com. There are prizes will be awarded to the winners. Register online at 2/5 Stars

What do the GEO do?

It’s not offensively heinous, just kind of stale and without as much heart as one would expect from the people who came up with iconic and beloved Kermit, Miss Piggy and Fozzie Bear.

"Neither vehicle nor mode of transport is a灵 for an opportunity to bring new resources to the university.

When working on the GEO, I have exposured Mbatu to the U.N. policy processes, the mechanisms of the organization, and insight into how international policy is formed. Furthermore, he has been given access to resources he can utilize in his classes.

"I’m not only using the report (in my classroom), now I’m one of the people that created the report," said Mbatu.

It is important to Mbatu and the U.N. for young people across the globe to become engaged in the decision making process of environmental policy.

He wants young people to be informed before they become world leaders.

"The next director of the United Nations environment programme is a youth of today, why not involve the youths? Get their perspective. Get their understanding. Get their world view and what they think how they think we can join hands in resolving the problems of planet earth," Mbatu said.

Mbatu hopes that his work on the report will expose students to the challenges that our environment faces and inspire them to make a change.

Students attending his classes may already be working on conservation efforts.

Some of Mbatu’s classes have civic engagement components where students collaborate with various environmental organizations, applying the theoretical knowledge they gleaned at USF St. Petersburg toward on-the-ground efforts.

Students can make a difference by joining others on campus. Mbatu listed the sustainability club and Student Government as two effective outlets.

Eventually Mbatu would like to see a youth-led organization on campus that works on international environmental issues as well.

Unfortunately, he perceives student involvement with environmental activism on the decline and hopes that faculty members will help bring him on as a resource by supporting students.

Of course, contrary to what some would like to believe, not every problem lives and dies by faculty hands.

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"Neither vehicle nor mode of transport is a
Asher Roth takes USFSP in a storm

By Allison Weinbecker
Contributor

When USF St. Petersburg students found out Asher Roth was slated to perform at Jannus Live and close out Week of Welcome, they were beyond confused. They did not know who he was, and even after looking him up, they were still lost.

“If it weren’t for me being around students when I say that he did,” Martindale said. Despite this, students and the general public continued to trickle in throughout the show. Kyle Curtiss, the opening act and DJ, got the crowd up and on its feet. His set included everything from new rap music to songs that got the whole group “in their feels.”

Although the crowd only consisted of about 75 to 100 people, their cheers could be heard from around the block. The rowdy mob promptly surprised by Curtiss' exit, the stage following his impressive performance. You could almost feel the skepticism whisper through the audience as Asher Roth’s DJ walked on stage to set up for his set. I'm not sure that anyone knew what to expect from the infamous one-hit wonder. But what they got was not only a performance, but an experience.

As Roth stepped onto the stage, the crowd let out a slight cheer, but what he did next surprised us all. He kicked off his Birkenstocks and jumped off the stage following his impressive performance. You could almost feel the skepticism whisper through the audience as Asher Roth’s DJ walked on stage to set up for his set. I'm not sure that anyone knew what to expect from the infamous one-hit wonder. But what they got was not only a performance, but an experience.

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