



# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2002

**TAMPA BAY CHAPTER of the  
RARE FRUIT COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL, Inc.**

EDITORS: BOB HEATH, THERESA HEATH, CHARLES NOVAK, LINDA NOVAK, JIM LEE, SALLY LEE

President: JIM LEE

Website: [www.rarefruit.org](http://www.rarefruit.org) (Charles Novak)

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 2nd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 2:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING: OCT. 12 & 13 @ USF (See Below)

PROGRAM: The USF FALL PLANT FESTIVAL is scheduled for October 12 & 13. Consequently, we will forego our usual monthly meeting, which would be on the 2nd Sunday of the month, Oct 13, to participate in the USF Plant Festival. All members are invited to participate & bring plants to donate or sell. Parking is free but admission is \$3.00, for which the club will reimburse workers & participants in the Sale. This is an interesting affair & well worth the admission. Likewise, it is a social event as well as a money maker for the club. We will have no tasting table or plant raffle this month. But we desperately need workers. Let's make the USF Sale our big one. Please join us!

## USF FALL PLANT FESTIVAL

The RFCI will participate in the USF Plant Festival on Oct 12 & 13, 2002. This is an important fund raiser and all members are invited to attend, to assist in the Sale, to sell plants, to enjoy the camaraderie and to visit other groups.

Our participation will begin around 1:00 Friday afternoon, Oct 11, raising tents, setting up tables, arranging plants & posters, til about 6:00 pm.

On Saturday, Oct 12, the Gardens will be open from 7:00 am to 9:00 am for our final preparations. Price for admission is \$3.00, reimbursed by the Club.

The front gate will close at 8:30 am Saturday & Sunday, & participants will have to enter by the side south gate after the front gate closes, on foot, until 9:00.

From 7:00 am to 9:00 am on Saturday & Sunday, traffic will be one way, in the front gate & out the side gate. The Festival wil end at 4:00 pm on Saturday & 3:00 pm on Sunday, and only after 4:15 & 3:15 pm respectively, will we be allowed to bring vehicles in to re-supply or remove plants.

Parking for participants not bringing plants or supplies is across the street from the front entrance to the Gardens.

The USF Botanical Gardens takes 10% of our gross sales; the remaining 90% will be split 70/20 between the participant & the RFCI, so mark your plants accordingly, remembering that you get 70% of the selling price, less taxes.

We have provided ID cards for RFCI workers. Only those with ID cards will be allowed in before the Sale begins. If you are refused admittance, someone from our group will vouch for you to gain admittance. If you need an ID card, call Bob Heath at 813-289-1068 evenings or 879-6349 during the day.

## DIRECTIONS TO THE USF FALL PLANT FESTIVAL

Enter the Gardens from Bruce B Downs one block north of Fowler, turn East on Pine Street & Left at Alumni Drive. Go one block to the Gardens entrance on the left.

## September Plant Exchange

Plant	Donor	Winner
Loquat	Heath	Veronica Hall
Surinam Cherry	"	?
Rio Grande Cherry	"	John Braden
Rangoon Creeper	"	?
Pineapple	"	?
Banana	"	Gabriel?
Beauty Berry	"	Michael Gertinisan
Red Passion Fruit	"	Roshan
Sea Grape	"	Donna Gross
Carambola	Lee	?
Carambola Fruit 3	"	Susan Reed
Guava Fruit	"	Pat McGauley
" "	"	Bob Heath
" "	"	?
Sugar Apple	John Braden	Charlie Loenichen
Pink Floss Silk Tree	John & Niki Hill	Sharon Pilot
Bromeliad - Billbergia	Verna Dickey	John Braden
" "	"	Shane & Mayra Smith
Soursop	Pat McGauley	?
Cardamom Plants	Marie & Lisa Palis	Ed Walsh, John & Niki Hill
Blue Daze	J. Fuessel	?
Pink Guava 2	Shane & Mayra Smith	Susan Reed
White Angel Trumpet	"	Roberta Harris
Pink Angel Trumpet	"	Sandra Gonzalez
Cachucha Pepper 2	"	?
Longan	"	Marvin
Guanabanna	"	Bob Loenichen
Variegated Pineapple	"	Walter Yablonski
" " 3	"	?
Red Papaya	"	Dawkins
" "	"	Veronica Hall
Cilantro	"	J. Fuessel
Malanga	"	" "
Carob	Charles Novak	Shane & Mayra Smith
"	"	Dawkins
"	"	Grace Craven
"	"	Pat McGauley
Avocado	"	Charlie Loenichen
Ice Cream Mango	Charles & Kathy Crowley	Roberta Harris
Jade	Veronica Hall	?
Pink Grapefruit	Maryse Lamour	Bob Loenichen
Tangelo	"	Susan Reed
Papaya Fruit	Mary Ann	Marie Palis
Pineapple	?	Eldon Payne
Numwah Banana 2	Sharon Pilot	Roberta Harris
" "	"	Ed Walsh
" " 2	"	?
Flower	?	John Braden
Java Plum	?	Bob Loenichen
Oregano	?	Charlie Loenichen

