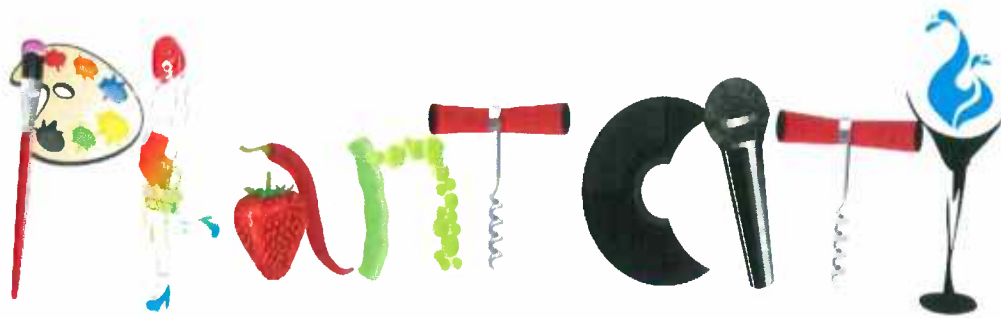


September 2014



## DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Email: [editor@plantcityguide.com](mailto:editor@plantcityguide.com)

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### VICTORY AT REZONING HEARING WILL KEEP KEEL & CURLEY WINERY AND TWO HENRYS BREWING COMPANY CHUGGING ALONG

Despite objections from some neighbors, Hillsborough County commissioners voted unanimously to grant Keel & Curley Winery and Two Henrys Brewing Company their rezoning request to move from agriculture to planned development, allowing for beer brewing and sales.

The commissioners' decision is a big victory to both the winery, as well as the many supporters who waged an impassioned campaign for the rezoning. Back in June, hundreds turned out for a public hearing before the Hillsborough County Zoning Board in the rezoning quest of Keel and Curley. The majority of the attendees were "Save the Winery" tee-shirt clad supporters who showed up to the hearing by the van-full. The turnout of attendees was so large; many had to watch the hearing from an overflow room, which quickly filled as well.

The August 12 County Commissioner's meeting was no different. Although a handful of neighbors leveled pleas of "not in my back yard," the County Commissioners accepted the recommendations for approval from both the Hillsborough County staff and the Zoning Hearing Master Steve Luce. Exuberant cheers exploded from the packed commission chambers, as well as the county building lobby, which had been set up to accommodate the overflow audience, once the vote was cast.

What began as a phone call from a neighbor complaining about noise coming from the winery, led to a community's call to action. Over 10,000 supporters signed petitions in support of the rezoning. An additional 300 supporters wrote letters to county commissioners. "It's totally overwhelming," Joe Keel said of the community support. "It's hard to explain. It's unbelievable



Keel and Curley Winery located at 5210 Thonotosassa Road

that we have had so much support from everybody. This was very heartfelt by all of us in the family, and that includes our employees. We consider them part of our extended family."

Keel & Curley made some concessions as a good will gesture. Outdoor events and music can only be held on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. Outdoor music will be acoustic only and must cease at 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays and Sundays and at 10:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Other than the popular Blueberry Festival, all events will be limited to two days. The Keels have also agreed to enhance a parking lot across the street with fencing, landscaping and a crosswalk.

All's well that ends well for Keel & Curley. What began as a negative has turned into a positive. Although they spent more than \$60,000 in attorney fees, engineering fees and traffic studies, they are coming out on top. The amount of community support and public awareness that resulted is worth much more.



## Just a Thought...

By: Christine Wynne-Andrade, Editor

Love them or hate them, we have all received a chain letter or email at one point or another. Simply defined, a chain letter is a message that attempts to convince the recipient to make copies of the letter and then pass them on to as many recipients as possible. For example, "Please copy this message and send it to 10 other people," a typical email urges. "Forward this to everyone you know!" demands another.

