

NEIGHBORHOOD



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Newsletter



420 Gulf Blvd., Belleair Shores. Inset to the right is Creel at his 50th wedding anniversary.

THE GIFTED BUILDER OF OUR STONE HOUSES

The area's unique stone houses, which appear to be transplanted from the English or Irish countryside, are a homegrown product.

The homes and cottages have been a subject of curiosity since they were constructed just before and during World War II. More than a dozen still exist, mostly clustered along 10th and 12th Avenues in Indian Rocks Beach. One sits in Belleair Shore, at 420 Gulf Blvd., somewhat overshadowed by the much larger homes in the community. Robin Robertson, wife of Belleair Shore mayor John Robertson, and her sisters are owners of a stone cottage at 728 Beach Trail in Indian Rocks.

They are the creation of Oscar G. "O.G." Creel, a gifted builder who enjoyed working with rocks. Creel built his first stone house, at 105 12th Avenue, as a residence for his family, said his granddaughter Sherry Creel Jones. The house, which is still standing, became a headquarters for Creel's building enterprise. His construction vehicles and equipment were scattered over the grounds, and that displeased his wife, Nona.

"My grandmother was kind of proud," said Sherry Jones. "Construction equipment was dirty and she was not going to have it visible." So Creel constructed a long narrow building to cover up all the trucks. A garage was built next to it, with Creel's office next to the garage space. The entire Creel complex still stands on the property.

Material for the stone houses was rock quarried from the Withlacoochee River near Crystal River, Florida.

Creel built a variety of structures throughout Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco Counties, including conventional homes and cottages, post offices, a hotel, and local piers and seawalls, according to his grandson Linton G. Creel Jr. But Creel's favorite homes to build, according to Linton, were the storied stone houses made with Withlacoochee

River rock. "He thoroughly enjoyed working with the rocks," Linton said of his grandfather.

Linton Creel said his grandfather used quality construction methods and materials when creating his stone houses. "He was not one to cut corners," Linton said. The Creel homestead on 12th Avenue, where Linton Creel grew up, "was complete with a slate roof, copper ventilator, cooper gutters and downspouts. Inside the home, all the interior doors were red cypress, as were the interior window and doorway trims."

"O.G." was an expert bricklayer, stonemason, tile layer and master in the use of concrete in building construction, says grandson Linton.

O.G. Creel believed the stone houses, and his methods, were an ideal fit for Florida's climate. "That was part of his thinking," Linton said. Creel constructed his stone houses with very thick walls – rock on the outside with concrete behind it to hold the rock in place. On the inside were smooth concrete walls.

This manner of construction would be more comfortable in summer and provided added strength in storms, Creel reasoned. He would not evacuate the island for threatening hurricanes because he believed his stone house was the safest place to be in a hurricane.

O.G. Creel lived in his original stone house on 12th Avenue until his death in 1971. His wife Nona resided there until 1980.

Linton Creel describes his grandfather as "a very complex man, great family man, loved his God and his church, gifted craftsman, successful fisherman, and gardener extraordinaire." Born into poverty in Slocomb, Alabama, O.G. Creel was stricken with polio as a child. "O.G. was always an over-achiever," Linton Creel said. "He overcame the disabilities of polio and became a very strong and powerful man."

More than a dozen of O.G. Creel's stone houses are still in use. The ones in IRB are located at 72 Gulf Blvd; 105, 117, 119, and 121 12th Ave.; 302, 304, 308, and 324 10th Ave.; and 728, 1100, 1102, and 2018 Beach Trail. The one in Belleair Shores is owned by Sally Verner, who currently resides in Plant City. Creel built the cottage in the late 1930s.

by Wayne Ayers historian and author, whose book, "Tampa Bay's Gulf Beaches: The Fabulous 1950s and 1960s," is available at area bookstores and selected gift shops.

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PUBLISHER

Bob & Becky Griffin

ART DIRECTION

Becky Griffin

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CONTACT INFO

P.O. BOX 1314
Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785
517-1997 ~ 517-1998 FAX

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Please send comments to
bob@griffindirectories.com

NEXT ISSUE JUNE

Do you need another copy of this newsletter. You may pick up additional copies of this newsletter at all City Halls, Surf & Turf Market, Panara Bread, most Banks and the Belleair Food Mart. Need a lot more? Call 517-1997.

This newsletter is printed every other month and survives on local advertising. Please support the people advertising here. If you are a Belleair resident you receive a discount when you advertise. We also offer advertising discounts in our other issues, Madeira Beach, Indian Rocks Beach, Clearwater Beach and Downtown St. Petersburg.

Call me for the next issue. For more information, or to read our other issues online, visit BeachNewsletters.com

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COMMISSIONERS —
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www.cityofbelleairbeach.com
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POLICE: 595-4646
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www.belleairshore.com
1200 Gulf Blvd, Belleair Shore 593-9296
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POLICE DEPT: 595-4646
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COMMISSIONERS — John E. Hayes, Jr.
Robert E. Schmidt, Jr. • Ray Piscitelli
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www.townofbelleair-fl.gov
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POLICE DEPT: 588-3769
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www.Largo.com
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FIRE DEPT: 587-6714
POLICE: 586-7427
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Robert Murray • Curtis Holmes
Gigi Arntzen • Harriet K. Crozier
Woody Brown

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SHERIFF DISPATCH 582-6177
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CABLE (Bright House) 329-5020
BELLEAIR FINE ARTS SOCIETY 934-4304

BELLEAIR SOCIAL CLUB 584-2165

BELLEAIR BRIDGE GROUP 669-5283

BELLEAIR AREA ROTARY CLUB

Meets at Belleair Country Club every Thur. for lunch; Vicki Morgan 251-8277

BELLEAIR WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB

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Clearwater Beach 447-7600
Largo 584-2321

COUNTY INFORMATION 464-3000

COMMISSION OFFICES 464-3377

Norm Roche 464-3360
Karen Seel 464-3278

STATE:

Senator Dennis Jones 727-549-6411

Republican, District 13

8940 Seminole Blvd, Seminole 33772

Jones.Dennis.web@flsenate.gov

Representative Jim Frishe . 727-518-3902

Republican, District 54

125 Indian Rocks Rd, Belleair Bluffs

Jim.Frishe@MyFloridaHouse.gov

Governor Rick Scott

Rick.Scott@myflorida.com

FLORIDA UNITED STATES SENATORS:

Marco Rubio 202-224-3041

www.Rubio.Senate.gov

Bill Nelson 202-224-5274

www.BillNelson.Senate.gov

AREA UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE:

Rep Bill Young 727-394-6950

9210 113th St, Seminole, FL 33772

www.house.gov/young

2011 CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

APRIL

PawFest / Largo Central Park 2
Guppy's Gallop 5K Run 2
Beauty and The Beach on Indian Rocks 2
Heritage Village - Antique Car Show 3
Market in the Belleair Park 8
Mad Hatter's Tea Party Belleair Garden Club 13
Bluff's Business Assn Mixer (Thur) 14
Heritage Market in the Park Last Day 16
Great Strides Walk on IRB Beach 16
Federal Taxes Due 17
Good Friday 22
Earth Day 2011 22
Market in the Belleair Park 22
Easter Egg Hunt Belleair Bluffs City Hall 23
Easter Egg Hunt Town of Belleair 23
Spring Fest Arbor Day Belleair Rec 23
Easter Sunday 24
Arbor Day 29
Biggest Beach Party Ever Indian Rocks 30

MAY

Loggerhead Turtle Season Begins 1
Mother's Day 8
Belleair Bluff's Business Assn Mixer 12
Market in the Belleair Park 13
Postal Workers / Food Drive 14
Household Chemical Cleanup Event (IRB) 14
MADD Beach Walk (IRB) 14
Stone Crab Season Ends 15
Safe Boating Week 23-29
Market in the Belleair Park Last Day 27
Memorial Day 30

JUNE

Hurricane Season Begins 1
Public School Ends for 2011 8
Belleair Bluffs Business Assn Mixer 9
Flag Day 14
Heritage Village/Antique Appraisal Fair 18
Father's Day 19
Summer Begins 21
Morton Plant/Mease Triathlon Sand Key 26



While we're lighting five candles on our birthday cake, we can take a few off yours.

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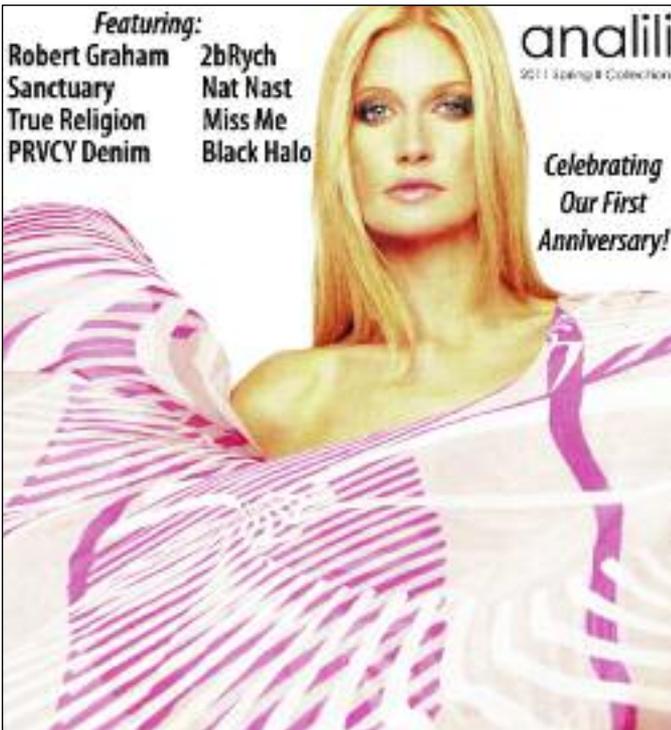
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Did You Know...

