

NEIGHBORHOOD



including Sand Key and Island Estates

Newsletter

20-25



JOLLEY TROLLEY CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!!

This month, Jolley Trolley is celebrating 30 years of service. In 1981, with Clearwater Beach inundated with traffic congestion, the community leaders knew they had to take action. The answer was obvious and so, the origin of Jolley Trolley's current slogan "Leave Your Car Where You Are... Ride the Jolley Trolley." Since then, Jolley Trolley has flourished as a vital tourism amenity and a convenient mobility agent in our area.

Yes, it was 1981; we were all listening to Betty Davis Eyes, Jessee's Girl, Endless Love and I Love Rock and Roll. At that time, activist Anne Garris was organizing a Clearwater Beach Traffic Committee to address the congestion. Other participants were Albert Balestiere, Smith Howard, Bob Cotter, Chuck Schlesman, Ben Dean, Phyllis Wright, Paul Jackson and Don Seaton. Each represented hotels or the tourism industry in general.

After numerous brainstorming sessions, the public transit trolley seemed the best alternative. A Jolley Trolley service was implemented and tested. Then, on March 20, 1982, the Clearwater City Commission approved funding paid for by increased parking rates. Still today, as a result of newly elected Mayor George Cretokos recommendation, Jolley Trolley is funded by the parking fees enterprise fund and therefore does not impact the taxpayer's general fund. The Jolley Trolley was free in 1982; today the Jolley Trolley fare structure mirrors the county transit system (PSTA).

Later, as transit expenses became more apparent, City Commissioner Fred Thomas devised a way for Jolley Trolley to become more self-funded. This included the initiation of the 501(c)3 non-profit organization, advertising, charters and fares. The new corporation, Jolley Trolley Transportation of Clearwater, Inc. has an independent board representing commercial and residential interests. Today's board consists of Chairman Frank Dame, Treasurer Andrew Winkler, Secretary Debra Gregory and directors Bob Clifford, Frank Chivas, Michael Faehner, Jay Keyes, Ray Simoni and Lynn Wargo.

The current Executive Director, Robert Longenecker said, "Jolley Trolley has a rich 30 year history in this wonderful community and we plan a celebration on July 4th bringing back 1982 rates, with free service for the day." So come on out to Clearwater Beach on 4th of July and wave down a trolley for free rides all day! Mr. Longenecker explains that extra trolleys will be in service to handle the expected increase in passengers and those 1981-1982 hit songs will be playing on the trolleys all day long.

Story by Anne Garris and Bob Longnecker Executive Director of the Jolley Trolley

OR Current Resident

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CREDITS



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Becky Griffin

SALES

727-517-1997

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BeachNewsletters.com

We'd like to hear from you. Is there something you would like to see included in this newsletter? Tell us what you think at

bob@griffindirectories.com

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**CLEARWATER BEACH
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER**

This is our fifteenth Clearwater Beach Neighborhood Newsletter. We started this publication in December of 2009.

You will find articles and local information about the Beach area inside. We call it a Neighborhood Newsletter because it is primarily about your neighborhood, Clearwater Beach. It is mailed to the entire zip code of 33767 including Island Estates and Sand Key.

We want your input. How did you like this issue? What suggestions do you have for future issues and articles? We hope you enjoy this newsletter. We call it a "Neighborhood Newsletter" because it is about Clearwater Beach, your neighborhood. It is mailed to about 5,000 households and includes Island Estates and Sand Key. We publish this edition six times a year.

Call or email us,
Bob & Becky Griffin, 727-517-1997
bob@griffindirectories.com

SEE YOU AGAIN IN AUGUST!

CITY NUMBERS

CITY HALL 562-4250
112 S. Osceola Avenue
www.clearwater-fl.com

MAYOR OFFICE 562-4050

MAYOR - George N. Cretekos - Seat 1

CITY COUNCIL 562-4042

Doreen Hock-DiPolito - Seat 2

Jay Polglaze - Seat 3

Bill Jonson - Seat 4

Paul F. Gibson (Vice-Mayor) - Seat 5

CITY MANAGER 562-4040

William Horne

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER . 562-4040

BUILDING PERMITS 562-4558

HUMAN RESOURCES 562-4870

PLANNING & ZONING 562-4567

PUBLIC SERVICES 562-4950

PUBLIC UTILITIES 562-4600

PUBLIC UTILITIES EMERGENCY 462-6633

CLEARWATER GAS 562-4980

SOLID WASTE 562-4920

PIER 60 462-6466

MARINA 462-6954

PARKS AND REC 562-4800

PUBLIC LIBRARY 562-4970

VISITOR INFO CENTER 442-3604

EMERGENCIES 9-1-1

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY . 562-4242

FIRE DEPARTMENT 562-4334

POLICE HOTLINE 562-4080

NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON . 562-4554

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE . . 447-7600

333 South Gulfview Blvd, Clearwater Beach

Darlene Kole, Executive Director

POST OFFICE MARINA 441-3931

POST OFFICE ISLAND ESTATES 449-8732

SAND KEY PARK 588-4852

Shelter Reservations, PinellasCounty.org/park

MARINE AQUARIUM 441-1790

249 Windward Passage, Island Estates

CLEARWATER SAILING CTR . 517-7776

1001 Gulf Blvd, Sand Key

JOLLEY TROLLEY 445-1200

483 Mandalay Avenue, Suite 213

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB . . 447-6000

830 Bayway Blvd South

ROTARY, Clearwater Beach meets every Thursday, 12:15pm at Shephard's lunch Skip Katz, President 581-5600

CARLOUEL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Kris Hampsey, President 441-4188

CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION

Patrick Gallagher, President 447-1033

Ann Garris 446-4410

SAND KEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Meets first Wednesdays each month at the

Clearwater Community Sailing Center

Richard Jackson, President 595-3575

ISLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Wally Pope, President 461-1818

www.MyIslandEstates.org

ISLAND ESTATES WOMEN'S CLUB

Barbara Blakely 449-8453

LITTLE LEAGUE

John Murphy 813-486-4430

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Anne Garris 446-4410

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

David Allbritton, President 481-5102

PINELLAS COUNTY INFO . . . 464-3000

COMMISSION OFFICES . . . 464-3000

Susan Latvala, CVB/Island Estates 464-3276

Karen Seel, Sand Key 464-3278

STATE:

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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

CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

JUNE

Summer Begins 21

Morton Plant / Mease Triathlon 24

JULY

Independence Day 4

Fire Work Clearwater Harbor 4

Beach Sunset Run at Pier 66 20

Politics In The Park 31

AUGUST

Little League Register for Fall Ball

Beach Sunset Run at Pier 66 3

Florida Sales Tax Holiday 3-5

Hands Across the Sands 4

Trim Notices Property Tax Mailed 8

IRB Boat Club 3 Rooker Party 12

Primary Election Day 14

Public School Begins 20

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day 3

Buc's First Home Game 9

Grandparents Day 9

Sand Key Triathlon 16

IRB Boat Club Meetings Resume 20

Autumn Begins 22

IRB Boat Club End Summer Island Party 22

Clearwater Offshore Racing 28-30

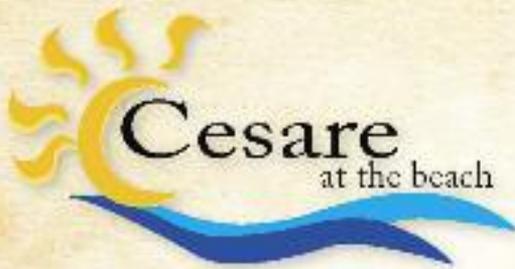
OCTOBER

Fire Prevention Month

Columbus Day Holiday 8

Stone Crab Season Begins 15

Clearwater Jazz Holiday 18-21



Buon Appetito!