Common methods used in chain letters include emotionally manipulative stories, get-rich-quick pyramid schemes, and the exploitation of superstition to threaten the recipient with bad luck if he or she "breaks the chain" and refuses to adhere to the conditions set out in the letter. However preposterous their claims, chain letters always attempt to play on the wishes or fears of their recipients — and often succeed. For those especially vulnerable to psychological manipulation, they seem to exude an aura of mystical or quasi-mystical power.

I received my first chain letter in fifth grade. When I got to my desk, someone had anonymously left a letter for me stating that if I did several things, which I cannot recall at this time, and then would copy the letter and pass it along to five other people, then my wish would come true. Being a naïve fifth grader, I followed the instructions to a T and made my wish. Much to my surprise, my wish came true the next day, and it was a pretty hefty wish.

When I receive chain letters now, I am much more skeptical. While I am not overly superstitious or religious, there is still some level of fun in wishful thinking.

We receive all types of emails and letters here at the Guide and I try to print a variety of them when space permits. The following chain letter was received from reader Judi Elefteriou. We found it to be very thought provoking.

### A Minute With God.

My name is God. You hardly have time for me. I love you and will always bless you. I am always with you. I need you to spend 30 seconds of your time with me today. Don't pray, just praise. Today I want this message to go across the world before midnight. Will you help? Please do not delete it and I'll help you with something that you are in need of. Just dare Me! A blessing is coming your way. Please drop everything & pass it on. Why do we feel sleepy in prayer, but stay awake through a 3 hour movie? Why are we so bored when we look at the HOLY BOOK but find it easy to read other books?

Why are prayers getting smaller, but bars and clubs are expanding? Why is it so easy to worship a celebrity, but very difficult to engage with God? Think about it, are you going to forward this or are you going to ignore it because you think you will get laughed at? Forward this to all your friends. 80% of you won't. God said if you deny me in front of your friends, I will deny you on the day of judgment. When one door closes, God opens two. If God has opened doors for you, send this message to everyone including me....God has no BLACKBERRY but he's my favorite contact. He is not on FACEBOOK but he is my best friend. He is not on TWITTER but I still follow Him, and even without the INTERNET I am always connected to him. He is not on email but he's always online. Forward if God's been good to you! God has been very good to me. He has given me a wonderful family, great friends and so much more.

I'm only a few keystrokes away by email at [editor@plantcityguide.com](mailto:editor@plantcityguide.com).

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## A Leap of Faith

LET'S KNIT & PURL!  
By: Skylar Harkless

Almost everyone has a hobby, sport or something in life that they would like to try. Many times we are unable to pursue those aspirations due to time constraints, money, knowledge or fear of failure. Sometimes we just have to take a leap of faith and try it.

Contributing writer, Skylar Harkless, wanted to try knitting. She found a great group of people to help her pursue one of her passions. Here is her story.

Whether you're loyal knitter or would like to learn, located in Winter Haven is a quaint shop which offers many choices in needles, cables, knitting magazines, advice, sewing supplies and services, and of course, yarn! The variety of choices expands from baby yarn, brushed, boucle, pom-pom, tweed, lace, and so much more! There you will meet a couple of the sweetest ladies who will assist you in discovering the perfect materials for your next masterpiece!

No matter what you plan to make, the owners have an eye for color and style, and you'll leave the Yarn Basket satisfied, inspired, and ready to climb into your favorite arm-chair with some tea or coffee to start on your project!

You are family when you visit, the little bronze bell above announcing your presence the very moment you step over the threshold. It is the moment ideas swirl around the room and many options unravel your way.

Elsa and Barbara also host knitting classes on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM for simply \$5.00 per class! There, you will meet others interested in the same arts as you, where you can chat and knit, and make memories. If you don't know how to knit but would like to learn, these classes are also perfect for beginners. The host is patient, which makes her the ideal teacher! It is a cozy environment, for all potential knitters; the talkative and the soft-spoken. Stop on by Tuesday or Saturday for a class! You can get started on a project for a beloved friend, family member, or special someone, just in time for Christmas!