WHO FREED JR? In January, JR, the resident owl at McGough Park, escaped from his cage. Park rangers think he had some help from someone who opened his cage. JR is still not back, but he has been seen on the park grounds. Park rangers have seen him among the branches of the tall pines in the park. They were concerned that after being raised in captivity he wouldn't be able to feed himself, but apparently he is doing fine. At least, he isn't hungry enough to come home. The city adopted the owl 10 years ago and he has been very popular ever since.



A DOLPHIN TALE The movie recently filmed at the Clearwater Aquarium is in the editing stage. Look for 'trailers' to appear in April promoting the 3D film. It is scheduled to premier in the Tampa Bay area in October, with a national distribution in November or December.

MUSICAL Suncoast Performing Arts Foundation is assisting director and producer Domenic Bisesti with the financing of the Rodgers and Hammerstein SongBook, a compilation of Broadway's most well known songs from such shows as Carousel, The King and I, Oklahoma and the Sound of Music. The show will be performed Friday April 15 and Saturday April 16 at 8:00 pm and Sunday April 17 at 2:00 pm at the Largo Cultural Center. Ticket sales will benefit the Cultural Center.

FISH FRY St. Cecelia School, 1350 Court Street, Clearwater is holding their Annual Fish Fry on Friday, April 8th from 5-8 p.m. The adult meal is \$7 and includes: Fried Cod, French Fries, Hush puppies, Cole slaw, pudding, iced tea, juice and coffee. The childrens meal is \$4 and includes: Pizza, French Fries, pudding, Iced tea or juice. You can pay at the door or purchase tickets at the school (727-461-1200). It is also Discovery Night for current & potential students. Tour the classrooms, and meet the teachers.

CENTRAL PARK PLAYGROUND

Largo Central Park Playground is getting state of the art playground equipment in May to replace its 15 year old playground. The new playground



features 117 play events (34 more than before) including breakthrough play structures, two 15 foot tall space nets, a musical component, a two-story tower, merry-go-round and new shade structures. Synthetic turf will be installed instead of grass. The playground is currently closed. April 9th, the city is asking people to help put it all together. All volunteers must pre-register with the Largo Parks Department before April 9th. Register online at LargoParks.com or call 586-7415.

and More...

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Don't Miss The Fun! Another great summer is planned at the Belleair Recreation Department! Registration has already begun. Hurry before it fills up! For more information and a complete summer camp schedule, go to www.belleairrec.com or call 727-518-3728.



CHEMICAL CLEANUP

A Pinellas County Mobile Collection Drop Off event will be in Indian Rocks Beach, Saturday, May 14th from 9am to 2pm in front of City Hall between 15th and 16th Avenues. Enter on 16th. Bring your old televisions, computers, paint, pesticides and more. Call 464-7500 for more information.

FUN N SUN FESTIVAL

This year's festival will last 10 days. Enjoy a variety of concerts, including the 16th Annual Smooth Jazz Fest on Saturday, April 30th, QFest on May 1, the Sea-Blues Festival on May 6 & 7 and Fun N Sun Country Concert on May 8th. For more information, call 562-4700 or visit MyClearwater.com/FunNSun.

BELLEAIR BEACH CAUSEWAY BRIDGE

- as won multiple awards including:
- Roads & Bridges: Top Ten Bridge Project of 2009 Winner
 - American Public Works Association 2010 West Coast Branch Winner
 - American Public Works Association 2010 Florida Chapter Project of the Year – Structures Winner
 - American Public Works Association 2010 Transportation Project of the Year
 - 2011 Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers Grand Award Winner
 - 2011 American Council of Engineering Companies National Recognition Award Winner

MORE ROAD CONSTRUCTION

DOT officials recently announced they will begin three major construction projects on Ulmerton Road simultaneously. The projects will last about two years. The remaining areas with only 4 lanes will be widened to 6 lanes with a bike lane. This includes the area before and after Largo Mall. Work is expected to begin this summer. We suggest you start using 102nd Ave. or West Bay during the project.

THEMED SUMMER CAMP

This summer, Country Day School is again offering high quality and popular specialty camps to children age 2 through 8th grade. The camps combine a safe environment with high-quality programs that educate, engage, and enrich your child's life. This year, they will offer SCUBA Certification Camp, Horse Camp, Computer Programming Camp, Cooking Camp and many more! For more information visit www.countrydaylargo.com or call 727-596-1902.





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Funny, we don't look a day over 3!

by Stephanie Schlageter, Medspa Director

Helping you look younger than your age is what we do at Radiance and we've now been doing it for five wonderful years. Those who helped us reach this milestone know that Radiance Medspa offers the very latest, state-of-the-art, non-surgical cosmetic enhancement services administered by some of the most talented, experienced medical professionals in the Tampa Bay area. Our true specialty at Radiance is helping you determine what customized treatment plan is best for you so you can look as young as you feel. We have worked very hard over the last five years to successfully establish ourselves in the community as an industry leader in safety, expertise, and excellent outcomes. Plus, our team of professionals will bend over backwards to ensure your experience at Radiance is world class. To maintain this standard of excellence, the entire staff at Radiance continually attends conferences, training courses, and workshops around the country so that we can continually provide our patients with the safest, most effective, most current non-surgical services. Our dedication and hard work over the last 5 years has won us numerous awards and distinctions including: #1 Juvederm Business in Florida, the Black Diamond Award for Fraxel, the Black Diamond Award for Thermage, and Radiance is the exclusive provider of SlimLipo in Tampa Bay. We share these accomplishments with you to help instill your confidence in our team's skills and experience. Whether you're looking to erase lines, wrinkles and brown spots, get a liquid face lift, or just want to get rid of those love handles, Radiance Medspa can help you look your very best for your next birthday! And we're conveniently located right in your backyard in Belleair Bluffs. We invite you to stop by, call 518-7100, or visit radiancecetampabay.com to find out how we can help you get away with a few less candles on your next birthday cake!

DO YOU KNOW A CHILD IN NEED OF SCHOOL CLOTHES

Parents, teachers, social workers, social agencies, and clergy - do you know a child in grade K-12 who needs school clothes? If the child receives free or reduced lunch, they also qualify for a free week's



worth of clothing and a fun shopping trip at Clothes To Kids (CTK). Eligible children receive 5 new pairs of underwear, 5 new pairs of socks, 4 bottoms, 5 tops, and a pair of shoes... and more! An appointment is easy. In South County call 727-327-7100 (St. Pete store) and in North County call 727-441-5050 (Clearwater store). Visit www.ClothesToKids.org for more information about the program at CTK.

Clothes To Kids, a nonprofit organization, provides free clothing to low-income, school-age children in Pinellas County, free of charge. For more information, please call 441-5050 or visit our website at www.ClothesToKids.org.

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OSPREYS ARE NESTING NOW

by Michelle Glean Simoneau, Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary

Ospreys, sometimes called Fish Hawks, are a beautiful sight to see. They are fairly large birds, standing about two feet high, with brown upperparts and white underparts, and black streaks coming off the back of their eyes trailing to their heads. This gregarious bird can be found on every continent except Antarctica. Floridians are no stranger to the osprey, as they can be found near both fresh and salt water sources.



As their nickname suggests, these animals feed predominantly on fish. Their feet are specially adapted to this diet, their outer toe is reversible and the feet are quite textured. This allows them to not only grab their prey and hold tight, but also twist the fish so it is forward-facing, thus streamlining it as the osprey flies.

Osprey nests are easy to spot around Florida. As monogamous animals, ospreys will build the nest together. Viewers can spot the male vs female by looking at the breast; the female will have speckles resembling a necklace, and the male will retain a white chest. Over the years they will continually add to their home, and may be used by other ospreys in their absence. The nests are large structures

built out of twigs, wood, sea grasses, and similar material. Unfortunately, an osprey may also find materials such as monofilament lines and deem it acceptable nesting material. This obviously can result in the bird getting entangled, or they may ingest the line and become impacted or choke. Any signs of osprey distress should be reported to the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary for immediate rescue (call 727-391-6211).

Ospreys began to breed in February and will continue courtship and nesting through June. It will take the parents about five months to rear their chicks to adulthood. Expect to see between two to four babies in a nest. Young ospreys look very similar to the parents, from an early age they sport the dark eye markings of their parents. Osprey chicks may take advantage of another by pushing weaker chicks from the nest. If a baby osprey is found grounded it should be reported to the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary for rehabilitation. Luckily, ospreys are very robust animals and repair well. Aggressive and strong-willed, it doesn't take long for these animals to heal. Any babies that can be safely returned to the nest, are placed as soon as possible, where the parents will again take over raising them to be fully fledged family-oriented animals.

The nonprofit Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary is the largest wild bird hospital in the U.S. based on the admission of over 8,000 injured birds each year. For over 39 years, the Sanctuary has helped injured wild birds. It is set up to immediately triage, stabilize, and administer fluids to malnourished or injured birds. The Sanctuary has received thousands of emails and calls from around the world from concerned groups and individuals. Visit them at 18328 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores.

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FROM THE DESK OF SHERIFF JIM COATS
Sheriff's Citizens Patrol



The Sheriff's Citizens Patrol is in need of volunteers. We invite citizens wishing to contribute their time and energy to the community to consider their service to this worthwhile program. Applications are being accepted now through June 1st in time for approved applicants to attend our next Citizens Patrol Training Academy set to begin this July.

As a member of the Citizens Patrol, you will have an opportunity to serve side by side with our deputy sheriffs and perform a variety of valuable services for our citizens and visitors to Pinellas County. Some of the responsibilities include seizing and recovering found property, assisting disabled motorists, directing traffic at crash scenes or special events, issuing parking tickets, participating in community events, child fingerprinting, and vacation house checks, to name a few.