Both born and raised in Italy, our founders, Cesare and Carlo, know what an authentic Italian meal means. Family and friends gathering around to enjoy each others company with a glass of wine and the perfect dish.

Savor Italy's finest flavors including homemade pastas, pappardelle with wild mushrooms, ossobuco milanese, filet mignon in a brandy sauce, fresh seafood, veal classics and homemade desserts. You can dine in or al fresco overlooking the water and Sand Key Bridge while being pampered by our professional staff.

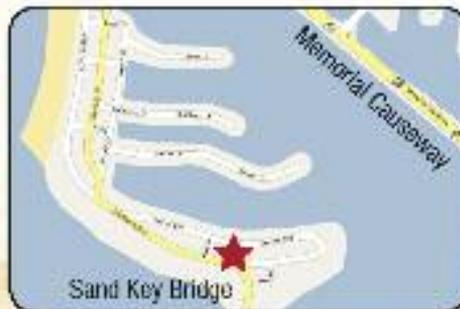


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Did You Know...

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION Enjoy music and fireworks in Coachman Park on Wednesday, July 4th. Gates open at 4pm, the concert featuring the Pops Orchestra and the Wilsons begins at 7:30pm, with the fireworks blasting off at 9:30pm. Admission is free. All day on July 4th, everyone is invited to enjoy free rides on the Jolley Trolley. Extra trolleys will be working to help transport all the riders.



SECOND TIME AROUNDERS

This voluntary group of band members who played in high school and or college is looking for new members. To get join, call Karen Mastenbrook, 329-000 or email her at KMastenBrook@TampaBay.RR.com.

SALES TAX HOLIDAY This year's sales tax holiday will be Aug 3 - 5. During this period, when you purchase certain clothing, footwear, accessories and school supplies you will not pay any sales tax. This does not apply to any piece of clothing selling for more than \$75 or school supply item selling for more than \$15. Books are not exempt.

DON'T FEED OR HARASS WILD DOLPHINS We all enjoy watching the wild dolphins along our seawalls, in the bay and off our beaches. Feeding and harassing wild dolphins is not only illegal but harmful to both the dolphins and humans. Please help keep the dolphins safe. For information visit www.dontfeedwilddolphins.org.

SUMMER BEACH RUNS The West Coast Y Runners Club has announced their 2012 Beach Series Runs. All races start and end at Pier 60 and are held on Fridays at 7pm. The races are 5k and 1 Mile Fun Runs. Runners will receive a High Tec Race Shirt with a special graphic of a turtle. Upcoming races are Friday, June 22nd and July 20th. Get more information at www.WFYRC.com.

PLANNING A WEDDING? The Museum of Fine Arts as choose the third most desirable location for a wedding reception on the east coast of the U.S. by MarthaStewartWeddings.com. Twenty-five locations were on the final list, with most of them in New York. No other Florida venues were selected. They reported that "you can choose from a giant glass conservatory, Spanish-style garden, or a classic ballroom with 22-foot ceilings for your reception." The Hartford Club, in Hartford, Connecticut was number one and The Bowery Hotel in New York City was number two. Rounding out the top six were: Studio 450 in New York City, Wainwright House in Rye, NY and The Four Seasons Restaurant, New York City.



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ROWING CHAMPION 17 year old Blake Kleinhans of Clearwater Beach, won the Florida State Scholastic Rowing Championships representing Berkeley Prep High School with his Varsity Four Lightweight Boys Rowing Team at the State Finals. The Florida Scholastic Rowing Association Sweep Championship Regatta was held in Sarasota. Blake has been rowing on the Berkeley Prep Team for three years and has grown up on our Clearwater Beach waters participating in all types of boating. He and his team participated in the Scholastic Rowing Association of America National Championship Regatta, Memorial Day weekend in Camden, NJ.



DISPOSE OF YOUR EXPIRED FLARES Routinely you should examine your boat's flares. These visual distress signals are used as locator devices, but many boaters have outdated flares. The City of Clearwater's Marine and Aviation Department encourages boaters to participate in the Marinas Flare Disposal Program. Marina personnel collect expired flares from boaters for free, and turn them over to the Pinellas County Solid Waste for safe disposal. The Clearwater Marina also collects used engine oil, oil filters, batteries, and other items to dispose of them properly, and marina staff are available to provide direction on how to safely dispose of boating materials such as gasoline or diesel fuel, paint, antifreeze, or tires. Flares should be replaced by the expiration date posted on the flare. The Flare Disposal Program is part of Clearwater's Clean Marina designation. Call (727) 462-6954.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM The Beaches Library is sponsoring Dream Big, a weekly enrichment programs for school children including magic shows, nature and science demonstrations, dance performances, professional story tellers, origami and other arts. Participants read books and win prizes, which keeps kids reading and learning all summer. Visit MyClearwater.com/CPL or call 562-4970.

BLAST FRIDAYS This popular monthly event on Cleveland Street is on hiatus for the summer. The event will return in September.

STINGRAY SHUFFLE Stingray season is underway and stingrays have been spotted in local waters. Because the water temperature is consistently rising, more may come closer to shore. It is important for all beachgoers to do the stingray shuffle when entering beach waters. By shuffling your feet in the sand, you will scare off any stingrays.



NEED ANOTHER COPY? Pick up another copy of this newsletter at the Beach Chamber Office, The Beach Rec Center, Island Estates Print Shack, Sand Key EZ Mart & the Island Estates UPS store.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS AUGUST Read this, as well as other issues, online at BeachNewsletters.com.

