

FOUNDATION HELPS MANY GOOD CAUSES

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The Community Foundation of Pasco County, a division of the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, recently completed its first grant cycle awarding grants to some of the nonprofit organizations that help make our Pasco County community a better place to live.

The focus of grant making during this initial cycle was on education and response to the invitation to apply was enthusiastic. Grants totaling \$26,050 were awarded to the Boys & Girls Clubs for a teen services program, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services for "Signing for Everyday Living" for seniors, Florida Hospital Zephyrhills to print discharge booklets for new mothers, Pasco Safety Town for electronic components and furnishings for a proposed new safety house, United Way of Pasco County to purchase notebook computers for the Prosperity Campaign, and the YMCA of the Suncoast for a program to teach youths how to run their own disc jockey business.

Grants are made to tax-exempt 501(c)(3) agencies for projects that have a positive impact on the community. Future grant applications will be accepted on March 1 and Sept. 1 each year. Applications can be accessed on the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay's Web site (www.cftampabay.org).

In addition to the community project grants, nonprofit organizations can also participate in a challenge grant program to assist them in building their permanent endowment funds. Six Pasco County nonprofit agencies have established endowment funds with the foundation and several have taken advantage of the challenge grant program.

The Community Foundation of Pasco County was established in 2002 as a division of the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay to better serve the local philanthropic needs of this diverse community. Donor funds within the Community Foundation of Pasco County are now valued at more than \$10-million and have generated nearly \$700,000 in grants to nearly 30 different nonprofit organizations for the benefit of Pasco County residents.

For additional information about the Community Foundation of Pasco County, please call (727) 846-1921 or visit www.cftampabay.org.

Ellie Paladine

Community Foundation of Pasco County

New Port Richey

Firefighter just wants attention

Capt. Garofalo is at it again! His latest Kodak moment with the shirt in Charleston, S.C., is just one more pathetic incident that exposes this consummate campaigner in his second run for commissioner in North Port.

It is Garofalo, not the acting assistant fire chief, who should be getting a daily slam dunking from the citizens and firefighters. Capt. Garofalo's motives should be questioned and suspect. I would like to meet this acting assistant chief and shake his hand for having taken this flak just for doing his job in a quiet manner.

Why doesn't someone ask who took the picture of this incident and why? What purpose and who really was served by this publicity? Please show more respect for the families of the fallen firefighters and resent this pathetic attempt for publicity.

Charline Cristofori North Port

Help hospice, honor a musician

My husband, Joseph Grauso, battled cancer for more than eight years and passed away July 12. He was a popular singer/musician/ entertainer in the area who went by the name "that big bald guy" and had many fans and supporters. The St. Petersburg Times did two wonderful articles on him in April and December of 2005 and then another feature story in the obituary section after he passed.

He was home and had been under the care of Hernando-Pasco Hospice for the last nine weeks of his life, and I had requested that donations be given to them in his name.

Hundreds attended his memorial service ,and many made a donation to hospice in order to receive a commemorative CD that I made of 22 beautiful songs he sang.

Attaching that CD to the donation was so successful that I want to extend this invitation to everyone.

The hospice organization made a huge impact in our lives, and if giving Joe's commemorative CD to anyone who makes at least a \$20 donation in his name is the catalyst that is needed to encourage people to do so, I'll continue to do that forever.

If you donate directly to Hernando-Pasco Hospice in Hudson, please be sure to earmark it in Joe's name or you can contact me directly.

Marge Grauso New Port Richey

SHARE YOUR VIEWS

The Pasco Times welcomes letters from readers for publication.

Because of space limitations, letters should be of reasonable length (250-300 words maximum as a rule). Letters may be edited for clarity, taste and length.

All letters must be signed and must contain the writer's address and telephone number. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed.

Send your letter to Pasco Times, 11321 U.S. 19, Port Richey, FL 34668, or by fax to 727-869-6233 or go to www.tampabay.com/letters/ .

Fill out the form to supply us with your personal information, the subject line, and type your letter in the space provided.

You can also cut and paste a letter that you have prepared elsewhere in your computer. When you are done, hit the button that says "Submit My Letter."

Credit: YOUR LETTERS

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Abstract (Document Summary)

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