JOKE...

What is Al Jolson's favorite fruit?

Mamey.

## Condolences...

It is with heartfelt sorrow and deep regret that we offer our condolences to Barbara Cohan for the recent passing of her husband, Jules, on June 4, 2002. Jules was an active member of the club since 1988 and acted as our president in 1990 for one year. He was friendly, outgoing and knowledgeable, and will be missed by all the members of the club. May his soul rest in peace.

Thanks to the Florida Gardening Magazine, we have received the following notice:

Well-known Florida garden writer, Marian Van Atta, passed away on July 17, 2002, after a long illness. Many of you knew Marian through her *Living off the Land* newspaper column and her newsletter and book of the same name. She also wrote *Exotic Foods: A Kitchen and Garden Guide* and *Growing Family Fruit & Nut Trees*. Marian was an enthusiastic champion for growing and using edible plants. She will be greatly missed.

### Welcome to our New Members:

Mary Pothoven  
Cecilia Denson

Plant City  
Lutz

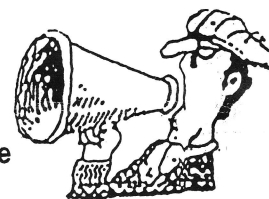
George Coleman  
George Ryan

St. Perersburg  
St. Petersburg

**Parafilm for grafting** is now available to club members. Contact Charles Novak (813)754-1399.

### Member's Corner:

If anyone from the Lakeland area is planning to drive to Gene Joyner's Unbelievable Acres Botanical Gardens on Nov. 2, Pat McGauley is interested in carpooling. Please contact Pat at (863)646-1130.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sept-Oct 2002  
by PAUL ZMODA

Our crop of sugar apples is about done for the season. We had green ones, red ones and the purple-red 'Kampong Mauve'. No Ilamas nor custard apples set at all despite plenty of flowers. Carambolas are having a great year - every tree has flowers, fruit or both. We made a batch of jelly from a bag full of these star fruit given to us by a friend who has a huge, ever-bearing tree near Westshore Blvd. We also got a nice, big crop of Downy Rosemyrtle fruit and made jelly from them. The flavor is good and the deep purple color is very attractive.

All bananas are growing very well thanks to heat, rain, sun and lots of horse manure.

I thought my nice purple, seedless grape had succumbed to Pierce's disease so I clipped the whole vine off near the ground 2 months ago. It has since grown back all the way to the top wire and looks well.

Watermelons are coming in - one at 22 pounds.

'White' pomegranate is ripening its 30 fruit. Inside they are a light pink and sweet.

New plantings: Pineapples, soybeans, string beans, onions, Chinese vegetables.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jimmy Lee

Thanks to the members who inquired about my absence from the last two club meetings. Business obligations have prevented me from being in town on the meeting dates. I am hoping to be available to help with the October 12-13 USF Botanical Garden Plant Festival. I want to thank Vice Presidents Charles Novak and Bob Heath for taking over during my absence.

I have been informed that everyone had a good time at the September picnic at the USF Botanical Garden. A big "Thank You" to Robert Dickey for grilling the chicken, hamburgers, hotdogs and sausages for all to enjoy. Thanks to members for bringing side dishes and desserts. I understand the weather was very nice (remember the rain last year?!).

We especially need members on Friday, October 11, 2 P.M., to help setup and unload plants at the USF Botanical Garden. We need members to help with the sale on Saturday and Sunday. Please donate your time to this important event. Club members who would like to have a club t-shirt (and do not have one as yet) will receive a t-shirt for helping at this sale.

Members who are interested in taking the bus to Gene Joyner's Unbelievable Acres Botanic Gardens in West Palm Beach on Saturday, November 2, should contact Charles Novak (813) 754-1399 or Bob Heath (813) 289-1068 to sign up. Look for more information in this newsletter.

