Glorious  Artist Ruth Pettis gets a hug from her mom on opening day of the exhibit of Ruth's Shakespeare sonnet project, now on display at Eckerd College. Please see Page 20 & 21 for more.

Photo by Anne L. Hall

(NARFE) Chapter 1140 Meeting Held Feb. 27
The National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Chapter 1140 will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 11:30 a.m., at the West Community Library at St. Petersburg College, 6700 Eighth Ave. N., in the Library Community Room. Members, their spouses and guests are welcomed. The speaker will be Rudy Scheffter President of Sierra Club who will speak on how their club works and various local important environmental issues.

Flea Market & Bake Sale at Woman's Club
The St Petersburg Woman's Club at 40 Snell Isle Blvd N.E. will present it's annual "Treats & Treasures" Flea Market & Bake Sale on Friday, Feb 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Saturday, Feb 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The kitchen will be open featuring homemade soups, hot dogs, chili dogs, coffee, soft drinks and other baked goods. Proceeds to benefit the Historical Building Restoration Fund.
For information call 822-4982 or visit www.StPetersburgWomansClub.org.

Fundraiser Held March 16 For the families of Slain St. Petersburg Officers
Bill Hume, owner of the Billy's Corner Barber Shop, 2032 Fourth St. N., is again donating all his business proceeds on Saturday, March 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to help the families of slain St. Petersburg Officers.
During "Cuts for Cops," Hume will contribute all of the day's haircut proceeds ($15), tips, and contributions to the Sun Coast Law Enforcement Charities — Fallen Officer Fund. Joining him again in donating his barbering skills will be fellow barber and son Billy Hume, Jr.
In true community spirit, Old Northeast Tavern will contribute pizzas; other friends and clients will donate food and silent auction items; and neighboring businesses are lending their parking lots for the day. Kids can enjoy an up-close-and-personal look at a fire engine. Motorcycle officers will sweep the floor of the shop during the day, and will then deliver 100 percent of the event's proceeds to the Fallen Officers Fund.
Hume states "I did not know the officers well personally, but we have to do this for the families of our policemen who serve us in St. Pete, protecting lives and property. Saturday's are usually our best day, and this is a way to give back. How can we not help?"

Community Wellness Expo Held March 2
Make a day of fun, fitness, and health at the St. Petersburg Parks and Recreation Community Wellness Expo Saturday, March 2, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Willis S. John Recreation Center, 6635 M.L. King Jr. St. N., featuring educational wellness presentations with live healthy cooking and fitness demos. Vendors focus on health and wellness with health information for all ages. Enjoy a family fun area with a rock wall, inflatable games, raffles and prizes during the free event. Call Kim at 893-5994 for more information.

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Devouring Time, blunt thou the lion's paws,
And make the earth devour her own sweet brood,
Pluck the keen teeth from the fierce tiger's jaws,
And burn the long liv'd phoenix, in her own blood;

Make glad and sorry seasons as thou fleet'st,
And do whatever thou wilt, swift-footed Time.

To the wide world and all her fading sweets;
But I forbid thee one most heinous crime:
O, carve not with thy hours my loves fair brow,
Nor no lines there with thine antique pen;

Him in thy course untainted do allow
For beauty’s pattern to succeeding men.
Yet, do thy worst old Time: despite wrong.
My love shall in my verse ever live young.

William Shakespeare  Sonnet XIX  written out here July 27, 2006 by Taylor Parks, Camden, Maine
Local Artist Exhibits Work 10 Years in the Making

Text and photos by Anne L. Hall

*Full Many a Glorious Morning Have I Seen*, an exhibit now on display in the Cobb Gallery at Eckerd College, is a joyous work that took local artist Ruth Pettis 10 years to complete. The project was born in 2003 in the garage/art studio of her friend Frank Walsh during their weekly 3-hour-long scriptorium sessions.

“Scriptorium was time set aside to work on private esoteric calligraphy projects without the parameters, restraints and art direction of job work,” Pettis explains in her exhibit.

Her project combines all 154 of Shakespeare’s sonnets with different pieces of art. Many of the subjects were found in and around the scriptorium studio. In 2003 Walsh wrote about watching Pettis work: “She is working with broad watercolour swatches of the white-speared lily and tiny vermilion quadrifolium that blooms by the front door. Line after line of ebony black copperplate letters course across the page. Another sonnet in progress. The lizard who lives by the window pays his usual attention. A few weeks ago he found his way into one of Ruth’s illuminated capitals and has now joined the immortals.”

Pettis recently found a note she made on one of the early days of the project; the note was in a journal she kept while riding the bus in 2003: “On around Williams Park toward Scriptorium and the Shakespeare Sonnet project. Am I really doing the Shakespeare sonnets? Such a weird thing for me to choose, but it did just seem to fall together.”

The exhibit runs through March 15, and gallery hours are Monday through Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more, visit Eckerd.edu/academics/visualarts/events.php.

Facing page and all calligraphy on this page by Ruth Pettis who is pictured in center of photo above at the Cobb Gallery, Eckerd College.

February 15, 2013

Neighborhood News