Whether you've been knitting for years, a month, or would like to learn, stop by the Yarn Basket in Winter Haven (500 Orchid Springs Dr. Winter Haven, FL 33884) and start a journey toward a new and special project.

TAMPA'S LOWRY PARK



## Hauntingly Good Times at Zoo Boo

On select nights the end of this month through Halloween, little ghouls and goblins will descend upon Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo for the annual "Zoo Boo." During what is the Tampa area's largest family Halloween event, the zoo is transformed into a pumpkin paradise where families can enjoy a variety of Halloween-themed activities. It's a great chance to enjoy a weekend outdoors, as well as a chance to get a little more fun out of this year's Halloween costume!

This "family-friendly fright zone" offers up five haunted houses, animated displays, a spooky fun fair, spooky trails and things that go bump in the night. The haunts are designed to provide a frightening experience for those who choose to participate, without depicting violence or gore. A "skull" rating system of one to seven is assigned to each attraction to indicate the scare factor. Seven is the most intense and is intended for mature participants over the age of ten. One skull is spooky fun for the littlest ones.

The whole family will have a spooktacular good time during Zoo Boo. Costumed characters will be on hand to interact with the kids. Families can also visit some of the zoo's creepy inhabitants (think bats, snakes and spiders). New this year – Get goosebumps exploring turn-of-the-century England in "London Nightmare," the latest haunt inspired by the city's most notorious sites and supernatural legends. As usual, all guests can enjoy free, unlimited zoo rides all evening.

The fun begins with a discounted preview weekend on September 26-27 for only \$12 and continues on October 3-4, 10-12, 17-19, 23-26, 30-31 and November 1. Hours are 7-11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 7-10 p.m. on other nights. General admission is \$18 for adults and \$14 for children (ages 3-11) and free for ages 2 and under. Parking is free. Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is operated by the Lowry Park Zoological Society, an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization committed to excellence in education, conservation and research. The Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), and has been named the No. 1 zoo in America by both *Parents* magazine (2009) and *Child* magazine (2004). The Zoo is located at 1101 W. Sligh Avenue in Tampa, one mile west of I-275 (exit 48). For more information, visit [www.lowryparkzoo.com](http://www.lowryparkzoo.com)



## Culinary Corner

### REALLY GOING OUT TO DINNER

By: Anthony Andrade

When my wife and I decide to go “out to dinner” what we actually intend to do is to go “inside” a restaurant. However, recently we literally went “out to dinner” when we attended the monthly Lakeland Food Truck Rally at Munn Park in downtown Lakeland. The event is held on the second Thursday of each month from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

When we arrived at 6:30 pm, there were a couple hundred people purchasing epicurean delights from over 20 food trucks. These food trucks are not the plain old pre-made sandwich and soda lunch trucks that I recall from years ago. These are fully functioning restaurants on wheels.

The ingredients are fresh and most of the food is prepared when you order. My selection of goat cheese and spinach pizza from the Palace Pizza truck was made right in front of me and cooked in a wood fired brick oven. Yes, a real wood fired brick oven in a truck!

We chose Italian cuisine on during our visit, however, we had the choice of selecting Mexican, Jamaican, Polish, Turkish, Indian, Vegetarian, Southern, Chinese, Seafood or BBQ from the other rolling restaurants. There were even a number of trucks offering dessert items such as cupcakes, cannolis and ice cream.

The event is attended by a wide variety of patrons including a mix of college students, families and older couples. Music to dine by was provided by a mobile food truck disc jockey which played pop, jazz and even a few country hits.

The Plant City Dining & Entertainment Guide strives to bring our readers a variety of interesting, fun and tasty culinary options. The Lakeland Food Truck Rally provides all of that and more. Plus, this is a great option for diners on a budget. Most dinner are priced in the \$7 to \$9 range and several can be found for as low as \$5 per person.

My wife and I will be adding this dining event to our monthly “dining out” schedule. We’ll be there reclining in our lawn chairs enjoying a cannoli. Hope to see you there.