Citizens Patrol Volunteers will typically work in teams of two and be assigned a marked "Citizens Patrol" vehicle. Volunteers are issued a uniform. They will learn to respond to dispatches from the Communications Center; and are responsible for contacting Communications regarding any incident they may witness or discover while on patrol.

Under no circumstances are Citizens Patrol Volunteers to become involved in a situation that should be handled by law enforcement. Citizen Patrol applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a citizen of the United States
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Possess a valid driver's license
- Successfully complete a program application
- Pass a background investigation
- Some computer experience is preferred

Once the application is completed and returned, a background check will be conducted, and applicants will be scheduled for a polygraph test and a physical assessment test.

Upon successful completion of the application process, approved volunteers will be required to attend the seven week Citizens Patrol Academy. The next Academy is set to begin July 12. The training takes place from 6 to 10pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays; and 8am to 4pm on Saturdays.

Additionally, volunteers will receive individual training for their work assignments as well as occasional training with other volunteers in a group.

Currently the Citizen's Patrol has 27 members. Members are asked to perform 24- hours of service in a 3-month period, which averages to about 8 hours per month.

The program is coordinated through our Community Education and Programs Unit under the Community Service Section of Patrol Operations. If you are interested in applying for a Citizens Patrol Volunteer position please call Volunteer Team Coordinator Duke Mitchell at 582-5661 or Sergeant Denise Nestor at 727-582-5613.

We invite you to consider becoming a member of our Citizens Patrol Team. We know volunteers provide an invaluable level of service and support to the community as well as to Sheriff's Office members. Your desire to volunteer your time to help others is an excellent example of being a good neighbor, and contributes to our overall mission of "Leading the Way for a Safer Pinellas".

OUT-OF-STATE COMPANY IGNORES FLORIDA WATER QUALITY CONCERNS TO SELL MORE FERTILIZER

by Phil Compton, Field Organizer, Sierra Club Florida Regional Office

State Senate Bill 606 and House Bill 457, sponsored by two panhandle legislators, would repeal current state law that allows counties and cities to protect against excess residential fertilizer pollution getting into our local waterways. The bills would eliminate local ordinances adopted by over 40 local governments, including Pinellas County's that now prohibits excessive use of lawn fertilizers during the rainy season. That's the time of year when most of the runoff of excess nitrogen and phosphorous winds up in the water and feeds toxic algae outbreaks like Red Tide.

Scotts Miracle-Gro, an out-of-state fertilizer company lobbying hard to take control of fertilizer regulation away from local communities, announced March 21st it would soon remove phosphorous from its lawn fertilizers in an attempt to appear concerned with the environment. But it's nitrogen, not phosphorous, that turns Tampa Bay into algae soup and puts the Gulf at risk of having another outbreak of Red Tide like the disaster of 2005.

And Scotts has made a point of doing nothing to relieve our nitrogen problems. They haven't even produced a 50% slow release nitrogen product for lawns in Florida – something required in most of those 40 communities.

In fact, Scotts has continued to sell non-compliant nitrogen fertilizers in Sarasota, Lee, Orange and Charlotte counties where ordinances prohibit the application of products that contain less than 50% slow release nitrogen.

But the Pinellas County ordinance includes a sales ban on non-compliant fertilizers, so Scotts can't sell illegal products here. Scotts didn't like being taken off Pinellas retail shelves but it's their own fault - they had three years to create a compliant product before the Pinellas County Commission passed its ordinance by a 6-1 vote in Jan. 2010, but instead they spent those years lobbying the state legislature to take urban fertilizer regulation away from local governments.

This year the FL Retail Federation is against local control of fertilizer regulation. Why? Look no further than Scotts' domination of the retail fertilizer market and you'll know who is telling FL retailers what to do.

If I were a Pinellas County retailer selling anything to tourists, retirees or anyone who calls this place home, I would be outraged that one out-of-state company was making my federation act against my interests – let's face it, there isn't a job in these parts that doesn't depend on clean water in Tampa Bay.



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IS ALL THE BAD NEWS GETTING TO YOU?

by Mark Anderson

With everything going on today in our world, it's no surprise that everyone is stressed out. We have stress coming from our job, from our family and from our checkbook. Don't let it get you down.



Head to the gym to relieve that stress.

Exercise can do many things to relieve stress in different ways. Finding an activity that you like can quickly take your mind off of your problems. Playing tennis with a friend could be one. Think about hitting that little fuzzy yellow ball instead of hitting your boss. What about going for a hike in the great outdoors? Few things would take my mind off of a stressful day more quickly than a brisk walk thru the beautiful scenery of one of our state parks. My favorite though is hitting the weight room. There is something about fully exerting my muscles against a heavy weight that takes my mind right off of what is bothering me. For others, it may be actually taking physical aggression out on a boxing bag. A lot of our clients really love that one!

From inside the body, exercise decreases cortisol (a stressing chemical) and increases endorphins (a feel good chemical). The physical exhaustion that can accompany many types of workouts can also put you in that relaxed state. One of the very first benefits that our clients experience is that they sleep much better and go to sleep much quicker. Ever been stressed out while you were sleeping? I've never heard of it.

Whatever your activity of choice is, don't sit at home working yourself up even more. You will end up having one too many drinks, overeating because of the stress or lying awake all night. I have seen first-hand how our clients come in stressed out from the day only to end up leaving without a care in the world. It really is amazing how a good hard training session will take your mind off of your worries. So if stress is something that's been bogging you down feel free to contact Fitness Together at 727-501-0535 and get some information on our private one on one personal training sessions. Remember don't let stress be the "boss" of you.

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BELLEAIR REC CENTER ACTIVITIES

Flag Football at the Belleair Rec - Join the Belleair Recreation Department Staff as they offer a Flag Football League for children ages 5-14. This league will introduce your child to the game of football and develop the fundamental skills needed to excel. Register today as limited spots are available!

Next **Archery Class** at the Rec Center is May 2nd - 23. This class teaches the fundamentals and techniques of Archery. Students will learn stance, balance and safety. Classes include games and challenges.

The Belleair Recreation Department is proud to host many of **PowerPlay Volleyball** indoor and grass tournaments. PowerPlay Volleyball is devoted to sharing a

love of the game in ALL its formats! In that light, they bring competitive AND fun tournaments on all three surfaces: indoor, grass and sand. Belleair Rec. Center tournaments will be held throughout the year.



Join Belleair Rec **Zumba** instructor, Angelique, for an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-class that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Thursday from 6-7 pm at Belleair Town Hall. \$5.00 Drop-in fee.

For information about the above, call 727-518-3728,

LANDSCAPE 101

by Randy Lee

The first step in the landscape process is to define goals and purpose. Are we making significant changes to the property such as expanding the home, adding a pool or new driveway or creating a new landscape. Style should be considered- traditional to tropical and everything in between. A landscape drawing should be done and it should be a flexible plan. Prioritize how much landscaping to be done at one time- be prepared to break the process into phases if time and budget are factors. This is a good time to work out obstacles that might make the project difficult including accessibility, time available, season and budget.

Once the preplanning and planning have been done it is time to implement the landscape design. Eight steps are required for a smooth landscape installation. First, the site must be cleared- trees trimmed or removed, and old landscaping and sod removed. Clean down to bare soil. This establishes a rough grade for all the work to be done.

Second, drainage issues should be addressed. Gutters, underground pipes and drains should be fixed. I like to install large trees at this time since it may require heavy equipment and more accessibility.

Third, hardscape features should be built. This may include a pool, fence, fire pit, gazebo, or driveway. This is time consuming, but sets the framework for your new landscape.

Fourth, the irrigation system should be designed and installed based on the landscape drawing. Once the plants are in, the irrigation system can be fine tuned. It is important to pre wire and pre pipe anything underground.

The fifth step is to plant the landscaping- shrubs, small trees, groundcovers, sod and flowers. I bring in potting or top soil and plant with a light fertilizer. Water the plants as you go. I might fertilize existing plants we are keeping in the design. The final grade is established here.

Sixth, if landscape lighting is used it is now designed and installed now. These systems are either low or high voltage depending on budget and personal preference. Today, most landscaping lighting is low voltage since it is cheaper and can be installed quickly. If the budget is lacking, pre wire a system to be installed at a later date.

The seventh step is mulching. All beds should be watered, cleared of debris and the soil should be graded. Pine bark and cypress mulch are the most common types. Mulching is important to keep moisture in and weeds out. After mulching is complete plants should be watered again.

Our final step is follow up and maintenance. Is everything is alive and thriving? Is the irrigation system working? New plants should be fertilized twice a year and sod should be maintained, fertilized, and sprayed for pests regularly. Proper maintenance and follow up is an important step to protect your investment. Landscapes by Randy Lee, Inc. can help you with all of your landscape needs.

April/May Checklist:

- *Major pruning should be done in April
- *All plants, trees, palms and citrus can be fertilized
- *Lawns should be fertilized before the summer rains
- *Herbs and vegetables grow well at this time
- *Use Spring flowers such as purslane, salvia, marigold and dusty miller
- *Remember the heat begins and the weather is dry during these two months

Contact Randy Lee, Inc. is a full service landscape design company at (727) 421-2715 or view www.landscapesbyrl.com



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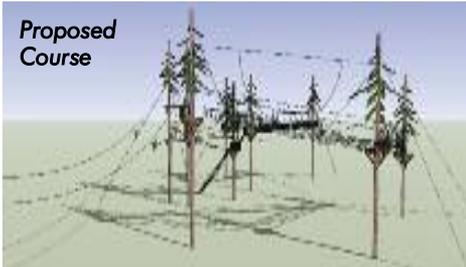
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SAND KEY ZIP LINE COMING SOON?

Dev Pathik, owner of Clearwater Canopy Tours, wants to install and manage a zip line tour in Sand Key Park. He has built them in other places, including Hawaii, and is having discussions with Pinellas County, the park's owner, and the City of Clearwater who has permitting jurisdiction over the park. Not everyone though wants this new attraction.