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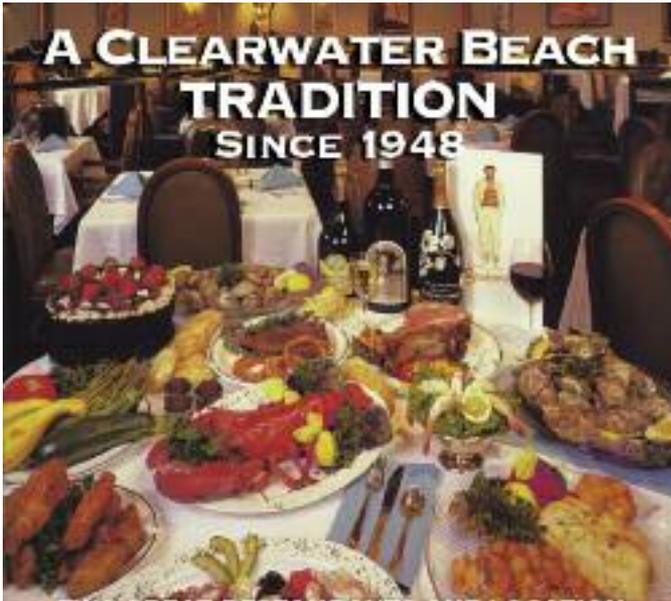
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JOANNE "COOKIE" KENNEDY



FOR FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 DISTRICT 66

Dear Neighbor,

This community is my home. Both my son Luke and I were born in Pinellas County. I have been a City Commissioner in Indian Rocks Beach for 8 years and served as the city's Vice mayor for two. This year marks 25 years that I have owned my business in our beach community.

I am asking you to come support our journey to the Florida State House District 66.

As a little girl I played on our beaches. Today, you can find us throwing Luke's football on the same beaches with his friends. As the representative for seven of our beach communities on the Pinellas Planning Council, I have a history of protecting our shore. Like you, our beaches are very important to me. Each one of us have core issues that affect our quality of life. There are an overwhelming number of issues in Tallahassee that need resolution. The Florida Legislature is out of touch with the issues facing our district.

During my term, I will focus on the following priorities important to my constituents:

- Creating jobs and promoting small business
- Exploring options for education that make sense
- Protecting our coastal community
- Eliminating hidden taxes and fees
- Cracking down on financial fraud in Florida

I take our endeavor very seriously. I am running for the Florida State House because we need a representative in Tallahassee who has deep ties to our communities and understands the issues important to us. This campaign is much bigger than me. With your vote and help, I know I can win our election. To determine how you can participate in our journey, please visit our website at www.kennedyforstatehouse.com or call 727.824.7119.

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy for Florida House District 66.

HULK HOGAN HOUSE SOLD

The Belleair, formerly owned by Hulk Hogan and his wife Linda was sold in April for \$6.2 million. It was first listed five years ago at the height of the real estate market for \$25 million. The home is 17,000 square feet and overlooks the Intracoastal, north of the Belleview Country Club. Michael Galinski, CEO of America II Electronics in St Petersburg, a global distributors of semiconductor components, paid cash for the house. Hulk Hogan, whose real name is Terry Bollea, bought the land in 1992 for \$2 million and built the house in 1996.

The house was listed by Martha Thorn of Coldwell Banker and the sale was handled by Smith & Associates. "Terry Bollea was wonderful to work with, and so were the agents at Smith & Associates," says Martha Thorn.

Bollea bought a smaller, 5,000 square foot beachfront home on North Clearwater Beach for \$3.3 million.



CLEARWATER JAZZ HOLIDAY

Now in its 33rd year, the Clearwater Jazz Holiday will present, in concert between October 18 and 21, 2012 some of the finest talents including; Esperanza Spalding Radio Music Society, The Avett Brothers, Mindi Abair and Friends featuring Jeff Golub and David Pack and Bonnie Raitt! Continuing with its diverse music lineup in 2012, the Clearwater Jazz Holiday is sure to appeal to the tens of thousands of visitors attracted to this world-class event, the third weekend in October each year.



One of the longest-running and known events in the country, the Clearwater Jazz Holiday has presented in concert virtually every jazz luminary of our generation. The mission of the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Foundation is to be the leading proponent of jazz entertainment and education in Florida through the annual presentation of a world-class, live music festival. The Clearwater Jazz Holiday Foundation is a 501c3 organization that has been center-stage for numerous scholarship and educational activities to benefit the music students of our community-from the blues-loving beginners to piano-playing protégés, and everyone in between.

A collaboration of the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Foundation, City of Clearwater, Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Jazz Force, the all volunteer staff that orchestrates every chord of this eight-to-the-bar event, sets the stage for this year's celebration for the most recognized national and regional artists together with celebrated local acts. From smooth and straight ahead jazz, to rhythm and blues, jam band, funk, fusion, and Latin, the crowds will relish in this year's colorful and diverse musical lineup -thanks to the continued support from the community, volunteers and thousands of music lovers.

Presented in the 20-acre landscaped Coachman Park in downtown Clearwater overlooking beautiful Clearwater Harbor and the majestic Memorial Causeway Bridge, the Jazz Holiday is four days and four nights of some of the best live performances in the world presented to the public. The visitor experience is complemented by the Clearwater area's mild fall weather, miles of world-famous Gulf beaches, brilliant sunsets, nearby attractions, accommodations and dining to suit every taste and budget.

Tickets now available for \$10 in advance! Children 12 and under are FREE with a paid admission. Limited Reserved Seating and VIP tickets along with Daily, Four-Day and Weekend tickets packages are available. Purchase your General Admission, VIP or Reserved Seat TODAY! No exchanges, refunds or Re-entry. The VIP and Reserved seat allows you the opportunity to get up close to the Tampa Bay Times stage and includes one reserved seat in the front area of the stage on the day you select. The purchase of the Reserved seat includes admission to Coachman Park. For more information, call the Clearwater Jazz Holiday office at (727) 461-5200, or visit www.clearwaterjazz.com or [facebook.com/ClearwaterJazz](https://www.facebook.com/ClearwaterJazz)

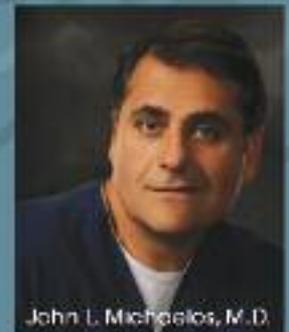
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HOOTERS OPENS

Hooters has opened another beach location in Clearwater Beach at the south end of Mandalay. Along with the World Famous Hooters Girls, it sports indoor and outdoor HD TVs, its menu includes Classic Hooters Wings, seafood, sandwiches, salads, beer, wine and spirits. Just upstairs, is their Lookout rooftop bar designed for casual elegance. With couch seating on its outdoor patio and great views from the inside, the rooftop setting is ideal for catching a sunset. The Lookout menu features fine wines, craft beers, boat drinks and frozen concoctions. This is Hooters 23rd location and the second one on the Pinellas Beaches, they opened a restaurant in Johns Pass Village last year. It is their first Lookout Bar.