The popular food truck lineup any given month might include the following:

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| The Dude and His Food          | Cajun in a Truck    |
| Burger Culture                 | Nico's Arepas Grill |
| Twisted Iron                   | Ninja Noms          |
| Rollin' Zoinks                 | Jimmy Meatballs     |
| Dochos Concession              | Urban Taco          |
| Treehouse Truck                | Fork in the Road    |
| Bem Bom                        | I Wanna Wok         |
| LizzieCakes                    | Palace Pizza        |
| Rolling Gourmet                | Just the Goods      |
| Empanada Mama                  | Teaki Truck         |
| The Inside Scoop               | Yum Yum<br>Cupcakes |
| Tallulah's Table by the<br>Sea |                     |

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## LOSING A PARENT

By: Bill Histed

Dad had a big influence on my life. Perhaps more than anyone else. The family unit is still strong in some parts of society, but it has been greatly weakened in others. Increasingly, in some areas, it doesn't even exist as we have feral maters.

The strong family has always been the first unit of government. Most things have usually been settled in the family level. As families have become weakened in about half of society now, there is no longer this first strong unit of discipline and nurturing so the "government" conveniently steps in---at a great cost---to be the "family." As one liberal politician said some years back, "It takes a village to raise a child." I think it is much safer not to try to get involved with the neighbor's kids. Dad felt our government is in far too deep around the world, trying to run too many things with a lot of "borrowed" money. He felt we have stretched ourselves too thin with our hundreds of various bases and installations all over the globe being trip wires to a lot of potential problems.

Dad was a very patriotic man, having been a 22 year-old locomotive engineer for the U.S. Army Transportation Corps in Germany and Belgium in World War II. He never talked about the war---we had to drag anything about the war out of him. He told us he had a job to do, came home and went back to work on the railroad.

He was from that generation that grew up in the Great Depression only in time to serve in World War II. Dad had his trains, which hauled U.S. troops, German prisoners of war, munitions shot at different times by the Germans, especially as it came out of tunnels. He remembered one time his train was under attack and he stopped it and everyone got out and hid in the forest. Even the German prisoners of war wanted off the train as they didn't want to get shot at by the Germans, too.

Dad told me that he was even in German homes and the German people were not bad people. It was their government that went haywire, just as he increasingly believed our own government in Washington has become corrupt with power and money. Sorry, I know some of you will never believe that.

His mother died when he was three and he never knew her. This was the era before Social Security survivor benefits, so there was no "safety net." His Dad went from town to town to find work and ended up in Crestline, Shelby and Galion as a chef.

One time when there was no work, his Dad made an expensive long distance phone call to Windsor

White in Cleveland of the White Motors fame. Grandpa got work in a Cleveland country club as a pastry chef.

One of Dad's first jobs was as a farm hired hand. He was 16 years old and was glad to work from sunrise to sundown for 50 cents. He gave his money to his Dad. One thing he remembered was the "thrashing" work and he enjoyed driving a Silver King farm tractor made in Plymouth, Ohio. He liked the pick-up the go the tractor had and felt this was a first class tractor back then.

Dad influenced my thinking. As a cousin in the Firelands used to stay, "We are the children of the Great Depression. Some of us are getting toward retirement age, but as Dad, I don't think I will ever totally retire.

Dad loved his country.....the people, the traditions, the history and the spirit of the American Revolution. But to be very honest with you, he increasingly was suspicious of Washington and said this is not the same government he fought for in World War II.

One of the turning points was the Kennedy Assassination Dad believed from the start Kennedy's murder in his successor, Lyndon Johnson's native state was an inside job in which Johnson himself had some involvement. Later, a number of books, including those writer by one of Johnson's personal lawyers, his mistress and this past year, a book written by Nixon henchman Roger Stone all claim Johnson had the most to gain and was involved in it. If this had happened in a foreign country, most of us would have looked at the successor---the one with the most to gain from a murder on his own turf---it would have been more obvious.