Pathik says he would build a series of zip lines in the center area of the park, within the loop roadway. There would be a starting tower



about 40-45' feet off the ground with four or five zip lines and three or four footbridges suspended on telephone poles 35 to 40 feet high. The highest point would be the entry tower. Pathik says the attraction is eco-friendly, because it is gravity-powered, and will be primarily educational. If the attraction were to close, the poles can be easily removed.

The Zip Line would operate during normal park hours and would have four full time, plus a few part-timer employees. Each tour will normally last two hours which includes time for instruction and outfitting. Participants travel in groups of eight to ten, with as many as eight to ten groups a day. The cost of a zip line tour would be between \$65 and \$75. That is very comparable to parasailing. "It would inject life, color and energy into the park and bring money to local businesses, with minimal

to zero impact on the park's natural resources, traffic and neighbors," says Pathik. Pathik says his zip line tour in Hawaii is so popular, tours must be booked five to six weeks in advance.

The Sand Key Sheraton says they are excited about the new attraction, which is proposed to be built next door. However, not everyone in Sand Key is happy.

"The obvious concern is the compatibility with our park," says Sand Key activist JoEllen Farnham. "We appreciate Mr Pathik's enthusiasm, but we still have grave concerns. It could bring too much automobile traffic and damage the park's serenity. This is a regional park and we would like to keep it that way."

"We have received very favorable support from the City of Clearwater, the Chamber of Commerce, area hotels and the Jolley Trolley," says Pathik. "This park already averages over 3 million visitors per year. We expect to add only 3-4 cars per hour and no additional parking places will be needed."

"Building codes in the City of Clearwater mandate a 30 foot height limit in public parks," says Michael Delk, City Build Inspector. It will likely take months for their plans to make their way through the permitting process."

Pathik has previously addressed the Sand Key Civic Association and will meet with them again during their regular meeting, Monday, April 4th, at the Clearwater Sailing Center.



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MOTHER'S DAY IDEAS



Mother's Day is May 8. Have you made your plans?

DINING

Here is what our local restaurants have cooked up for a special Mother's Day meal.

BELLEAIR BLUFFS

BONEFISH GRILL - Opens at 11am, Mother's Day. This is one of the most popular places to

celebrate. Reservations are recommended, 518-1230.

CODY'S ROADHOUSE GRILL - Is offering special Mother's Day meals including filet mignon, lobster, garlic shrimp, fresh salmon, and slow roasted Prime Rib. They are accepting reservations, 584-8473.

E&E STAKEOUT - Chef Erwin is planning Mother's Day Specials. Entrees include Surf and Turf, grilled salmon, tenderloin of veal, Australian sea bass and breast of duck. Reservations are recommended, 585-6399.

LE BOUCHON - Take your Mother for a French dinner at Le Bouchon. On Mother's Day, they open at 11am for lunch and at 4pm for dinner. Call them at 585-9777.

MARLIN DARLIN GRILL - They are offering a variety of special dinners for Mother's Day, including a fresh catch of the day. Dine anytime after noon, 584-1700.

WESTSHORE PIZZA - They deliver on Mother's Day. Call 585-6974 to buy your mother a pizza and better bring flowers, too.

SAND KEY AREA

BACKWATERS ON SAND KEY - Offering Mother's Day Specials that include Oyster Rockefeller, filet mignon, crab stuffed sea scallops and dessert. Reservations are suggested, 517-7383.

RUSTY'S at the SHERATON - Planning special Mother's Day buffets through-out the day. From 7-11am is their breakfast buffet with omelet station for \$16.95. Their special Sunday Brunch including salmon, carved roast, NY Strip, turkey, salads and a dessert table, for \$29.95, is 11am to 2pm. Reservations, 595-1611.

THE COLUMBIA - Will be open for lunch and dinner featuring tapas, Grouper Pontevedra, Surf & Turf and a guava and cream cheese Empanada for dessert. Reservations are now being accepted, 596-8400.

WATERCOLORS at the MARRIOTT - Enjoy lunch or dinner overlooking Clearwater Harbor. Reservations are recommended, 953-1661.

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

GUPPY'S ON THE BEACH - will be open for Lunch and Dinner, 593-2032.

STEFANO'S ITALIAN - opens at 4 pm for dinner only. The Mother's Day Special will be Surf N Turf, 595-8444.

OTHER PLACES NEARBY:

BALTIC AMBER (Largo) - Offering a special dinner for \$25, which includes dancing to their DJ and one glass of wine or soda, 286-6111.

HONG KONG RESTAURANT (Largo) - Enjoy a taste of China for Mother's Day. They will be open for lunch and dinner, 582-9998.

HUNGRY HOWIES PIZZA - Have a Large pizza any way you want it for \$7.99, 596-1400

PALM PAVILION (Clearwater Beach) - Dine, overlooking the beach, on seafood, steaks, pastas, wraps and sandwiches beginning at 10:30 am. Live entertainment will be featured from 1-5pm and into the evening. Sunset that day is 8:10pm. 446-2642.

SALT ROCK GRILL (Indian Shores) - Dine while overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. They will open at 11am that Sunday. Reservations are recommended. 593-7625



SHOPPING

Now that you have your meal planned, what about a gift?

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Features many cookbooks your mother would love to own. The recently published "Sunday in the South", by Ginny McCormacy, is now in stock. The 200 page, hard-bound book costs \$29.95. Call 588-3303.

AAA TRAVEL - Buy your mother a year of AAA Auto Service and free towing. 584-7678.

BILLY THE TREE - Show your love with a full embrace of hugs and kisses. The 'Hugs and Kisses' stainless steel magnetic bracelet, only \$29.95, features 24K gold plated X's and silver O's, made from surgical 316L stainless steel with a strong magnet in every link. 581-1848.

CARLSON WILDWOOD FLORIST - Order a dozen long stemmed roses for \$75. Smaller arrangements are \$35 and up. They also carry live orchid plants. Delivery is extra. Carlson serves all the Belleair area, 446-4610.

DESIGN WITH DRAMA - They have lots of gift ideas for your mother's home. Check out the large display at the Plaza 100 Shopping Center, 587-0900.

FLYING NEEDLES - Give mom a gift certificate for as little as \$20. If she doesn't know how to knit, they offer knitting lessons with no reservations. Call for days and times, 581-8691.

RADIANCE MEDSPA - Every Mother loves the gift of beauty. Gift certificates are available, in any denomination, towards all their products or services including facial treatments, Botox and laser hair removal. Purchase them at RadianceTampaBay.com or call 518-7100.



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BLUFFS ANIMAL HOSPITAL SERVING BELLEAIR FOR OVER 50 YEARS

Bluffs Animal Hospital is celebrating its golden anniversary, 50 years of providing veterinary care to the Belleair area. Founded in 1961 by Dr. Gerald Lee and his wife Liz, Dr. Lee and a family friend personally built the building which is still in use



1973 - in front of the new Bluffs Animal Hospital (left to right): Dr. Don Morgan, Mary Petrie Morgan, Liz Lee, Dr. Gerald Lee

today. Without any staff in the beginning, Dr. Lee and Liz were responsible for all aspects of hospital operations including medical and surgical care, grooming, bathing, kennel care and maintenance, cleaning and facility management. The Lee family also lived in a house on the property, ensuring they were never too far to take care of the hospital and its growing number of patients and clients.

When Dr. Lee opened the doors on January 1st, 1961, office visits were \$3. The very first client came in for a dog bath and was so impressed with Dr. Lee's personality and service that they paid twenty dollars – over 6 times the actual price of a bath! The first week in business, Bluffs had seven clients and earned \$48. By the end of the first month, they had sixty eight clients, and had earned \$403.25. Among the first clients from January of 1961, is Mrs. Ruth Eadie, a Belleair Bluffs resident who continues to bring her 3 dogs to Bluffs Animal Hospital today.

With a location as beautiful as Belleair Bluffs, it has not been hard for the hospital to attract several exceptional veterinarians over the years. Dr. Don Morgan joined the practice in 1969, and became a partner in the hospital with Dr. Lee in 1973. Originally part of the kennel staff at Bluffs as a teenager, Dr. Guy Gibson joined the practice in 1997. Then in 2005, Dr. Doug Spiker was added to the team, followed by Dr. Kristin Heatherly in 2008. In 2009, Dr. Gibson and Dr. Spiker purchased Bluffs Animal Hospital. In June, Brady Pratt will be added as a full-time veterinarian.

Bluffs Animal Hospital may be 50 years old, but one would never know it. The hospital continues to grow by adding doctors and staff, as well as updating the hospital facility and equipment. In the past 3 years, the complete exterior of the building has been remodeled, as well as the surgery suite, dental area and all 6 exam rooms. They now have a website where clients can re-order supplies for their pets, and they have implemented email communications. The hospital also upgraded to a digital radiography system and ultrasound.

Today, Bluffs Animal Hospital is proud to have over 4,000 active clients. Since 1961, the staff has grown from 2 to 20, and the original building has quadrupled in size. Multiple generations of families have trusted Bluffs Animal Hospital with their pets' care. It is because of this established, well-earned trust that the hospital will continue to grow in the Belleair community.

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BELLEAIR SHORE'S STONE HOUSE

The house at 420 Gulf Blvd in Belleair Shores was built in the late 1930s by Oscar 'OG' Creel. (See the front page story.) It is owned by John and Sally Verner of Plant City. They inherited the house from Sally's dad, Lew Prosser, who bought the house in 1953 from Monroe Brown.



Monroe Brown was a citrus farmer in Elfers (near Tarpon Springs), was the first person to live in the house, before he sold it to the Prossers. He had second house in Indian Rocks Beach near 23rd Avenue. He also owned a 30 foot fishing trawler, which he kept in the bay near 12th Avenue in IRB. He named the boat "The Brownie".