### Scheduled Programs/Events:

- October 12-13: USF Botanical Garden Fall Plant Festival
- November 2: Bus trip to Gene Joyner's Unbelievable Acres in West Palm Beach
- November 10: Program will be on Cold Protection using microjets
- December 8: Holiday Social at the Creighton Farm

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JOKE...

What did the muskmelon say to the amorous honeydew?

"Sorry honey, but we cantaloupe!"

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**Bus Trip to Gene Joyner's Unbelievable Acres Botanical Gardens in West Palm Beach, Saturday, November 2.** If you have not signed up for this trip-and would like to go on the bus-please do so as soon as possible. You may contact Charles Novak at (813)754-1399, Bob Heath at (813)289-1068 after 6 P.M., or Sally Lee at (813)982-9359 after 6 P.M. The cost to members is \$20 per bus seat and payment should be made by October 20. The bus will pick up at the DAV Hall in St. Petersburg and then at the Brandon Town Center (see Maps in this newsletter for times and locations). If you prefer to drive your own vehicle you can meet us at Mounts at the County Extension Service on Military Trail. We should arrive there at about 10:00 A.M. See map for directions and location. Please bring your lunch and snacks. The club will have drinks available. The bus should return to Brandon about 6:30 P.M. and to St. Petersburg about 7:30 P.M. If you sign up for this trip and find you cannot go after all, please notify Charles, Bob, or Sally as soon as possible at the above phone numbers.



DAV-9 PARKING FOR W. PALM BEACH BUS TRIP, 4801 - 37th ST. NORTH - ST PETERSBURG

DIRECTIONS FROM THE NORTH:

South on Mullen Booth Rd (becomes 49th St N.) to 46th Ave N. Turn left, go to 37th St . turn left. Go about 1 block. Parking on right.

OR:

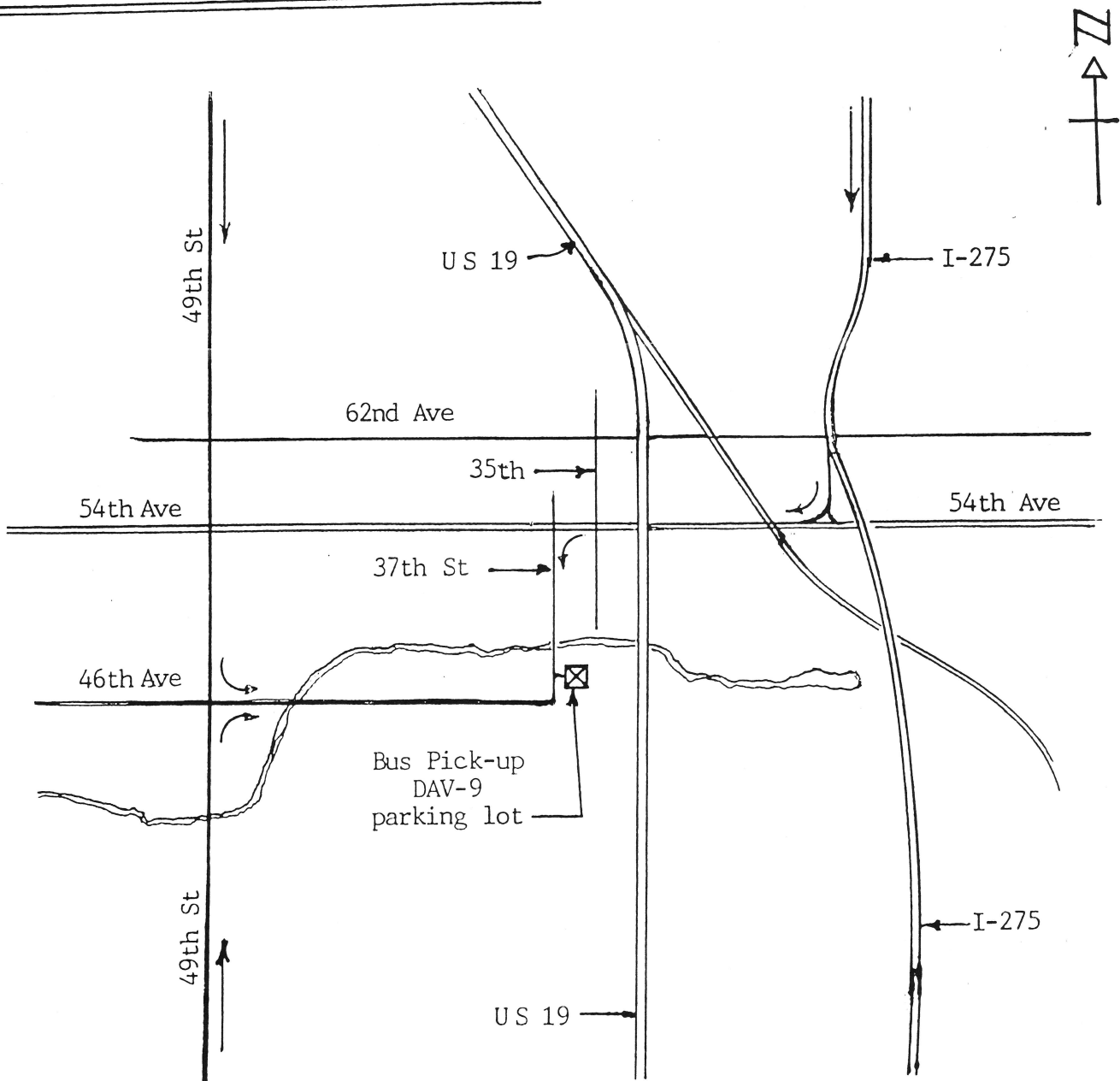
Take I-275 to the 54th Ave N. exit. Go west on 54th Ave to 37th St N. Turn left on 37th St. Go about 1/4 mile to parking on left.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE SOUTH:

Go north on 49th St N. to 46th Ave N. Turn right on 46th Ave.  
Go to 37th St N. Turn left. Go about 1 block on right.

OR CALL PAUL @ 727-515-6073. He will give you directions.

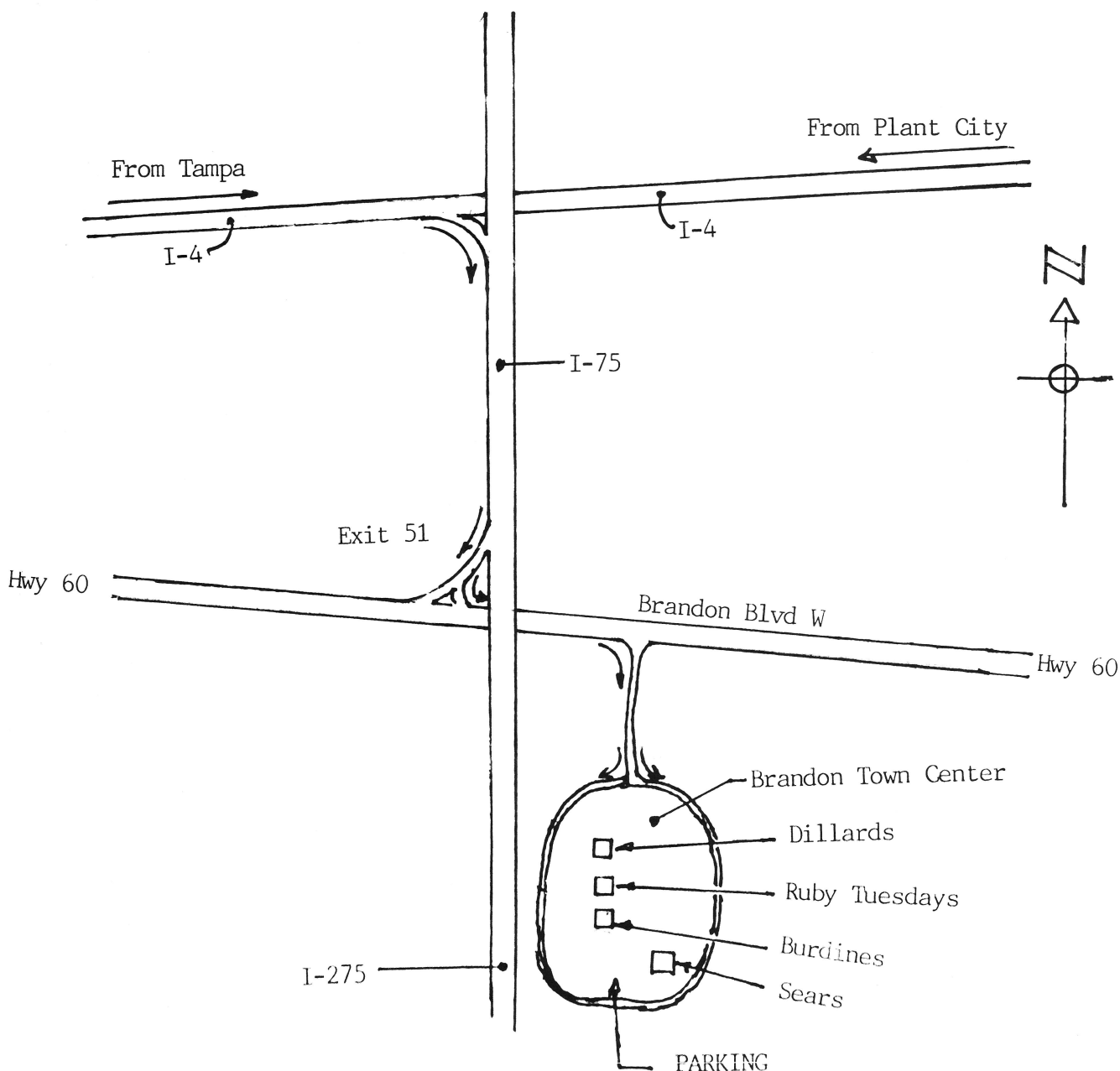
DEPARTURE TIME FROM DAV is 5:15 AM SHARP. BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH.



