

COMMUNITY CENTRAL

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New Red Cross leaders selected

The new Southwest Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross has a consolidated corporate board of directors serving Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte and Hardee counties.

The chapter recently finished work with the Patterson Foundation, a Sarasota-based charitable foundation focused on leveraging philanthropy to strengthen nonprofits and civic entities, to consolidate three local Red Cross chapters into one.

The newly elected corporate board of directors will be led by Chairman **Jeannie Slater**, Vice Chairman **Brent Myers**, Secretary-Treasurer **Thomas Cramer**, Governance Chairman **Todd Pokrywa** and Philanthropy Chairman **Darin Schulz**.

Directors are **Bobbi Barker**, **Bruce Body**, **Rochelle Dudley**, **Andrew Fritsch**, **David Jackson**, **Helen Ledgerwood**, **Kimberly Manooshian**, **Peter Mason**, **Michael Polin**, **John Shehorn** and **Ernest Sturges Jr.**

"I am very excited about the upcoming year and working with the newly formed Southwest Florida board," **Linda Carbone**, CEO for the Florida West Coast Region, said in a prepared statement.

The mission of the American Red Cross is to shelter, feed and provide emotional support to victims of disasters. Other responsibilities include teaching lifesaving skills, providing international humanitarian aid and supporting military members and their families.

For more information, visit www.redcrossftbc.org.

Gulf Coast Latin Chamber to host Quinceañera

The Gulf Coast Latin Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Quinceañera celebration to honor local girls for their 15th birthdays.

The event will begin at 6 p.m.

Aug. 4 at the Girl Scout Event and Conference Center, 4780 Cattleman Road, Sarasota.

Quinceañera, a traditional Hispanic custom, is a community and family celebration full of meaning when a girl is symbolically escorted into womanhood by her family, and the event is witnessed by their community.

For the second year, Fifth Third Bank is donating \$5,000 toward the scholarships presented to the girls as part of the celebration.

The girls are participating in educational and leadership programs leading up to the event, which serves as a way to expose the next generation of Hispanic leaders and business owners to the community at an early age. The programs explore business and industry, education, local government and community service.

Event tickets are \$20. Proceeds will be used to support the chamber's foundation. Advertising and sponsorship opportunities also are available.

For details, call the chamber or visit www.LatinChamber.org or call 358-7065.

Professor returns to Africa to continue her research

Dr. Lynn McBrien recently returned to Africa for her third research trip studying schools and culture in refugee camps.

McBrien, an assistant professor in the College of Education at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, focuses her research specifically on children affected by war, child soldiers and resettled refugees.

"It is my hope to create a three-to-four-year program to expand post-war networking, communications and reconciliation, particularly with war-affected children," McBrien said in a prepared statement. "When you are working in cases where people have



Leaders of the new Southwest Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross include, from left, John Shehorn, Bruce Body, Helen Ledgerwood, Jeannie Slater, Ernie Sturges Jr., Brent Myers, Peter Mason and Thomas Cramer. COURTESY PHOTO



The Sahib Shriners' magazine, The Reporter, won first place in the annual Shriners' International Dromedary Awards competition, which is open to all 193 Shrine Temples worldwide. Sahib Shriners' Potentate Tom Millaway, left, is shown with Gary Schweinsaupt, editor. Sahib Shriners previously won first place in their category in 1998 and 1999. COURTESY PHOTO

been deeply injured — psychologically, physically — reciprocity is essential. I cannot go in and take from them knowledge and research and not try to find a way to give back."

Another reason for McBrien's return is that Florida is typically in the top three states in the United States for resettling refugees.

"Because we have such a high percentage of resettled refugees here, it is absolutely critical for teachers to understand what they have been through — years and years of trauma, malnutrition, lack of water — it can cause classroom behaviors teachers do not expect," she said. "It is my goal to bring this knowledge to my class-



The Women's Council of Realtors, Sarasota Chapter, will have its annual fashion show and luncheon at 11 a.m. Sept. 21 in the Fete Ballroom at Polo Grill and Bar, 10670 Boardwalk Loop, Lakewood Ranch. Fashions will be provided by Eileen Fisher and Brooks Brothers. Guests can shop at various boutiques, and there will be silent auctions. Proceeds benefit the chapter's Education Fund and Children First. Tickets are \$45 by contacting Tina Darling at tinadaring@comcast.net or 921-5027. COURTESY PHOTO

room so I can help the students I'm teaching to go into the classrooms in our community and be well-equipped to handle these situations with as many tools in their bag as I can provide."

BEST BETS ACT NOW

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT for the Herald-Tribune's online calendar and have it considered for publication in the Herald-Tribune community calendar. Submit items at www.heraldtribune.com/calendarform. For assistance, go to www.heraldtribune.com/calendarformhelp. For a complete week of calendar listings, visit events.heraldtribune.com.

TODAY

BLOODMOBILE, 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 6101 Cortez Road, Bradenton; 1:30 to 5 p.m. at Regal Oakmont 8 Cinemas, 4801 Cortez Road, Bradenton. (800) 682-5663 or www.fb-blood.org.

SARASOTA INTERNATIONAL CRICKET CLUB JUNIORS PROGRAM, 10 to 11 a.m. at the Sarasota International Cricket Club, 7401 University Parkway, Bradenton. Open to ages 10 to 15. Free. 232-9956.

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER FAMILY FESTIVAL, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Greenbrook Adventure Park, south of State Road 70 off Greenbrook Boulevard, Lakewood Ranch. Businesses compete to make the tastiest hot dog. Also, music, games, shows, dogs available for adoption. Hosted by Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch. \$3 adults, \$2 teenagers, free for age 12 and younger. 840-4055 or www.hsdwr.org.

"BRIDES AND BASEBALL", 5 p.m. at McKechnie Field, 1611 Ninth St. W., Bradenton. While he watches a baseball game, she can survey local bridal vendors. \$10. 747-3031.

"GRANDMA AND FRIENDS" CIRCUS SHOW, 5 p.m. at John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, 5401 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota. 359-5700.

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