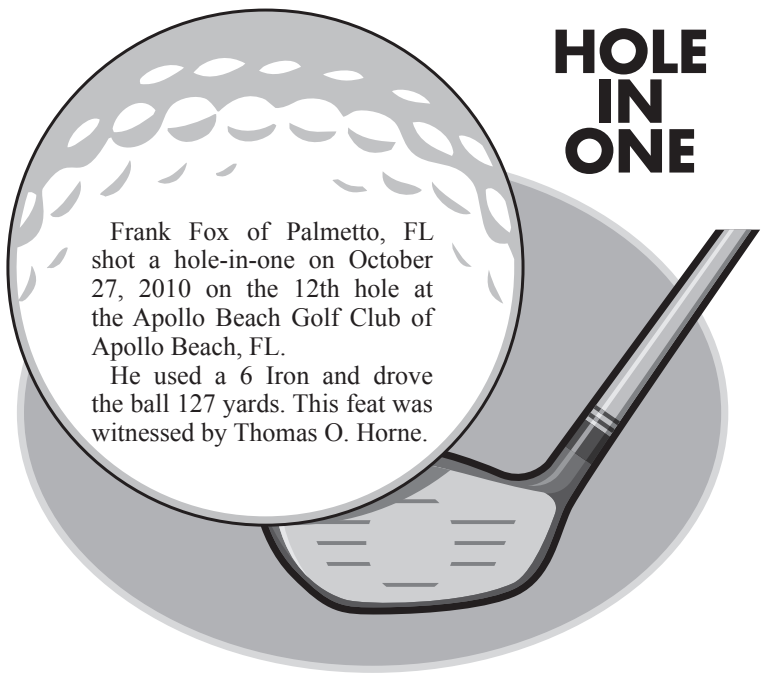

Medicare Beneficiaries are saving money with help from MBOA

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs' Medicare Beneficiary Outreach and Assistance (MBOA) program has made a significant difference to many low-income seniors and disabled citizens throughout the state in its first year of federal grant funding. Thanks to dedicated volunteers and staff across Florida, the MBOA program will continue to grow and reach out to Florida's approximately 90,000 Medicare beneficiaries who may be eligible to save on their Medicare costs.

The West Central Florida Area Agency on Aging, Inc., through June 30, 2010, has assisted 235 clients through the MBOA program, helping area elders save a potential $614,100.

Overall, statewide volunteers and staff helped Medicare beneficiaries save potentially $7.7 million in Medicare costs. Over 2,500 applications for Medicare benefits throughout the state helped clients through the Extra Help and Medicare Savings Programs. Clients can save up to $3,900 a year on their Medicare prescription costs with the Extra Help program and almost an additional $1,200 a year with Medicare premiums with the Medicare Savings Programs.

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs' MBOA program, in partnership with the state's 11 Area Agencies on Aging, helps Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers better understand and maximize Medicare benefits through outreach, partnerships and direct application assistance. These are difficult economic times, and many of those who need the help may not know about the valuable benefits for which they may already qualify. The MBOA program is available to help save on your Medicare costs so that you can use your hard earned income on other priorities. To see if you may qualify for help with your Medicare bills, call the statewide Elder Helpline toll-free at 1-800-963-5337 and ask to speak with an MBOA counselor in your area.

Statewide, the MBOA efforts have been supported by more than 100 community partners. Locally, we have been grateful to partner with nine organizations in the Hillsborough, Manatee, Polk, Highlands, and Hardee area. Organizations that can help educate their clients about these benefits and the assistance that the local MBOA programs can provide are always needed. If your organization would be interested in partnering, call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-963-5337.

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Saturday, November 13 from 5pm-8pm
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Willa Ford and classmates honor drama teacher

Alumni of East Bay High School in Gibsonton, are raising money to fund a scholarship in honor of retired drama teacher Lynnette Lota after being inspired to help their school's arts program by the hit Fox television show GLEE.