# WEST PALM BEACH Bus Trip: 2nd Pickup Location: BRANDON TOWN CENTER MALL

Parking lot near road between Burdines & Sears. DIRECTIONS: from Tampa: East on I-4 to I-75 South. Take Exit 51 to Hwy 60/Brandon Blvd. East on Brandon Blvd. Turn right onto Brandon Town Center Drive (big mall sign - just past Barnes & Noble). Turn right or left at first stop sign. Parking is between Burdines & Sears. Park out near the road. Please be at this pickup location before 6:15 AM as the bus leaves at that time. BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH.

There are still bus seats available. If you would like to join us on the bus please call Linda Novak (813) 754-1399 or Bob Heath (813)289-1068. This cost is \$20 per seat.



FROM YEEHAW  
JUNCTION

U.S. 95

MILITARY  
TRAIL

FLA. TURNPIKE

EXIT  
(TOLL BOOTH)

P.G.A. BLVD. - #786

HOW TO GET THERE:

FROM YEEHAW JUNCTION GO SOUTH ON THE FLORIDA TURNPIKE, EXIT AT PGA BLVD., S.R. 786, PROCEED EAST ON PGA BLVD. TO MILITARY TRAIL, TRAVEL SOUTH ON MILITARY TRAIL FOR APPROXIMATELY  $10\frac{1}{2}$  MILES TO MOUNTS, WHICH IS DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.



10½ MILES ±

MILITARY  
TRAILFLA.  
TURNPIKEMOTOR  
VEHICLE  
DEPT.

MOUNTS

PALM  
BEACH  
AIRPORT

## A GUIDE TO TROPICAL FRUIT TREES &amp; VINES by Nick Acivos (continued)

61. *Manihot esculenta* - Cassava, Tapioca, Yuca

An herbaceous shrub to 9 feet, native to South America. The plant has milky sap and the deeply cut leaves have 3-7 lobes. Flowers are not noticeable. Angled fruit is about 1/2 inch in diameter. Plants are grown for their roots. There are two varieties, a sweet one whose roots can be eaten raw; and a bitter one whose roots are poisonous. Roots of the bitter variety must be ground, the juice extracted and then boiled or roasted. The flavor if both is good when cooked. Latin people use roots with oil and garlic. Tapioca, used in puddings, is the starch removed from the roots. Roots are also used as potatoes and as a flour-like thickener. Plants are started from 4-6 inch cuttings.

62. *Nephelium lappaceum* - Rambutan

Large tree native to Malaya and cultivated in the tropical lowlands of Central America and the Philippines. Fruit is a drupe, bright red when mature; sometimes the color is orange and the skin is covered with soft, fleshy spines. The fruit, about 2 inches long, is produced in terminal clusters of 10 to 12. The flesh is white adhering to a flattened seed. Flavor varies from sweet to sub-acid. Plants are propagated by air layering or grafting.

RFCI Tampa Bay Chapter  
4109 DeLeon St  
Tampa FL 33609



FIRST CLASS MAIL

P. JUDSON NEWCOMBE  
314 DEER PARK AVE.  
TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617