WESTSHORE PIZZA MOVED

Westshore Pizza opened a new, bigger restaurant at the west end of the Bonfish Shopping Center, about 5 stores away from the old location. The new store has 100 seats, 16 tables, 4 large TVs, a nice bar, and a new expanded menu with beer and wine. It is a great place to watch all the sports. They serve a lot more than just pizza and plan to offer breakfast seven days a week, very soon. Of course they still deliver, too. They are located at 2989 West Bay Drive. Call them at 585-6974.



10 YEARS OLD

The Bonfish Grill in Belleair Bluffs opened ten years ago this month. Manager Andres Farfan, shown here with some of his employees, has been at the restaurant for five of those ten years. His anniversary is in July.



TOUCANS A new sports bar called Toucans opened on Mandalay Avenue in April. It is owned by the same people that own Captain's Pizza. The owners have been in Clearwater Beach for 25 years. Toucans is located at 413 Mandalay, next to SunTrust Bank.

More Restaurant News...

NEW PRESIDENT AT BROWN BOXER Rocky, a boxer puppy is the new President of both Brown Boxer Pub & Grills. He replaces Hoot, the previous President, who unfortunately passed away in November. Here are the two presidents when they were still together last fall. The Brown Boxer Pub is celebrating their second year in Clearwater Beach.



ISLAND WAY CAFE This little cafe in Island Estates, near the Clearwater Aquarium is celebrating its first anniversary. Because Mark Anthony opened the cafe last July, July is Customer Appreciation Month. Mention this story and receive your choice of a free coffee, smoothie or gelato when you purchase breakfast or lunch.

RESTAURANT WEEK WINNERS The week of Mother's Day, Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce hosted Restaurant Week. The winners were:

BEST THEMED BOOTH KICK OFF PARTY
Caretta on the Gulf

BEST PRESENTATION
Watercolour Steakhouse & Grille

CHAIRMAN'S AWARD
Rusty's Bistro

ENTHUSIASTIC CHEF
First Place: Rusty's Bistro
Second Place: SHOR American Seafood Grill
Third Place: Lobster Pot Bistro

BEST APPETIZER
First Place: Clearwater Wine Bar & Bistro
Second Place: SHOR American Seafood Grill
Third Place: Rumba Island Bar & Grill

BEST ENTREE
First Place: Rumba Island Bar & Grill
Second Place: Clearwater Wine Bar & Bistro
Third Place: Frenchy's Rockaway Grill

BEST DESSERT
First Place: SHOR American Seafood Grill
Second Place: Clearwater Wine Bar & Bistro
Third Place: Frenchy's South Beach Cafe

WINNER BEST PIZZA ON THE BEACH
First Place: Clearwater Wine Bar & Bistro
Second Place: Post Corner Pizza
Third place: Gondolier Pizza

WINNER BEST OVERALL EXPERIENCE
First Place: Rumba Island Bar & Grill
Second Place: Clearwater Wine Bar & Bistro
Third Place: Frenchy's Rockaway Grill

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Business Briefs...

NOW OPEN! Ron Jon Surf Shop's newest store is now open. The new surf store opened May 24th on the ground floor of the building that is also home to the new Hooters. Get more info at www.RonJons.com Their phone number is 286-5888.



RNC RENTS TROPICANA FIELD

Though the Republican National Convention is in Tampa, the kickoff party will be in St Petersburg at Tropicana Field, August 26. The private party is to welcome the 15,000 journalists and 5,600 delegates and families attending the convention. The Hillsborough County TDC is spending \$400,000 to rent and decorate the Trop. They plan to make it to look like Tampa and Ybor City. Mayor Foster said he is fine with that. "It is their money, they can do what they want even though they are in St Petersburg". Pinellas County tourism officials plan to pitch in \$600,000 to the welcome party. If they have a good time in St Petersburg, maybe the delegates will come back and vacation here.

BUDGET BLINDS MOVES...AGAIN Budget Blinds of Clearwater Beach moved, again. But they did not go far. They are just across the hallway in a much bigger showroom. Budget Blinds offers custom draperies, interior design services, rugs, accessories and gifts. They also offer free in home consultation. They are located at 600 Mandalay Avenue, Suite 1. Call Carolyn Tricoli at 400-6870 to learn more about Budget Blinds.

PIER HOUSE 60 OPENING This new hotel overlooking Clearwater Marina on Coronado Avenue is opening July 1st, just in time for the 4th of July holiday. JR Patel, the new General Manager, comes from the Holiday Inn South Gulfview. The hotel has a tiki deck on the roof that is open to the general public and has fantastic views of the marina and sunsets.

CONGRATULATIONS The Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce recognized some local businesses at their Annual Awards Banquet June 5. Of note:
 Large Business of the Year - Shepherds Beach Resort
 Small Business of the Year - Crabby Bills BeachWalk
 Tourism Person of the Year - David Yates of the Clearwater Marine Aquarium.

YOGA AT THE HISTORIC BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB Internationally renowned yoga teacher Daniela Boesshenz offers yoga, for all levels, in a uniquely beautiful setting at the Belleair Garden Club at 903 Ponce De Leon Blvd. The studio, called Sramana Yoga, is the only yoga studio in Belleair. Classes focus on movements that stretch, strengthen, and balance your body and mind leaving you in a relaxed yet invigorated state. Sramana Yoga offers first-time students 2 weeks unlimited classes for \$20. Visit sramanayoga.com or call 727-365-2219.

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CLOTHING NEEDED

Clothes To Kids has a very urgent need for boys pants, shorts and shoes in all sizes. Each week they serve over 1,000 needy children in grades K-12. Their supply is critically low. Please go through your closets and donate gently used pants, shorts, t-shirts, school uniforms and shoes. Clothes To Kids serves Pinellas students, K through 12, on the free & reduced lunch program for free! Their goal is to build children's self-esteem by providing them with clothing that makes them feel good about themselves. Can you help?

New or gently used clothes and shoes can be dropped off between 9 am and 5 pm Monday-Friday in Clearwater at 1059 N. Hercules Ave. Cash donations are also needed for purchasing clothing in short supply and new underwear. Volunteers are welcomed.

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 www.ClothesToKids.org.

LIGHTS OUR FOR TURTLES

Sea turtle nesting season began May 1. Because newly hatched turtles find their way to the sea by following the natural light reflected by the water, city ordinances determine specific lighting requirements for beach parking lots, streets, and promenades.

If you live near the beach, make sure you shut off or dim your lights at night. This precaution can reduce the amount of artificial light that reaches turtle nests and will help hatchlings reach the water safely. The Tampa Bay area averages about 120 nests each season, and each nest can contain an average of 100 to 110 eggs.

If you are lucky enough to find a turtle nest on the beach, don't disturb it. If the nest is unmarked, notify the Clearwater Marine Aquarium at (727) 441-1790. They also will be able to provide more information about sea turtle nesting season.

ADOPT A PARK

The City of Clearwater is looking for groups to participate in the Parks and Rec's Adopt a Park program. Businesses, neighborhoods, scouts, schools and service organizations with at least six members are invited to become the newest partners in the Parks program.