At that time, the stone house was built, there were only three other beach houses in what is today's Belleair Shores. The house basically looks unchanged. Over the years, air conditioning was added, along with two bedrooms, and the area between the house and the garage was covered. The house is surrounded by many tall Australian pine trees. Years ago, they were advised to cut them down. They did, but the trees grew back, taller than before.

The Verner's keep the house for private use and family vacations. They have 3 children and 7 grandchildren. Pictured here are children Ed and Amanda Verner, who also live in Plant City.

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APRIL 2011 CITY OF LARGO EVENTS

April, 1 - 29 Dali on Tour The Traveling Exhibition, Largo Central Library, 120 Central Park Drive, 587-6715. 31-piece collection of Dalí's most noted works, on display. Tours , April 6th at 11 am and April 10th, 2pm.

All of April - Free Genealogy/Family History

Classes Largo Library, Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Dr., 595-4521, FREE Genealogy, using ancestry.com and familysearch.org, Military Records and more.

April 1 - Flick n Float Spring Break, 5:30 pm, Southwest Pool, 13120 Vonn Rd., 518-3126, Family of 5 is \$10 residents, \$15 nonresidents. Watch "The Final Season". Wear your Rays Gear for a chance to win!

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Ballroom Fridays, 7 - 9 pm, Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Rd, 518-3131, \$7. The Ellis Hale Combo plays as you dance the night away. Dress to impress. No alcohol is permitted.

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Largo Square Dancing 7:30 - 9:45pm, Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Rd, 518-3131, \$5. Come dance while resident "Caller" Allen Snell leads you around the floor. No alcohol.

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Largo Swing Dance Saturdays, 7 - 11pm, Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Rd, 518-3131, \$7. Free lesson from 7-8pm and a DJ dance from 8-11pm. Visit LargoCommunityCenter.com.

April 2 - The Frog Prince, 11am, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, 587-6793. \$6.50 Adult, \$5.50 Children, \$20 Family 4 pack. LargoArts.com.

April 2 - Make a Difference Fishing Tournament, 8am - 1pm, Largo Central Nature Preserve, 150 Highland Ave. SE. Non-profit organization helping handicapped children. Registration at 8 am. Makeadifferencefishing.org.

April 2 - Pawfest 2011 10am - 3pm, Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive. Bring your favorite pooch to participate in games, activities, lessons and demos. FREE

April 2 & 3 - Train Weekend 10am - 4pm, Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, Ride the miniature trains. Visit LargoEvents.com. FREE

April 7, 14, and 21 - Largo's Downtown Market, 9am - 2pm, Ulmer Park, 301 West Bay Drive, 587-6740 ext. 5015. Eat lunch, listen to great music and shop outdoors in sunny Largo. Visit LargoEvents.com.

April 8 - Skate Night, 6 - 9pm, Highland Skate Park, 400 Highland Ave NE, 518-3016. Competition of the game of S.K.A.T.E. and Best Trick. Helmets required. FREE

April 9 - Flashlight Egg Hunt, 7pm, Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave NE, 518-3016, \$8. Glow in the dark activities, music, and age appropriate hunts. Don't forget to bring your flashlight and basket!

April 9 - Largo Central Park Playground Community Build, 8am - 4pm, Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, 586-7415. Must pre-register. Visit LargoParks.com, or the Largo Parks Administration Building.

April 9 - All Day Scrapbook Crop, 12 - 8 pm, Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave NE, 518-3016, \$10. You bring your photos and supplies, we will provide drinks and light snacks.

April 9 - Residential Pool Care Seminar, 9:30 - 11:30 am, Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave, 518-3126. Learn tips from the pros. Handouts on pool maintenance, equipment, costs and safety. FREE

April 9 - Baby Sale Bonanza, 8am -12pm, Southwest Recreation Complex, 13120 Vonn Rd, 518-3125, \$9 per table. Sell infant, toddler or preschool clothing, maternity items and toys in a community garage sale. Space limited.

April 9 - Close-up Magic Competition, 8pm, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, 587-6793, \$22 Advance, \$17 Student (19 & under), \$20 Group, \$27 at the door. Experience magic tableside as The Tampa Bay Magic Club provides some of Florida's best. LargoArts.com.

April 10 - Stories with Dali, 2 - 3pm, Largo Central Library, 120 Central Park Drive, 587-6715. For children up to 13 and their parents/caregivers. Listen to stories and create crafts related to Surrealism and Salvador Dali. FREE

April 10 - Dr. Etta - Family Specialist, 7pm, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, 587-6793, \$25 Advance, \$30 at the door. Etta is a recent winner of the Female Comic of the Year. Visit LargoArts.com.

April 11 - Poets Live! 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive, 587-6715. FREE, open to the public and no reservations are required.

April 12 - Celebrity Showcase Series, 1 - 3pm, Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Rd, 518-3131, \$14 in advance, \$15 at the door. "Nashville Comes to Largo" in a tribute to Reba, Garth, Patsy and Cash.

April 14 - Afternoon Tea Dance, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Rd, 518-3131, \$5. Dance to The Ellis Hale Combo. Casual dress.

April 19 - Silver Screen Classics, 12pm, Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Rd, 518-3131. FREE Refreshments will be sold. Movies are in the auditorium.

April 15 - April 16 - American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Largo, 6pm, Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive, 812-7003. Walk around the clock in the battle against cancer. Visit RelayForLife.org/largofl.

April 15, 16, 18 - The Rodgers and Hammerstein Songbook, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, 587-6790, \$27 Advance, \$30 VIP, \$23 Group, \$20 Student (19 & under), \$30 at the door. An enchanting evening you won't soon forget. Visit LargoArts.com.

April 21 - Residential Pool Care Seminar, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Highland Recreation Complex, 400 Highland Ave, 518-3126. Learn tips from the pros. Handouts on pool maintenance, equipment, costs and safety. FREE.

April 22 - Trashy Fashion Show, 7pm, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, 587-6790, \$10. Eco-designers of all ages will model fashions made of reused or recycled material. Visit LargoArts.com.

April 23 - The Eco Magic Show Starring Steve Trash 2pm and 8pm, Largo Cultural Center, 105 Central Park Drive, 587-6793 \$12 Adult, \$10 Student, \$35 Family 4 pack. Visit LargoArts.com.

April 23 - Spring Eco-fest, 11am - 2pm, McGough Nature Park, 11901 146th St N., 518-3047, FREE, \$2 for Egg Hunt. Games, an Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Bunny, food, workshops, a free tree give-a-way and more.

April 23 - Basic Water Rescue Certification for Parents and Foster Parents, 9-1pm, Southwest Pool, 13120 Vonn Rd, 518-3126, \$25 residents, \$31.25 nonresidents. Make your home pool safer.

FISHING IN THE AREA

by Captain Gary Burch, All Catch Charters, 458-6335

What Is Saltwater Inshore Flats Fishing? Spring brings in warmer temperatures and a greater opportunity for catching some of Clearwater's sought after saltwater inshore flats fish. Ask your northern friends what saltwater fishing means. You will probably get an answer like, fishing from big charter and party boats. Also they will tell you Tampa Bay saltwater fishing is for offshore grouper, snapper, sailfish and other deep sea species.

On the other hand, here in Florida and many other coastal states, there is inshore flats fishing. This is generally saltwater fishing from smaller boats, 15 to 24 feet in length, and usually 1 to 4 fishermen. Most all of the fishing is done in protected waters along the shore, in passes, inshore flats, shallow water and back bays.

Our inshore flats fishing areas affords anglers the opportunity to catch big fish in shallow water. Many of the world record and state record catches come from Florida's most famous flats fishing location - The Florida Keys.

Most all of the Tampa Bay fishing rods and reels, are considered light tackle. This includes 6-1/2 to 7-1/2 foot rods, spinning reels with 10 to 20 lb. test line and leaders from 20 to 30 lb. test. When targeting bigger species like tarpon and sharks, heavier equipment is necessary. Fly rods can be used in catching many types of fish in less than three feet of water.

The most popular of the inshore flats fish caught are redfish, snook, tarpon and trout. Others will include ladyfish, mackerel, cobia, shark, pompano and jacks. All of these fish can be stalked in area's inshore shallow water. Most of the fish you can see first before you cast a bait to them. This is called sight fishing.

So, if the big offshore fishing boats, with long rides out and back and lots of fishermen on board is not your thing, then take a look at our inshore flats fishing in shallow protected waters. It may be just what you are looking for the next time you want to go saltwater fishing.

What's biting? The water will warm up throughout April and this should start the spring run on lots of different species. These will include snook, mackerel, king fish and tarpon to name a few. White bait should be in the bays for netting and is the bait of choice.

So clean up those rods and reels and get ready for spring time saltwater inshore flats fishing. As the weather and water warms up, grab your gear and head out.

POSTAL WORKERS FOOD DRIVE SATURDAY, MAY 14TH

This is the 19th year the Letter Carriers are directing the food drive. "There is a greater need this year." says Ray Hanville, member of the letter carriers union. "In the past, the poor got most of the food. But now, more middle class people are calling food pantries for help." The food collected, last year 73 million pounds nationwide, only lasts for 3-4 months.

Food collected on the beach goes to the Indian Rocks Beach's Beaches Food Pantry at the Calvary Episcopal Church. The food collected in Belleair, Belleair Bluffs and Largo goes to RCS Ministries in Clearwater and Alder's Gate Church and Abundant Life Church.

That day, place nonperishable food by your mailbox for your mail carrier to pick up. Please no glass containers.

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Business Briefs...

BELLEVUE GOLF COURSE Chuck Eade, General Manager of the Belleview Golf and Country Club is proud of his new fleet of green golf carts. It is one of the first improvements by KAWA Capital Management, the new owners of the Belleview Biltmore and the golf club.