Actress and singer Willa Ford, known to most from ABC's Dancing with the Stars and her hit song 'I Wanna Be Bad,' is backing the campaign to raise funds for the Lynnette Morrill Lota Arts Scholarship, an endowment that awards a $1,000 scholarship each year to a performing arts student from East Bay High School, or neighboring Riverview High School where Lota has also taught.

"Much like Mr. Schuester, Lota was a teacher that truly inspired her students," says Ford. "Although the arts are an important part of the education at East Bay, Lota had to fight for the program and make sure the show always went on in the face of obstacles.

WILLA FORD

A large portion of her former students stay in touch with her on Facebook and she is still loved for her encouraging words even by alumni that graduated decades ago. She definitely inspired me and I would not be where I am without her."

The students must raise $20,000 to establish an endowed scholarship and are asking the public for their support. Donations can be made via the Hillsborough Education Foundation website at www.educationfoundation.com.

Donors are asked to specify that their donation go specifically to the Lynnette Morrill Lota Arts Scholarship. For more information, contact Jason Ferguson at jason@fergusonlive.com.

Information on the Hillsborough Education Foundation: The Hillsborough Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization whose mission is to invest community resources to help students achieve academic success. Serving the students, teachers and schools in our community, the Foundation has invested more than $75 million towards public education. The Foundation raises more than $5 million annually and fulfills its mission through five core initiatives: Career & Technical Education, Excellence in Education, Scholarships, School Enrichment, and Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools.

RUSKIN
Moose Lodge #813
WEEKLY EVENTS

The Ruskin Moose Lodge #813 is located at
1212 E. Shell Point Road, Ruskin • (813) 645-5919

Every Wednesday	5-7 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner
Every Thursday	5-7 p.m. Wings
Every Friday	5-7 p.m. Fish Fry. Live music.
Every Saturday	7-11 p.m. Karaoke by Kim

All events are open to qualified Moose members and guests.

★ ★

Simmons Baptist to host Strength Team

Mark your calendars! On Friday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. Simmons Loop Baptist Church will host the Strength Team, a group of professional athletes who use feats of strength to perform motivational assemblies all over the world.

These positive programs impact thousands of students and schools helping to build a bridge. Using these programs allows the Strength Team to invite students to evening outreaches at host churches where they use bigger feats of strength, testimony, and share the salvation message of Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome to watch these athletes. The church is located at 6610 Simmons Loop in Riverview. For more information, call (813) 267-9030.

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Local resident earns degree at Springfield College

Tenae Allen, of Riverview, has earned a bachelor of science degree in human services at Springfield College, Mass. for studies completed in Aug. 2010.

Founded in 1885, Springfield College is world renowned as the Birthplace of Basketball®, and for its guiding philosophy of humanics – education of the whole person – spirit, mind and body – for leadership in service to others. The college offers degree programs in the health sciences, human and social services, sports and movement studies, education, business, and the arts and sciences. Its doctoral programs are in physical education and physical therapy.

U.S.News & World Report ranks Springfield College in 'America's Best Colleges 2010' in the top tier among Master's Universities – North Region. The YMCA of the USA has designated Springfield College as a premier Leadership Center. The college serves more than 5,000 students at is main campus in Springfield, Mass. and at regional campuses of its School of Human Services.

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Riverview Memorial VFW Post #8108

7504 Riverview Dr.
(813) 671-9845

MEALS

Wednesday Spaghetti Dinner from 5 to 7 p.m.

Friday Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m.

Sunday Breakfast from 9 a.m. to noon

ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, Nov. 12 -- Jeff Olsen
Friday, Nov. 19 -- Jeff Olsen
Saturday, Nov. 20 -- Calvin O
Friday, Nov. 26 -- Jeff Olsen
Friday, Dec. 3 -- Jeff Olsen
Saturday, Dec. 4 -- Calvin O
Friday, Dec. 10 -- Jeff Olsen

CANTEEN HAPPENINGS

Bar Bingo on Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Bar Poker with Lori on Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Fire in the Hole on Saturdays at 1 p.m.