Groups are required to complete two service projects in their parks throughout the year. In exchange, the groups are recognized with a sign bearing their name. If you are interested, call 562-4803 or e-mail Krystal.Schmidt@MyClearwater.com.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

The Clearwater Chamber of Commerce is hosting "Politics in the Park", a give and take followed by a Straw Poll at the Feather Sound Country Club on Thursday, August 12th, beginning at 5pm. Local, state and federal candidates will be there. It costs \$15 per person in advance and \$20 at the door. Call the Chamber at 461-0011 or visit ClearwaterFlorida.org for tickets or more information.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Clearwater Library has volunteer opportunities available at their Coachman Park location. Hours are flexible and training is provided. Call Diane McKeever at 562-4970.

Come See Us at Our 2 Clearwater Beach Locations

BUDGETING NEVER ENDS

by Pinellas County Commissioner Norm Roche

If it seems like your county commission is always talking about the budget, it's because budgeting is truly a year-round effort. When we're not busy creating the next year's budget, your commission is being updated on how revenues and expenses are tracking in the current fiscal year. So, it's a process that is always in motion.

With a population of more than 900,000 residents, Pinellas County government has a responsibility to provide critical services to keep residents, commerce and industry running efficiently. Law enforcement has to be provided. Residents appreciate smooth roads. Clean drinking water is imperative as well as emergency medical services. For our leisure time, the county's beautiful parks and green spaces provide a welcome escape.

While providing these services at the best possible value to our residents has always been challenging, the financial crisis of recent years has made this a daunting task.

To help balance the budget, Pinellas County has made significant reductions in staffing over the past five years. The staffing level for departments under the Board of County Commissioners is about the same now as it was in 1985, when the population was nearly 820,000. Efficiencies are being realized through the consolidation of departments and organizational streamlining, as evidenced by the recent merger of Utilities and Public Works into the Department of Environment and Infrastructure.

Yet, even with these cost-saving measures, the county is still



facing a deficit of nearly \$12 million as we plan for fiscal year 2013. How will we meet this challenge? Your county is taking another hard look at where we can realize further efficiencies.

One example is with the 9-1-1 call center. As it stands now, when someone calls 9-1-1 seeking assistance, the call is taken by an operator in the county's call center. If this call is a request for emergency medical or fire assistance, there is one system in place to dispatch those assets. If the request is for law enforcement, the call needs to be transferred to a separate dispatch center located within each police department or the Sheriff's Office. A proposed consolidation of these services would greatly reduce response times and make the process much more streamlined.

Sometimes our best laid plans are derailed by additional costs passed down to us by the state Legislature. A recent change in the way Medicaid is being billed transfers nearly \$20 million each year of additional expenses to Pinellas County residents. Additional cost-shifting legislation being considered in Tallahassee has the potential to pull millions of additional dollars away from the county's budget—the same budget that is already strained providing local services.

While these challenges are not insurmountable, Pinellas County is seeking your help. We want to hear your comments and suggestions. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/budget to find out more about the budget process and to have your say in the county's future. Your suggestions and recommendations will help guide the conversation about county priorities and how we will meet these challenges.

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SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI ASKS FOR YOUR VOTE

There is nothing more important to Pinellas County than professional, cost efficient public safety. When I became Sheriff, I pledged to provide leadership and the sound fiscal management needed to achieve this goal. I am proud to share that the crime rate has decreased the past 3 years in the areas patrolled by the Sheriff's Office, despite having to cut over \$100 million and more than 600 positions from the Agency.



Just as in the private sector, during these challenging economic times members of the Agency are being asked to work not just harder, but smarter. Duplicity has been eliminated, processes streamlined, and services outsourced to the private sector, where appropriate.

I started my career in law enforcement 30 years ago. In 2006, Sheriff Jim Coats asked me to return to the Sheriff's Office as General Counsel; later, he asked me to serve as Chief Deputy where I managed the Agency's \$200 million budget. When Sheriff Coats retired, he explained to Governor Scott that I was the only person with the leadership ability and current knowledge of the Sheriff's Office to lead it into the future. Governor Scott agreed and I was sworn in as your Sheriff in November 2011.

With the endorsement of retired Sheriff Jim Coats, and several Tampa Bay area Sheriffs, including Sheriff Grady Judd, I am running for my first elected term as your Sheriff and ask for your vote on August 14.

www.bobforsheriff.com - Political advertisement paid for and approved by Bob Gualtieri, Republican for Pinellas County Sheriff

RENOURISHMENT BEGINS

Initial pumping of sand began on May 15th, but due to rough weather, it was suspended until June 7th. This is the fifth time the beaches have been renourished since



Photo by Nancy Ayers

1988. The project is budgeted to cost \$31.5 million. It is paid for by a combination of federal, state and county money. The county's portion is paid for by the Tourist Development Bed Tax (tourists). While expensive, there are several benefits to renourishing our beaches. One is storm protection; more sand means better protection from hurricanes. There is an economic benefit, too. Three-fourths of all tourists to Pinellas County come for our beaches.

Sand Key and Belleair Beach: This phase, 1.9 miles of the project, will get 65% of the sand, about 700,000 cubic yards. They are expected to finish Sand Key by the end of June. Then, work will start in Belleair Beach which is planned to be finished around the end of August.

Indian Rocks Beach: Work will start when Belleair is finished, with plans to end around October 23rd. This part of the project will move faster, since they will only pump 350,000 cubic yards of sand. The main pipeline will come ashore around 15th Avenue and later around Central Avenue at the south end of IRB.

We should all remember, "the plan is always subject to change by the Army Corp or Engineers."

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SUMMER FUN AT THE FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

The Clearwater Beach Family Aquatic Center is a state of the art swimming facility that includes six 25-yard lap swimming lanes, a large water slide, and a children's play area that provides squirting water fountains, a "raindrop" waterfall, a fiberglass frog slide and a water basketball goal. The pool ranges in depth from 1' - 3' in the children's area, and 3' - 5' in the lap swim area. In addition, tables with chairs and lounge chairs are available for patrons, as well as large shade structures for escaping from the hot sun.



Hours are June 8 - Aug. 19, Mon. - Fri. 10 am-7 pm, Sat. & Sun. 10 am-5 pm

Daily Admission Fees: Fitness Center and Pool

Youth (age 18 and under) - Free with a Play Pass / \$2 a Rec Card or \$4 with No Card

Adult (age 19+) - Free with a Play Pass / \$3 a Rec Card \$6 with No Card

Monthly Pass - allows a participant to enjoy open pool, fitness and gymnasium use for one month from date of purchase. It also allows use of the Ross Norton Skate Park and enjoy the trails at Moccasin Lake Nature Park

Youth (age 18 and under) - \$20.50 (Resident)

Adult (age 19+) - \$27.50 (Resident)

Learn to Swim Class (ages 3+)

Mon. - Thu. 9-9:45 am - \$26.25 (Play Pass) / \$35 (Rec Card) / \$43.75 (No Rec Card)

Session I: June 11-June 21, Levels 1, 2

Session II: June 25 -July 5, Levels 2, 3

Session III: July 9-July 19, Levels 1, 2

Session IV: July 23-Aug. 2, Levels 2, 3

Session V: Aug. 6-Aug.16, Levels 1, 2

Friday Night Swim Under the Lights

Enjoy a cool swim on a hot summer night. Music, refreshments and surprises and a new theme each night.