FREE ORAL CANCER SCREENINGS Bonham Dental Arts, in Largo, is offering FREE oral dental cancer screenings on Tuesday, April 12 in support of Oral Cancer Awareness Month. Every year, approximately 37,000 people are diagnosed with oral cancer and it kills one person every hour of every day. Oral cancer screenings are just as important as skin, prostate, colon and breast examinations and should be completed as part of your annual health checkups. Take advantage of this FREE cancer screening at 12720 Walsingham Road in Largo from 8am to 12:30pm. Please call 581-1869, to reserve a spot. For information visit OralCancer.org.

SYDNEY & COMPANY Sharon Mullins, long time owner of hair salon Sydney & Co, near Bonefish Grill, passed away February 15 from cancer. She was a very well known and loved person in Belleair Bluffs. Her sister Dottie Kubany and sister-in-law Patti Brundrette, her mother-in-law, plan to continue operating the salon.



432 WESTSIDE MOVING Ellen Lazenbry is moving her ladies clothing store four blocks south, to The Plaza at 100 Indian Rocks Road North. She will be between Slip Covers, Etc. and Beans About Cooking. She will double her space and add room for more merchandise, clothing and accessories. She hopes to be open by April 4th. The phone is still 501-0432.

SCOTT'S CLEANERS Kabe Gabro, manager of Scott's Cleaners is proud to announce they are making some changes and adding new equipment at their Belleair Bluffs facility. All incoming garments will have a barcode and be auto-sorted. It also improves efficiency and eliminate errors. This reduces the chance you will receive someone else's clothes. Look for this in late April.

BLUFFS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (BBA) The BBA meets the second Thursday of every month. All meetings are mixers and start at 5:30pm. For information, call Liza Campa Flanagan at 585-1212. The next meetings are: **April 14th**, Keller Williams Gulfside Realty office at the home of Liz Cuskey, 14538 Maplewood Drive, Largo. **May 12**, Belleair Property Group at the home of Sue Melendy, 3035 Honeysuckle Road, Largo

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More Business Briefs...



SMITH AND ASSOCIATES OPENS NEW OFFICE IN BELLEAIR BLUFFS While the new office at 716 Indian Rocks Road North, near the Fire Station opened last month, Smith and Associates has been in the real estate business for 41 years. They specialize in luxury real estate properties and have two offices in Tampa and one in downtown St Petersburg. They sold the most expensive residential property in Pinellas County in both 2008 and 2009, and the most expensive single family home in Pinellas County in 2010, including Matt Geiger's Odessa estate for \$8,000,000. "We are proud to join the Belleair community," says Bob Glaser, managing broker. "What better neighborhood to move into than one of Pinellas' most luxurious townships?" Learn more about Smith and Associates on their web site at SmithAndAssociates.com, or call 282-1788 to get local information.

NEW AAA MANAGER Bonnie Silber is the new manager of AAA Travel in Belleair Bluffs. She comes to the Bluffs from the Seminole office. Former manager Anne Reynolds has been transferred to the Tampa office.

ROCK AND SOUL CELEBRATES ONE YEAR Chris Jewel opened Rock N Soul Clothing one year ago in April. Check out his unique clothing store at 2957 West Bay, next to Bonefish Grill. See their web site at RockNSoulClothing.com.



NEW STORE Lots a new store, replacing Copy Cats, at 760 Indian Rocks Road North is coming Soon.

DUFFY'S GOLF STUDIO John Duffy has a new high tech business that matches specific golf clubs to your height, strength and technique. He uses a sophisticated piece of equipment called a Trackman Pro Golf Launch Monitor, similar to the Wii games, but different. The Trackman Pro measures and displays the full trajectory of any shot, from short pitches to 400 yard drives, pinpointing the landing position within the accuracy of one foot. "Fitting is such a science today. When you buy a club off the shelf, you are getting the 'one size fits all' deal. My clubs make everyone a better golfer", says John. Duffy's is not a training facility. He uses his experience and equipment to determine if you are using the right clubs, or if your clubs can be altered in his shop by bending the heads or adding different shafts. John has over 20 years experience in teaching golf and was the former pro for the LSU men's and women's teams. He has coached many high school kids to state championships. Duffy's is located at 2928 West Bay Drive, next to Panera Bread. Call 330-7830 to improve your golf game.

CLOSED

Copy Cats Jewelry, 760 Indian Rocks Road
Blockbuster Video, 13801 Walsingham, Largo

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O.G. Creel, builder of the stone houses, his wife Nona are in the center of this photo, surrounded by their children and grandchildren. The photo was taken in front of the Creel stone home on 12th Avenue in Indian Rocks Beach during a family reunion.

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Bobbie Rendel
MIRM, CDPE, Realtor™
Jerry Rendel
CDPE, Realtor™

Bobbie's Cell 727.458.4719
Jerry's Cell 727.580.7800
brendel@smithandassociates.com

ENERGY ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS

by Commission Chair Karen Williams Seel

When we think about home essentials, things such as running water, sewer service and power come to mind. But, have you considered the impact of climate control in the home?

Having a working heating system during the winter is a big deal in the cities north of us. The dangers of hypothermia and the expense of frozen pipes bursting make controlling the indoor temperature critical. However, over the past two chilly winters, we have seen the importance of heating even here on Florida's Gulf coast.

The dangers of long term exposure to excessive heat are also very real. As we approach summer, Florida's heat and humidity pose a real risk for heat exhaustion and – even worse – deadly heat stroke. Each year, more than 2,600 people nationwide are hospitalized due to excessive heat.

Senior citizens are particularly vulnerable to these temperature swings. Evidence has shown that people 65 years old or older are more susceptible to the effects of excessive heat – and many won't seek help for themselves, offering to help their neighbors first. While it's important to keep a home climate controlled, it costs money to heat or cool. And, for seniors on a fixed budget, it may be difficult to pay those bills.



That's where Pinellas County can help. The county's Health and Human Services department is offering the Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program. Seniors ages 60 and over who need help paying their energy bills are encouraged to apply to see if they are eligible for the program. The Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program helps low-income seniors pay electric, gas and fuel bills and helps pay for repairs to heating equipment. Vouchers may be available for portable heaters, fans and blankets.

Eligible households can receive benefits twice a year, once in the heating season and once in the cooling season, for up to a maximum of \$600. The money is being provided through the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas Inc.

"We are hoping our senior citizens will take advantage of the help that is available," said Cliff Smith, acting director of Pinellas County Health and Human Services. "We really want to help our residents pay their bills."

Residents can inquire about eligibility by visiting or calling one of the Health and Human Services offices:

St. Petersburg office
647 First Ave. N.
St. Petersburg
(727) 582-7781

Clearwater office
2189 Cleveland St. Suite 230
Clearwater
(727) 464-8400

Visit www.pinellascounty.org/humanservices/elderly-energy.htm for information on the Emergency Home Energy Assistance program.

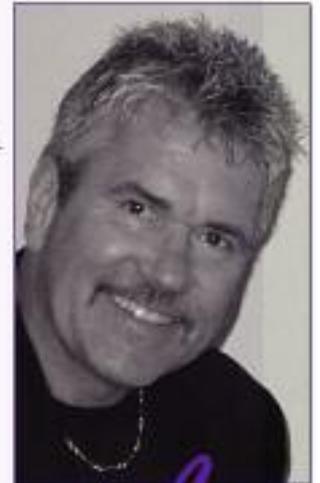
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BACKWATER CHILI CONTEST WINNERS

This year's contest was the largest ever with over 30 people participating. All the winners are local. First place Alex Zak, Sand Key - his second time winning, Second place Gillian Willard, Island Estates and Third Place Lowell Nickerson, Belleair Beach.



HONG KONG RESTAURANT EXPANSION IS COMING

Helen Lee is expecting the building permits to be issued soon. Look for construction to begin in April. The small Chinese restaurant at 1901 West Bay plans to be open during the expansion construction. They deliver to all of Belleair. Call them at 582-9998.

CODY'S ROADHOUSE OPENS EARLY WEDNESDAYS

They have adjusted their opening hours on Wednesday to 2pm. Normally, they open at 3:30pm on other days. They are still serving lunch on Fridays starting at 11am.

CONSTRUCTION NOT STARTED YET

Owners of the new Beef-O-Bradys are trying to started construction on their new Walsingham Road location in Largo, but so far no luck. They are the same owners who operated the West Bay Beef-O-Bradys near Publix.

NEW THAI RESTAURANT

Chang Bistro has replaced Bua Luang Thai restaurant in Clearwater Beach. They will be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, 6:30am to 9pm. Breakfast will be offered American, as well as Asian, style including Duck Feta Cheese Omelets, Crab Cake Benedict and Southwest cuisine. They offer authentic Thai cuisine and sushi for lunch and dinner. Visit them at 608 Mandalay Ave., North Beach or call 408-5200. Chang Bistro owners also own Thai Coconut on Missouri Avenue.



28 YEARS

Crabby Bill's Seafood has been serving grouper sandwiches since April 1983, making it the second oldest operating IRB restaurant. They expanded their presence over the years by opening the Loading Dock, IRB Sushi and Jake's Sandwich Shop. They also have two locations in Clearwater. The City of Clearwater and Crabby Bill's recently negotiated a new 4 year lease at the City Marina. Crabby agreed to spend \$190,000 on improvements to the building plus their monthly rent.

SECOND ANNUAL CLEARWATER BEACH RESTAURANT WEEK

will be May 8-15. This year the event will kick off with a Taste of Clearwater Beach on Beach Walk Friday, May 6. It is sponsored by the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce and planned by their members. ClearwaterBeachRestaurantweek.com has all the information.

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More Restaurant News...

CLARIFICATION: LE BOUCHON OWNERS

Yes there is a new owner at Le Bouchon. But Chef Christian Routier wants you to know, he is still there. He also is part owner of Le Bouchon with Jean Michel. They are both shown here.