Increasingly, Dad did not like the big government and reckless spending aspect of Washington. Dad called it "borrowed money," but it was really money created out of "thin air," which caused inflation. Look at old prices from old newspapers and see how many prices have gone up 10 or 20 times since the Kennedy years, for example.

Dad taught us to love our country, but to be as our nation founders and be highly watchful of our hired hands who seem to think they are the government and we all work for them.

Dad was a joiner, despite his busy life rearing five children along with Mom. He believed in large families and felt they were worth the cost and sacrifice. Still, he and Mom had money to put in the church collection plate and to help those in need. They taught us to give back.

I remember even after a hard day at work, if people got stuck in ice and snow ruts outside our farm town home, he would go out and use his pick-up truck to pull them out, never taking any money offered.

My one brother said at Dad's funeral that he remembers how humble Dad was, getting down on his knees at communion in our rural church.

Dad taught us that we, the people, are the government and those with the big titles really should feel honored to be working for us and they are a name seldom used anymore, "public servants."

He and Mom believed in newspapers and subscribed to three or four newspapers. They took the Bucyrus Telegraph Forum which I cut my teeth on. I remember as a sixth grader going out in the snow to get the afternoon paper that was delivered. When they were in nearby Shelby or Galion, they would always buy the local paper. They took the weekly Crestline paper and the daily Mansfield paper.

The Bucyrus paper back then was owned by Freedom Newspapers which had its roots in Northern Ohio and eventually became a chain of 31 dailies across the country. I liked some of their feisty columnists who didn't try to always take the popular route.

My parents believed in county fairs and even when money was tight, we went to the county fair every year. They also believed in local farm-raised produce and I remember going to Dewell's Farm or Weaver's going toward Bucyrus and getting eggs every week or going to roadside farm stands near Shelby.

Dad was proud of the groups he belonged to and was especially proud of the fact his fourth grandfather is recorded as being in the Revolutionary war on "our side." I always felt that and about \$2 gets you a cup of coffee, but he was really proud of it and said we might once again have to assert the role of the taxpayers who are paying for a lot of nonsense around the world.

He was not a fan of our troops being all over Kingdom Come and felt they are there probably more for the globalist corporations and bankers than for any other reason. Most wars, he believed, get down to rights between money bags. General Dwight D. Eisenhower felt this threat, too, and called it our "military-industrial complex" he told us to watch.

Dad felt our government changed with the murder of Kennedy and even though he had voted for Nixon in 1960 felt our own government was involved in Kennedy's death. He was suspicious it was an inside job the day it happened. Right or wrong, it took a lot of courage to believe that.

Maybe, if you and the editor will permit me, I would like to tell you more about Dad's influence on my life. It's not that you are necessary interested in MY Dad, but some of you who have lost a parent will relate to my recent loss.



Dad saw we got familiar with area towns and I remember him taking us to such area towns as Plymouth, Willard, Shelby, and other Firelands locations and just driving around the area.

Dad also began to feel in later years that our nation was becoming too militaristic not only abroad, but with our own people at home and had virtually gone to war with our own people with the "war on drugs." He was a Christian and our first duty is to help people who have serious problems. Why are so many people in our society so anxious and wanting to escape? Could part of it be the society and the aggressive government we have. Is it our fake prosperity that is encouraged by all of the "funny money" our central bankers and Washington create out of thin air the tune of multi-trillions of paper dollars and computer blips?

Again, Dad loved his nation, but not necessary those who he felt had taken over our government through such things as rigged campaign contribution system where money can virtually buy some candidates and some elections.

In his final days, he talked more and more about his Dad who died while Dad was overseas in Europe during World War II.

Well, I'm getting in deep here, more that some of you might like to read.

But my Dad didn't just eat up anything. He had a lot of courage to think for himself, especially when it came to government and the laws that special interests are increasingly making.

I will always remember and love him. He was my best friend for many years.

Take care, Cuz. Until next time.