Fri. 7-10 pm - June 29, July 13 & 27, Aug. 10

Price: Pool Admission

Swim Team

Mon. - Thu. 6-6:45 pm - \$18.75 (Play Pass)/ \$25 (Rec Card)/ \$31.25 (No Rec Card) per session

Session I: June 11-June 21

Session II: June 25-July 5

Session III: July 9-July 19

Session IV: July 23-Aug. 2

Session V: Aug. 6-Aug.16

Water Exercise

Mon. & Wed., 5 pm - Price: Pool Admission

The Clearwater Beach Family Aquatic Center is located at 51 Bay Esplanad. You can reach them at 462-6020

THE OLDER WE GET, THE YOUNGER YOU LOOK!

By Stephanie Schlageter, M.S., Medspa Director

When you think about getting in shape for the beach, do you think about toning up your arms, stomach, legs, or backside? What about toning up your face?



Think about it – even in a bikini, people will still be looking at your face. It's the one part of our body we really never cover up. To get your face in shape for summer (and for every other day of the year) all you need to do is relax. Are you wondering how you relax? The answer is one word – BOTOX. That's all BOTOX really does – relaxes and reduces muscle activity that causes lines to form. When you concentrate, squint, or frown, your face muscles contract, causing your skin to furrow and fold. After years of frequent contraction, wrinkles can linger even after the muscles are at rest.

Just one BOTOX treatment can improve the look of moderate to severe lines. If you don't believe it, ask one of the 11 million women (and men) who have used BOTOX to help them look their best. BOTOX was FDA-approved in 2002, so there are hundreds of studies on record confirming its safety and effectiveness.

With BOTOX, the results look natural, last about 4 months, and there's no surgery and no recovery time. Doesn't that sound nice and relaxing? Like a day at the beach!

By the way, don't forget that the sun ages your skin – especially the skin on your face – so be sure to wear a non-comedogenic sunscreen (meaning it won't clog your pores) and put on sunglasses to minimize squinting (and wrinkles!).

Stephanie Schlageter is the owner and director of Radiance Medspa. Since 2006, Radiance has been the area's premier destination for obtaining the very best in non-surgical cosmetic enhancement treatments and is the only Diamond Level BOTOX and Juvederm facility in Pinellas County – a distinction awarded by the product manufacturer. Learn more about BOTOX and find summer specials at radiancemedspa.com

KIDS RIDE ALL SUMMER FOR LESS THAN THE COST OF ONE FILL-UP!

It seems to happen nearly every year, gas prices go through the roof at the same time the kids are out for summer vacation. This year instead of driving your kids all over the county, dump the pump and take advantage of PSTA's Summer Youth Haul Pass.

For only \$35, kids 18 and under can enjoy unlimited rides on PSTA and the Clearwater Jolley Trolley between May 15 and August 31 (excluding Routes 100X and 300X to Tampa). The Haul Pass will save parents time and money, and it gives kids the freedom and independence they crave to get to work, head to the beach, catch a Rays game or meet up with friends - all for less than 33¢ a day!

Middle and high school aged kids will need a school, government or PSTA issued photo ID. PSTA issued Youth Photo ID cards can be obtained free of charge at any PSTA Customer Service Center.

First time riders are invited to visit www.PSTA.net and use PSTA's Google Trip Planner to easily plan a ride or they can get personalized riding instruction with PSTA's free "Show Me" service by calling the PSTA InfoLine at (727) 540-1900.

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EVENTS

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- Clearwater Beach Restaurant Week
- Annual Awards Banquet
- Thresher's Beach day
- 7 Chamber Trade Show
- Clearwater Beach Chalk Walk Festival
- Annual Golf Tournament
- End of Hurricane Season Party
- Annual Holiday Breakfast

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The Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce is ready for the RNC:

- Sponsor a Dolphin Pod in Pier 60 Park.
- Members promote your business by telling us about the events you have planned during the RNC and reach your audience.

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LET US AMAZE YOU: JOIN THE CHAMBER TODAY AND PARTICIPATE IN THE FUTURE

MARKETING

RNC 2012

Photos courtesy of Belleair Images

OUR SWEDISH CONNECTION



The Henschen family in Upsala, Sweden in the late 1860s. Josef is standing in the center.

Little has been known about Swedish immigrants to Florida in the 1800s. But a few of them have actually had a profound impact on our state. One of them, Josef Henschen, played an important part in Pinellas County history – especially for St. Petersburg, but there is also a connection to Belleair and Clearwater.

In 1871, when Josef was a young medical student in Upsala, Sweden, he was asked to recruit and bring over a large group of Swedish workers to Sanford in eastern Florida. Josef decided to take a break from his studies, act as a guide for the group, and see a bit of the world.

The group he brought went to work at the orange groves in Seminole County. The Swedes founded the New Upsala settlement and many Swedish descendants in Florida have their roots in this colony.

Josef never went back to his studies in Sweden. He fell in love with Florida and stayed here for the rest of his long life. He lived in Seminole County, started his own orchards, and made a fair amount of

money. Some years later he married a Swedish immigrant girl, Carolina Svensson, and they had five children.

In 1885, Josef was approached by three men – the Russian immigrant Peter Demens, the Englishman Henry Sweetapple, and the American A.M. Taylor. They wanted to build a railroad from Sanford across Florida to Pinellas County, but had run out of money. Josef became partner with these men and invested all his savings, as well as years of work, into the project. It was named the Orange Belt Railroad.

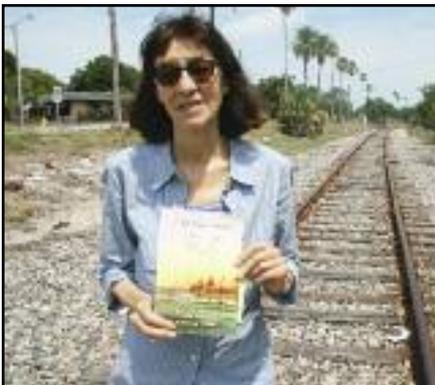
They planned to take it to the southernmost point of Pinellas County. At that time there was only a small fishing village at that spot. It was called Wardsville, after its postmistress Ella Ward. But Mrs. Ward wanted it to have a different name, now that there was a railroad coming. She felt it should be named after one of its four founders – Demens, Henschen, Sweetapple and Taylor. In 1887 Mrs. Ward traveled to Oakland, where the railroad headquarters were located, to confer with the four men. Only Josef Henschen was there. Mrs. Ward asked him to name the town. Josef told her they had already named a town after Taylor (Taylorville, later renamed Groveland). Sweetapple was not a good name for a town, and neither was Henschen, because nobody could spell it. However, Josef knew that Demens wanted a town somewhere along the railroad to be named St. Petersburg (after his home town in Russia). Josef decided it could just as well be this one. So he told Mrs. Ward to name it St. Petersburg. And that was how the town got its name.