CLEARWATER CITY GRILL

Stacy and Bill Dillion, previous owners of Indian Rock Beach's Cafe Solei and IRB Ale House, are part owners of a new Clearwater restaurant, the Clearwater City Grill. Located at 401 South Ft Harrison Blvd., directly across from the County Courthouse, it opened in February.

BELLEAIR GOLF CLUB NEW FOOD DIRECTOR

Diana Fyfe is the new food and beverage manager at the Belleair Golf Club. Previously, she was the Sales and Marketing Director for the Hilton at Carillon Center. She has worked for either the Omni Hotels or the Hilton Hotels throughout her career. She says she is thrilled to be involved with the Club's renovation and creating new menus for the local members. She also loves planning the social events. The Belleview Golf Club is ideal for small weddings, rehearsal dinners, birthday parties and community events. You can call her at 581-5498.



CINCO DE MAYO Cinco de Mayo (May 5th) is a Thursday this year. If you are looking for a Mexican Restaurant close by, here are a few options:

- Carmelita's Mexican, 5042 East Bay Drive, Largo
- Compadres Mexican, 2801 Gulf to Bay Blvd, Clearwater
- Los Mariachis, 9100 Ulmerton, Largo
- Los Mexicanos, 301 Gulf Blvd, Indian Rocks Beach
- Senor Locos, 10500 Ulmerton, Largo Mall

THE BOARDWALK ON ISLAND ESTATES

Coney Island is coming to Island Estates in the Publix Shopping. Called The Original Boardwalk Grill and Sports Bar, it will be a full sized restaurant as well as a sports bar. The new owners are Stuart Saltzman, an Island Estates resident with roots in New Jersey, and Joe Listorti. They purchased over 3,000 SF of lumber from the original Coney Island boardwalk to use as flooring throughout the restaurant. There will be 22 TVs, a Wurlitzer juke box, an old fashioned amusement arcade and more. The menu has food you would expect at Coney Island including NY style pizza, wings, sandwiches, seafood, chowder and salads. There will be 16 beers on tap, 50 bottled beers, and a full liquor bar. They plan to be open for lunch and dinner, 11am to 3am and will offer take-out and delivery, including to Sand Key. They are located at 126 Island Way, 445-1111.





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SCHOOL AGRICULTURE QUILT

Every year, the fourth graders at Indian Rocks Christian School have made a quilt showing Florida agriculture.



They received a \$250 grant from Farm Bureau to cover the expenses. Each student made a square showing a Florida county and its agricultural

commodity. In art class, the students added pictures of their commodity as well as the Florida bird, flag, flower and outline of state. Our church's senior sewing/quilting group quilt the piece for them. Last year two quilts were submitted to the Florida State Fair and they received first and second place.

The first quilt was presented to Jon Paul Perea missionaries to Kazakhstan- where it is VERY cold. The family has children at the school. They left for Kazakhstan in January.

FUN IN THE WATER BEGINS WITH SAFETY!

By Marshall R. Eiss, Fire Inspector Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

With warm weather approaching, we're thinking about the why we moved near the beach – the water! We really want to spend time in the water, not just walking along beside it. To enhance the enjoyment and prevent injuries, it is recommended that you follow a few simple rules:

Never Swim Alone! Always use the buddy system and teach children to use it as well!

Make sure an adult is constantly watching while young children are swimming, playing, or bathing in water. Do not read, play cards, talk or text on the phone. Do not engage in other distracting activities while supervising children in and around water.

Learn to swim. Conditions in the water can and do change quickly and knowing what to do is extremely important. Teach children above the age of four how to swim. This is highly recommended.

DO NOT use air filled swimming aids (such as water wings or "floaties") with children in place of life jackets or life preservers. It can lead to a false sense of security increasing the risk of drowning. These devices are not designed to be personal floatation devices. Air filled plastic tubes can deflate due to punctures or being unplugged.

Prevent choking. Do not chew gum or eat while swimming, diving or playing in water.

Do Not Drink Alcohol! Don't drink alcohol before or during swimming, boating, or water skiing. Never drink alcohol while supervising children around water. Teach teenagers about the dangers of drinking alcohol while being in or around water.

LEARN CPR! If something bad should happen, be prepared to help until emergency personnel arrive!

FOOD DRIVE BY OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Anny Tarrant, Public Awareness & Response Beach Community Food Pantry, 813-245-6758

Recently I was approached by a resident of Indian Rocks Beach, Andrea Harms, asking if her daughter, Morgan, could do a school project using the Beach Community Food Pantry as a platform. Morgan, a second grader at Anona Elementary, was required to do a community project for her gifted class. Her teacher, Ms. Gorgo encouraged her students to reach out beyond traditional projects and consider the needs in their local community.

It didn't take me more than a second to accept this young lady's help and her parents encouragement. Mother and daughter created a plan of action. At Kolb Park, on Wednesday, January 12th (a VERY chilly day), friends, family, and Indian Rocks Beach citizens could drop off non-perishable food between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 pm. Morgan made fliers with all the proper information and distributed them at school and in her neighborhood. The day of the food drive Morgan and mom arrived with boxes, posters as well as snacks and refreshments for those that stopped by with donations. By the end of the evening, 8 boxes of food were loaded in my car and taken to the food pantry to be stocked the next morning by volunteers. A successful outcome indeed!

As if this wasn't enough generosity, I met two students from Oakhurst who had similar goals of helping the Beach Community Food Pantry. Kai Krause and his mom stopped by on Sunday with several boxes of food that Kai had collected at school. Jacob Alford and his mom volunteered Friday working alongside pantry volunteers stocking shelves, carrying boxes and bringing smiles to volunteers and patrons alike.

While observing these acts of kindness and civic responsibility, I cannot help but reflect on Christina Taylor Green, the young girl that lost her life on that horrible day in Phoenix. Christina's desire to learn, to be involved, and to care about community is alive and well in these young people. The beauty in their action is the message. Dreams and goals for the future continue to be realized by these children.

Thank-you Morgan, Kai, and Jacob for all your hard work. Thank-you parents and teachers for inspiring our children to be aware of opportunities to do good things. The Beach Community Food Pantry thanks you; the community thanks you.

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BLUFFS PROJECT UPDATE



by Tom Shelly, Belleair Commissioner

It is necessary to complete a project to protect the Belleair Bluff, trees, roads, storm water, and sewer system along Bayview Drive. The Bayview and Manatee road projects cannot be started until the Bluff is complete. All of the road projects east of Bayview are on hold until the new storm water and drainage on Bayview is in place.

The project will save all of the Hardwood Trees possible and relocate all of the Palm Trees. Loren Westenberger a local tree arborist has been very helpful at finding innovate ways to help save the trees. There is a great deal of invasive vegetation on the side and bottom of the Bluffs that will be removed.

We are attempting to recapture a portion of the Bluffs that has been lost in the past. All fill dirt that is used will be tested to be sure that it is clean.

The initial project from Tampa Bay Engineering was reviewed and approved by Swiftmud, Department of Environmental Protection and the US Army Core of Engineer's. Every expert that has looked at it has agreed that is a well engineered solution, however a few people have asked if it could be smaller and less expensive. The Swiftmud grant will pay for 1/2 of the Bluffs protection project up to \$2,500,000.

The Town of Belleair has hired Dr. Bob Dean, a Hydrologist, for a more complete erosion study which he hopes to have done in June. Dr Dean is Professor Emeritus in the Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering Program, Civil and Coastal Engineering Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Dr. Dean was tasked to determine if there was any erosion, the weight and type of the erosion occurring and potential issues related to the erosion. Depending on what Dr. Dean finds we may have a second stage of the study.

Please check out the Town of Belleair website for upcoming meetings www.townofbelleair.com.

ST. CECELIA SCHOOL ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

The St. Cecelia Odyssey of the Mind Team competed at Strawberry Crest High School in the Regional meet. The team took third place and earned 196 points, out of the 200 possible, on

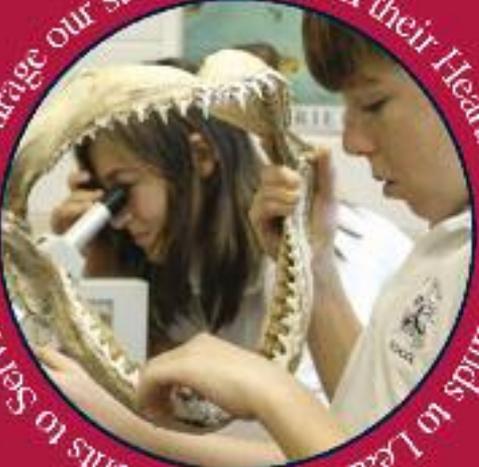


their answer to the Full Circle NASA sponsored question. They stayed within the budget for the props, kept the solution to within the eight minute time limit, had a silly and a serious character, and performed an original song and dance. Their performance was completed with no outside assistance. The team consisted of (from left to right) Ciara Lusnia (Clearwater), Amanda Vaughn (Seminole), and Gabe Brown (Clearwater).




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TAMPA BAY SEAGRASSES SHOW RECORD INCREASE

Tampa Bay gained 3,250 acres of seagrass between 2008 and 2010 – an 11% increase - the largest 2-year expansion of seagrasses since scientists began regular surveys of this critical underwater habitat.

The bay now supports 32,897 acres of seagrasses – more than at any time measured since the 1950s, according to data presented this week to the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and other members of the Southwest Florida Seagrass Working Group.

The data was collected by scientists with the Southwest Florida Water Management District's Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program. They assess seagrass coverage in the bay approximately every two years, using a combination of maps produced from aerial photographs followed by ground-truthing to verify accuracy. The aerial photographs are taken in winter months when the water is clearer. Results of this effort have been used to track trends in seagrass extent in estuaries throughout Southwest Florida since 1988.

