

# Bayside Briefs

## January/February 2009



St. Petersburg College  
SPC DOWNTOWN CENTER  
244 2nd Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
[www.spcollege.edu/downtown](http://www.spcollege.edu/downtown)

Newsletter Volume 90

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## Let's Celebrate

FEBRUARY  
09

## Black History Month



February marks the beginning of Black History Month, a federally recog-

nized, nation-wide celebration that provides the opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the significant roles that African Americans have played in the shaping of U.S. history.

We owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of black history, to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, considered to be the "Father of Black History."

Disturbed that history textbooks largely ignored America's black population, Woodson took on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history. In 1926, he developed Negro History Week. In 1976, Negro History Week expanded into Black History Month, sometimes referred to as African American Heritage Month.

Woodson chose the second week of February for the celebration because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population: Frederick Douglass (February 14), an escaped slave who became one of the foremost black abolitionists and civil

rights leaders in the nation, and President Abraham Lincoln (February 12), who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which abolished slavery in America's confederate states.

The Downtown Center's celebration, "A Soulful Showcase", will be held on **February 17, 2009** from **12:30 pm-2 pm** in the Community Room.

Our festivities will include delicious food from Saffron's Catering. Please remember to have a current SPC student ID with you so you may enjoy lunch.

St. Petersburg College celebrates Black History month college wide. Be sure to check the online events calendar (<http://www.spcollege.edu/eventcalendar>) located on the college's home page under the photo banner.

The logo for Super Bowl XLIII, featuring the Roman numeral XLIII in a stylized font with a star on either side, and the text "SUPER BOWL" above it. Below the logo is the text "TAMPA BAY 02.01.09".A brown football with white laces, positioned in the upper right corner of the sign.

Welcome Back:  
**COUNTDOWN**  
TO  
**SUPER BOWL**

Thursday, January 22  
12pm-1:30pm  
Student Lounge

Food & Refreshments  
Current SPC Student ID required

### Inside this issue:

EO Message	2
Counselor's Corner	3
Career Watch	3
Actively Speaking	4

St. Petersburg College  
Downtown



## Executive Officer's Message: Yvonne Ulmer



**W**e are ringing in the New Year with much excitement at SPC Downtown! As we continue to em-

brace our current partners, the Florida International Museum and the Florida Orchestra, other exciting partnerships are taking shape for 2009.

Beginning January 6, students will be able to participate in the general education diploma (GED) program on-site. This initiative is the result of a collaborative partnership between St. Petersburg College and Pinellas County Schools' Tomlinson Adult Learning Center. Kathy MacLaury, M.A., is the instructor for the program. The hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., DC 132.

The American Stage Theatre administrative offices moved into our building on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor over the Christmas holidays. The grand opening of the “new” American Stage Theatre, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the five-story building currently under construction, will be in late May.

The St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership and the Pier Aquarium are joining the SPC Downtown family in January with their administrative offices located on the second floor, Suite 201. The St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership, established in 1962, is a member supported non-profit organization with the mission of promoting appropriate sustainable growth and redevelopment in downtown St. Petersburg. The Partnership's main roles are identi-

fying and advocating for important issues affecting downtown, assisting with project planning and development, organizing federal, state, county and community resources for action, and promoting downtown as a desirable place to live, learn and build a business.

The Pier Aquarium is a private, not-for-profit aquarium and marine education science center located in downtown St. Petersburg. Their mission is to enhance the public's understanding of the value and fragility of the local and global marine environment through research, education and personal experiences.

The SPC Downtown Educational and Cultural Center is truly a place where class, culture and convenience come together!



## Help! @ Your Library

**Wed, 9am-1pm Thu, 5pm-9pm**

**Librarian, Heather Disler, DC 255**



The library is now sending overdue, lost item, and book request notices via electronic mail.

This is one small thing that we all can do to help conserve our natural resources.

Please confirm your email address with us today and do not hesitate to ask us any questions regarding this initiative. Phone: (727) 341-7199.

### **Florida Electronic Library (FEL)**

The Florida Electronic Library is a gateway to select Internet resources that offers access to comprehensive, accurate, and reliable information. Available resources include electronic magazines, newspapers, almanacs, encyclopedias, and books; providing information on topics such as current events, education, business, technology, and health issues. FEL offers information for all age groups, including homework help

for [students](#) and resources for [teachers](#).  
<http://www.flelibrary.org/about/>

Electronic resources available through FEL include:

[Florida on Florida](#), a comprehensive digital collection of Florida's history, culture, and environment made available from digital collections held by libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies throughout Florida.

[The Florida Memory Project](#) which brings information from the State Library and Archives of Florida to homes and workplaces. This interactive Web site allows researchers, teachers, and students of all ages to access historically significant documents, photos, film clips, and audio clips any time, from any computer with Internet access, bringing Florida's rich history to life.

[FloridaCat](#), a comprehensive online catalog of all of Florida's library holdings.



## Career Watch: Jim Gonyea



**T**he **secret** to everlasting employment! Sitting across from me recently was a



young woman who had lost her job due to staff cut-backs at her place of employment. After three years of service, she was given a one day notice and was out of work with no severance pay. She was frantic, even panicked. With desperation in each word she asked for help finding a new job so she could pay her bills.

I see this scenario every day now that our economy has tanked. But could she have avoided this situation? Tragically, yes!

When questioned about how she approached her work, it became clear that her philosophy was "to do what was required, as outlined in her work duties description, and to do it as well as possible." In fact, she confided that she had received good work performance reviews. While this sounds like an excellent work attitude, there's a flaw in her thinking. Can you spot it?