By the summer of 1888 the Orange Belt railroad had several stations in Pinellas County: Tarpon Springs, Ozona, Dunedin, Clearwater, Armour (Largo) and St. Petersburg. The end point was called Demens Landing.

In 1895, Henry Plant bought the Orange Belt Railroad. He was building the Belleview Hotel in Belleair, and the railroad was very useful for him.



Orange Belt Railway depot in Clearwater
(Courtesy of Florida Archives)



This story is by Belleair resident, Rebecca Weiss who is a Swedish artist. A few years ago she found a number of letters written by Josef Henschen, the brother of her great-grandfather, Salomon Henschen.

Many of Josef's letters were addressed to his dear friend Knut Ångström in Sweden, and spanned several decades. Knut was a well known scientist, son of the famous physicist Anders Jonas Ångström, after whom the unit "angstrom" is named. About a hundred years after the letters were written, Knut's grandson found them in his father's attic.

The letters were personal and intimate, but also contained practical, financial and political information that you don't find in the usual Florida history books. They moved Rebecca deeply and she decided to publish them in a book. "A Florida Pioneer – the adventurous life of Josef Henschen, Swedish immigrant in the 1870s" is available in the historical museums in Pinellas, in the Clearwater Main Library, on Amazon.com or www.weiss-gallery.com

HOMES REALLY ARE SELLING

by Pattie Meek, Broker, CENTURY 21 Condon-Meek,

After my article in the April newsletter titled "Homes ARE Selling in Clearwater", readers asked for more details about the inventory and the sales activity. Below, find the answers to your questions.



In zip code 33767 (data from March 14 - June 14, 2012):

Single Family Homes

- 57 Active Listings (6 distressed) Ranging from \$269,000 - \$4.2 million - Average Days on Market 341
- 22 Under contract (8 distressed) Ranging from \$225,000 - \$1.5 million - Average Days on Market 388
- 18 Sold (4 distressed) Ranging from \$245,000 - \$3.3 million - Average Days on Market 219

Condos

- 240 Active Listings (20 distressed) Ranging from \$79,900 - \$2.65 million - Average Days on Market 262
- 75 under contract (35 distressed) Ranging from \$110,000 - \$959,000 Average Days on Market 276
- 108 Sold (22 distressed) Ranging from \$68,000 - \$530,000 Average Days on Market 245

What does this mean? There are buyers interested in buying and many are willing to go through the waiting process with the distressed property albeit, a short sale or foreclosure. However, there are many sellers who have decided to sell in this down market and buyers are making the decision that this is a good time to buy. Call or text (727-642-8971) or email me at Pattie@MeekTeam.com and let's talk about how I can help you buy or sell.

On another note: Based on the information in My Florida Regional MLS-IMAPP, zip code 33767 still has 108 foreclosures filed, and 23 were filed in 2012. If you are financially strapped and want to avoid foreclosure, there are still options for you. The Mortgage Debt Relief Act enacted in 2007, helps distressed homeowners by relieving them of additional tax responsibility that often accompanies cancelled or forgiven debt. This law is set to expire at the end of the year. Check out my website, PattieHelpsHomeowners.com and read the free report entitled "Time is Running Out: How the Mortgage Debt Relief Act Can Save You."

MAY'S FOOD DRIVE - A SUCCESS!

In May, the US Postal Service conducted its 20th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. The National Association of Letter Carriers picked up non-perishable food left by mailboxes for distributed to local food banks. For the 20th year, the RCS was one of the food bank beneficiaries.

The RCS would like to thank the Letter Carriers for collecting the food, the hundreds of volunteers who worked to sort the food at the RCS Food Bank warehouse and the community who generously donated over 73,000 meals that RCS will distribute to struggling families in Pinellas County. Because of your generosity, RCS Food Bank can provide groceries to over 5,500 people each month, the majority of which are children. This event could not happen without your combined compassion, commitment and humanity.

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WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE THE SHERIFF'S WIFE?

by Lauralee G. Westine, Esq - Sheriff Bob Gualtieri's wife

When I met Bob in 1994, I had no idea that 18 years later I would be the Sheriff's wife, a full time mom and lawyer, and helping run an election campaign for Sheriff.

Bob and I met during the summer of 1994, while I was a law clerk at the US Attorney's Office and he was a narcotics detective with Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) working with the DEA task force. Bob's specialty was wiretaps. He was handsome, smart, and hardworking. After my house was broken into, I decided I was going to buy a gun. Wisely, Bob thought I should learn gun safety and how to shoot first and took me to the firing range at Bill Jackson's. That night he asked me to dinner and we were married on February 28, 1998.

Bob grew up surrounded by a family of attorneys and judges. The question wasn't if he was going to go to law school, but when. Bob and I devised what came to be known as our "five year plan". Bob graduated from Eckerd College with High Honors and then from Stetson College of Law in 2002 Cum Laude.

After graduation, Bob accepted a job with Ford & Harrison, a national employment law firm. Bob excelled at Ford & Harrison, but our family was always Bob's first priority. 2003 through 2005 were rough years for us as a family. I lost several pregnancies and when pregnant again, was placed in Morton Plant on bed rest to protect the baby. In addition to working full time, having two high school girls and two dogs at home, Bob visited me in the hospital every night. As a result, his usual 12 hour days, became 15 plus hour days. He never complained.

Four months after Lauren was born prematurely, but healthy, Bob and I were at the Tampa Airport on the tarmac when his phone rang. Sheriff Jim Coats was on the line and asked if Bob would return to PCSO as General Counsel. Without hesitation, Bob said yes. Bob had essentially grown up within the Sheriff's Office and was still "a cop at heart." Bob started as a detention deputy with the Sheriff's Office. He was then hired by the Dunedin Police Department. In 1984, Bob was hired as a Deputy Sheriff. Upon the Chief Deputy's retirement, Sheriff Coats asked Bob if he would also take on the day to day operations of the Agency as Chief Deputy, in addition to General Counsel. When Sheriff Coats retired early, the Governor appointed Bob to fill the balance of the term.

Bob is an avid sports fan, but we don't have much free time these days. We like to attend Bucs, Rays, and Lightning games. Our 6 year old, Lauren, swims on a team year round, so we spend lots of time pool side. You can also find Bob on weekend nights and holidays working patrol.

I am very proud of Bob and all he has accomplished—personally and professionally. He is not one to brag about himself or his accomplishments. He is too busy moving on to his next challenge.