All major bay segments showed seagrass gains, according to the SWIM data, including the troubled Old



Tampa Bay segment in the northern part of the bay, which has been plagued by algae blooms and an expanding layer of thick, soupy muck near Safety Harbor in recent years. Seagrasses in Old Tampa Bay expanded by 858 acres over 2008 levels, or nearly 15%. Seagrasses in Middle Tampa Bay increased by 1,549 acres, or 23.3%.

The increases could be a result of improving water quality overall. In fact, preliminary results from 2010 monitoring indicates that all bay segments met TBEP's adopted water clarity goals. Recent low-rainfall years, with less runoff entering the bay, may have contributed to the improvements. And some gains also may be a function of constantly improving seagrass mapping techniques.

Seagrasses are an important barometer of the bay's health because they require relatively clean water to flourish. They also provide vital habitat for sportfish such as sea trout, snook, and redfish.

Despite the impressive gains, the bay is still 5,103 acres short of the target goal of 38,000 acres of seagrass set by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program and its local government partners. Reaching that goal will require a continued commitment by the region to reducing excess nitrogen that remains the bay's primary pollutant of concern, said Holly Greening, Executive Director of the Estuary Program. Too much nitrogen fuels algae growth that turns the water cloudy and depletes oxygen.

"The seagrass increases are great news, especially as we mark the 20-year anniversary of the Estuary Program partnership this year," Greening said. "But we still need to manage nitrogen loadings, and to assess and address problem areas in the bay."

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Organizational News...

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB will host its fourth Annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party and Luncheon, Wednesday, April 13, at 11:30am. It is time to start making those Mad Hatter's hats! The cost of the lunch event is \$30 per person. There will be prizes for the most original, creative, romantic and craziest hats. Included will be a Chinese Auction, live auction, lunch and lots of fun. Tickets are available from any member. Visit BelleairGardenClub.com or call Judy Hanks at 595-7233 or Barbara Chapman at 581-8929 for details. They meet at 903 Ponce de Leon Blvd. in the Town of Belleair. Their next meetings are

April 6: Plants As Accents

April 13: The Mad Hatter's Tea Party

May 4: Installation of New Officers

Membership is \$50 per year. Call Barbara Chapman at 581-8929 for membership information.

BELLEAIR BEACH LADIES LUNCHEON CLUB meets the second Tuesday each month, Oct. to May. April 12 they are meeting at the St Pete Yacht Club. A bus, scheduled to take everyone to downtown St Petersburg, will leave the Publix Supermarket on West Bay at 11am sharp. There will be two additional hours allocated for shopping. The cost is \$35 each and includes Mimosa's on the bus. May 10 is lunch at Island Way Grill and the installation of new officers. That is the last luncheon until October. Please RSVP for these meetings to Alice Tucker at 584-1532. Membership, \$15 a year, is open to area residents. Call Barbara Chapman at 581-8929.

BELLEAIR WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB meets on the first Friday of the month for lunch at the Belleair Country Club, at 11:45am with issue related speakers. The cost is normally \$21 each. April 1: David Jolly, political consultant and attorney based in Washington, expresses his opinions on "What is Really Going On In Washington". May 6: Nancy Bostock, Pinellas County Commissioner, will provide a status update of the issues that are being considered by the Pinellas County Commission. RSVP for either to Corrine Schlising, 724-3242 or Cindy Bie at 595-5025. Get more information on the Web site at BelleairWomensRepublicanClub.com.

BELLEAIR BEACH ISLAND GARDEN CLUB is meeting April 20th at McGough Nature Park located at 11901 146th Street North, Largo, just off Walsingham. The guided tour will begin at 10:30am. Afterwards, the club will have lunch at Guppy's restaurant in Indian Rocks Beach. Guests are welcome. Be sure to RSVP. This is the last meeting of the season. The group, now in its 63rd year, meets the third Wednesday of each month (Oct. through April) normally on the second floor of Belleair Beach's Community Center at 10:30am. Membership is \$20 per year. Contact Jan Rives, 644-7191.

BELLEAIR AREA ROTARY meets at 12:15pm, every Thursday, at the Belleair Country Club. The third Thursday of every month is the general assembly and Board meeting. For information, call Vicki Morgan, President at 251-8277 or Ed Shaughnessy at 461-7171. They recently hosted their Second annual 'A Wine and Tapas Extravaganza' at the Largo Cultural Center. The casino style event was a big success and they want to thank everyone who attended, and the restaurants who made the event possible.

More News...

BELLEAIR SOCIAL CLUB had a Dali Day in February, taking the group to Downtown St Pete's new Dali Museum. In March traveled to Ellenton Outlet Center and then to Mazza's Italian Super Store in St Petersburg. They meet every Tuesday morning at 9am in the back of Panera Bread for coffee and socializing. They also meet at a different restaurant most Sundays at 6pm. Plus, they plan monthly social meetings, pot luck get togethers, dinners, movie nights and visits to area attractions. This organization is open to all seniors over 60, living in the greater Belleair area. You do not have to be single. Call Mary Lou McCarthy at 581-6189 for more information.

BELLEAIR CIVIC ASSOCIATION Join them, and the Belleair Recreation Department, for a morning of fun at Spring Fest, Saturday, April 23rd from 10am-12pm at the Dimmitt Community Center. The morning includes egg hunt, egg toss, Easter Bunny, and races. For more information, call 727-518-3728. If you want to help or get involved, call Sandy Tuten at 581-7314 or Sherrie Morton at 581-8313.

CLEARWATER COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER has a new Program Director, Rich White. He is also the Sailing Instructor. He took the position in November of last year. Rich says his first ride on a sailboat was when he was three weeks old, and occurred on Lake Erie. Most of his career has been in the marine industry and instructing sailing. With the US Navy, he instructed sailors to sail Columbia Twenty-twos and Flying Scotts in the Philippines. He worked as Head Instructor and Trainer for the US Navy Sailing Association. He later became a sail maker and a charter boat captain. Part of Rich duties at the CCSC is to evaluate instructors for the US Sailing Association. He is currently an instructor for the US Sailing for Basic Keelboat and Coastal Passage Making. He is training to be an instructor of Ocean Passage Making. He also instructs and certifies power boat instructors for US Sailing. The CCSC is located on Sand Key, at 1001 Gulf Blvd. Call 517-7776 or visit ClearwaterCommunitySailing.org for information.

BELLEAIR BRIDGE CLUB plays twice a week in the City Hall Auditorium. It is coordinated by the Belleair Recreation Center. Call Betty Grandoff at 669- 5283.

KIWANIS CLUB OF LARGO / MID-PINELLAS will host the Fifth Annual Pawfest in Largo Central Park, on April 2, from 10am to 3pm. Audition for their 'Dancing with the Dogs' Talent show. The event is a festival for everyone and their favorite canine. All ages are welcome to dance with their dogs. For audition dates and rules, contact Michelle Simmons, 776-7250 or email mmtarantino@Yahoo.com.

IRB BOAT CLUB Started in 2008, the IRB Boat Club has a lot planned for its fourth year. On Sunday, April 17 they will be visiting Clearwater Beach's Bait House. Mooring will be available in the Clearwater Marina. May 15, when the water has warmed up enough, they are planning an island party on Caladesi. June 11 they will boat to Gators, on Johns Pass, for the afternoon.

The club meets at Jimmy Guanà's, the third Thursday of the month at 6pm for happy hour, with the meeting and guest speakers at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to join and there are no dues

Email BoatClub@IRBhome.com or call Bob Griffin at 517-1997 to get involved. See event pictures and get more info at IRBhome.com.



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CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS

BELLEAIR BLUFFS

GOOD SHAPE The City completed its annual audit and they are in good shape, according to John Houser of Wells, House, Schatzel, PA. An audit of internal controls found "no deficiencies or significant weaknesses", said Houser. "The city is fiscally responsible and in good shape. The budget is balanced and the budget drives everything else. The city has a staff that has been in place and knows their jobs." If the revenue was shut off tomorrow, he says Belleair Bluffs has enough funds on hand to operate for 16 months.

TOWN OF BELLEAIR

SPRING FEST & ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION Join the Belleair Civic Association and the Rec Dept. April 23 from 10-12 for a fun filled morning including an egg hunt, bounce house, music and more.

NEW INFRASTRUCTURE BOARD A new board of citizens called the Infrastructure Board has been created. It is made up of five members on 2 year staggered terms. The first meeting was in March, where they selected their chairperson. Members are John Hail, Jim White, Chris Foley, Tom Olsen and Doug Pace. The new advisory board will help with needs assessment, identification of funding sources, project review and have a general discussion about where the City of Belleair wants to be, infrastructure wise.

BELLEAIR BEACH

NEW MAYOR Kathy Mortenson beat out fellow councilman Stan Sofer for the honor of running the small Beach Community. She recently said, "Running for Mayor was an incredible experience. The main thrust of my campaign was going door to door, which enabled me to meet and talk with many of our residents."



I am looking forward to working with our council (three new members) and our City staff. We are facing tough economic times and we will keep a close eye on the bottom line.

I would like to find ways to stimulate citizen's involvement in their city government. We can not answer or solve their concerns if we don't know what they want or need.

I had a wonderful group of friends and neighbors help with my campaign and I thank them all. Our residents need to know my door is always open to them. I look forward to the next two years.

NEW PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR The City of Belleair Beach hired Allen Godfrey, former Public Works Director for the City of Seminole, to be their new Public Works Director for this city.

RENOURISHMENT The city asked the County to support their appeal to proceed with renourishment of their beach even though they are not in compliance with state parking requirements. The state requires 85 designated parking space near the beach to qualify for renourishment funding. 72 spaces are available in the marina and 17 more in the Morgan Park lot, 2 more than what is needed. "The problem is the spaces are mostly on the north end of our city," Commissioner Leslie Notaro says. "And the state says they must be spread out closer to the access areas."

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