I asked her if it was her nature to regularly look for ways to improve her performance at work, in short to look for problems that if fixed could make the business more successful, and then to find solutions to those problems. Her answer was "I did what was expected and did it well!"

As any reader of "Lessons from America's Best-Run Companies" by Tom Peters will tell you, the most successful companies are those that hire "problem solvers," not just workers. From the employer's perspective, success is only possible if one can identify and solve the problems that will inevitably occur in trying to sell any product or service. It is, therefore, those employees who's philosophy it is to find and solve problems that are most in demand and the last to be laid off in tight economic times.

What's your work philosophy? Will you do just what's expected and do it well, or will you look for problems that you can solve to help elevate the company's success. Your answer may well determine how valuable and how employable you are in your career.

Email me your thoughts at  
Gonyea.james@spcollege.edu.

James Gonyea,  
Career Development Specialist  
Tuesday: 10am - 7pm  
727-341-2631



## Counselor's Corner: Jerry Cade

Welcome to a brand new year. We trust you are rested, renewed, and ready to tackle new challenges. One thing we know for sure, there will be challenges! But we want you to know that you don't have to do this alone. Our Downtown Center Student Services team is here for coaching, support, wisdom and an occasional course correction. This year we plan to increase our career counseling services. If you're one of the many who are not yet sure what you should be doing with your life and career, stop in and let us help you sort it out.

If you missed *Java with Jerry!* last semester, take heart, we'll be repeating the topics this spring on **Thursday mornings at 9:25 in DC 226.**

### Java with Jerry! Spring 2009 Schedule

#### January

29 On the Road Less Traveled

#### February

5 Keep your Balance

12 How did I get My Personality?

19 The Four Elements of Success

26 We Need a Laugh Vacation

#### March

5 Music4Success



Remember, keep your eye on the goal and take it one choice at a time. You can do this!

**DC 110A**  
**Cade.jerry@spcollege.edu**  
**341-7966**

**Counselor's  
Corner**



# Actively Speaking: Pamela Hobbs



**W**elcome to the Downtown Center!



I hope you are ready to tackle this new year full steam ahead. As a part of your new year's plans, consider participating in SPC's student life activities. Below is a partial list of the worthwhile events that have been planned as an enhancement to the fine education you are receiving at the college.

Please let me know how you are enjoying student life at the Downtown Center. I am located in DC 472.

Student Activity Coordinator Hobbs.pamela@spcollege.edu 727.341.4261

- 01/22—Welcome Back “Countdown to Super Bowl”, 12pm-1:30pm, Student Lounge
- 01/28—Welcome Back Nite Bites, 5:15pm-7pm, Student Lounge
- 02/03—Class You Love the Most Contest begins (You have the opportunity to vote for your favorite class-day and evening)
- 02/11—Class You Love the Most Contest ends (winner announced)
- 02/12—Valentine’s Day Sweet Treats
- 02/17—Black History Month Celebration: A Soulful Showcase, 12:30pm-2pm, Community Room (DC 210)
- 02/25—Nite Bites, 5:15pm-7pm, Student Lounge

## COMMON SENSE:

Welcome to the Information Commons. Remember these simple tips to help you make the most of the open-use computer lab:

Login with your student ID and MySPC password. Please do not forget to **logoff** properly so that the next student may access their own account.

Please remember you will need to bring your current student ID and will have to sign-in to utilize the Information Commons.

Also, bring your own back up devices (i.e., flash drives) to save your work.

### Hours of Availability

Monday - Thursday  
7:30am - 9:00pm  
Fridays  
8:00pm - 4:00pm



SPC Downtown Learning Support Center and Study Hall, DC 251

Services include tutoring in Reading and Writing

Rita Hooks: Monday-Thursday, 8am-12pm and 2pm-5pm; Friday, 8am-12pm, 2pm-4pm

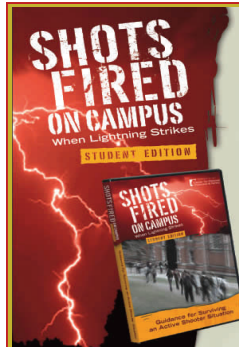
Heather Thomas: Mon-Thu, 6pm-9pm



### Free Math Tutoring

Chuck Torrey: Tuesday & Thursday, 11:30am-1:30pm, DC 251 (Tutors all courses)

Diana Timmons: Monday-Thursday, 5pm-9pm, DC 251 (Tutors all courses except MAC 2233, MGF 1106 and MGF 1107)



SPC's Emergency Management Coordinator, Bill Grey, is scheduled to present the *Shots Fired on Campus* training video at the Downtown Center on Wednesday, January 28, 2009.

There will be two sessions: 11a.m.—12p.m. and 5:30p.m.—6:30p.m. in DC 257. Joseph Smith, a retired SPPD officer now serving as director of SPC's Police Academy, and Seamus Allmon, with Bay Care Life Management, will also be here to provide insight on why it is important to report suspicious behavior and to answer participant's questions.

Faculty, staff and students are invited to this important presentation.

**LIBRARY** from pg. 2 Florida's [Ask a Librarian](#) which provides live online reference assistance from Florida librarians.

These online databases and services are available free to any Florida resident with a public library card, and can be accessed from home, work, public school, or any public library in Florida, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

I am teaching a Library Science course, Electronic Research Strategies (LIS 1102) this semester at the Downtown Center. LIS 1102 is a one credit course offered on Wednesdays from 1:10pm—3:50pm, February 18 through April 15.