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IRB BOAT CLUB

Members of the Boat Club went to Caladesi for an afternoon in June, just one of many events planned for 2012. Shown here at a meeting, are members Jerry Newton and Kevin Hall with recent speaker Jim R. Simons, President Florida Gulf Coast Center For Fishing Foundation.



MEETINGS - They meet at Jimmy Guana's (Holiday Inn Harborside) on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is June 20th at 6pm with speaker Terry Tomalin outdoor writer for the Tampa Bay Times. There will be no meetings July and August, because everyone is too busy boating, but they will still have boating events!

NEXT EVENTS AT A GLANCE:

- July 4th: Island Party prior to Clearwater Fireworks
- August 12: Island Party at Three Rooker
- September 1: Gulfport for Gekofest
- September 22: End of Summer Island Party
- September 30: Clearwater Beach Boat Races



See the complete list of Boat Club events, pictures and more at IRBHome.com or follow us on [Facebook.com/IRBhomeowners](https://www.facebook.com/IRBhomeowners).

Call Bob Griffin at 517-1997 or email BoatClub@IRBhome.com.

JOIN THE YACHT CLUB

Even if you don't have a boat, you can join the Clearwater Yacht Club in Clearwater Beach. Half of their members don't have a boat. Most of their social activities center around on land parties. Friday Night is their dance night. June 23rd they have a Reggae Party and July 21st is their Annual Dinghy Poker Run. Many events are held at their in house restaurant or the Tiki Bar out back. Learn more about the Clearwater Yacht Club at www.clwyc.org. Send an email to Communications@CLWYC.org or call 447-6000.

REDISTRICTING CHANGES

With the recent 2010 Census, Florida had to redraw the lines that define our districts for the State House and Senate plus the U.S. House and Senate. The final lines have been approved, and you will notice some changes.

STATE HOUSE: The area along the beaches, currently represented by Jim Frische, will be cut in half. All the Belleair cities will be in District 66. The district runs from Clearwater Beach to the south end of Indian Shores. It travels inland to Alt 19 (Largo Mall), and includes the west side of Largo. The Redingtons are in another district. Jim Frische has been the State Representative for District 66, but he is running for the Senate.

STATE SENATE: North Pinellas and south Pinellas have been split into two districts. Clearwater, Sand Key, Belleair Bluffs, the Town of Belleair and Largo are in District 17. Belleair Beach, Belleair Shores, Indian Rocks, all the beaches south and Seminole are in District 22. Dennis Jones has been the Senator for this area, but he is retiring.



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Organizational News...

ISLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Current and new members are encouraged to pay their 2012 dues now. Membership is \$40 per year per family and is used to pay more than \$10,000 per year to maintain the entry way to Island Estates. Details are on MyslandEstates.org. For additional information, call President Wally Pope, 461-1818. They meet on the second Monday of each month.

ISLAND ESTATES WOMAN'S CLUB

They recently awarded college scholarships totaling \$6000 to four local high school seniors from Clearwater High School at their May meeting at Bob Heilman's Beachcomber. Recipients Emma Fortouran, Carly Deegan, Rachel Meyers, and Lauren Sommerville and their mothers were guests at the luncheon where the award money was presented. Scholarship committee chair Kathy McLaughlin said, "These four young ladies represent the best of today's high school seniors who applied, and we are very pleased to be able to help them further their educations." A year-long effort is made by the members of the IEWC to provide funds for these annual awards.

In addition to the scholarship awards, the newly elected board was installed. It includes Marie Wadsworth, president, Mary Ann Young, 1st vice president, Barbara Blakely, recording secretary, Amber Davis, Irma Ferguson, Parliamentarian, Joan Landreth and Peggy Gibson. There are no meetings scheduled during the Summer.

Membership is open to all women residents of Island Estates. Dues are \$15 or \$20 for those not residents of Island Estates. Please contact Muriel Mangus at 446-2060 to RSVP for luncheons. Guests are welcome. To join the IEWC, please call Membership Chairperson Joan Landreth at 812-8078. For more information, call President Marie Wadsworth at 447-7182.

CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION

This Neighborhood Association was organized to promote projects of a civic, recreational and entertainment nature. Meetings are held at the Clearwater Beach Recreation Center on Bay Esplanade, the first Tuesday of each month, at 6pm. There will be no board meetings during the summer. The next scheduled meeting is September 4th at 6pm, www.ClearwaterBeachAssociation.net. For information, call Wendy Hutkin's 216-3274

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

They are sponsoring the bi-monthly Writers Club held at the Beach Library, which meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 1pm. There will be no July 4th meeting. All writers, and would-be writers, are welcome. Call Anne Garriss at 446-4410 for information.

The organization helps people use more of their local library. They meet the 'second Thursday of each month at 6pm at the Beach Recreation Center. You are welcome to join them and share your ideas on how to improve things. Call Anne Garriss at 446-4410 for more information

BELLEAIR BEACH LADIES LUNCHEON CLUB

They meet monthly on the second Tuesday. At the May meeting, Susan Lordan was elected the 2012-2013 President. There are no meetings scheduled until October. Membership is open to area residents at \$15 a year. To join, please call Barbara Chapman 581-8929

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More Organizational News

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Clearwater History Museum will be open the first and third Thursdays of the week from 9am to 1pm until September. The museum is located on South MLK Jr Blvd. Membership is \$5 students, \$10 individuals, \$20 family, \$150 corporate, \$250 life and \$500 patron. Call Bill Wallace, 446-2676 or Michael Sanders, 434-1684.

SAND KEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

They meet the first Wednesday of each month at the Clearwater Community Sailing Center. There are no meetings scheduled for the summer months. Reach the current president, Richard Jackson at 595-3575

BELLEAIR BEACH ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

They meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month (October through April) at the Community Center, Belleair Beach, 10:30am. At the April Meeting, Lois O'Donnell was elected the new president, replacing Linda Mintz, for the next year. This was their last meeting until October. Contact Lois O'Donnell, President, 595-1349 for information.

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB

They meet on the first and second Wednesday of each month at the Belleair Garden Club at 903 Ponce de Leon Blvd. in the Town of Belleair from October to May. Annual membership is \$50 per year. Call Barbara Chapman at 581-8929 or E-mail BChapman1234@Gmail.com for information or to RSVP. Guests are welcome. There are no regular meeting until October, but they are hosting Summer Pot Luck events July 11, August 1 and September 5 at 11:30am. Members and guest should bring a dish to share for 8 to 10 people

CLEARWATER BEACH ROTARY

Rich White, director of the Clearwater Community Sailing Center, presented a program on the center's activities to the Clearwater Beach Rotary Club. The sailing center, on Sand Key, is open to anyone interested in sailing. They are hold summer camp programs for children and teenagers exposing them to sailing techniques, water safety, rigging and de-rigging, and capsizing and re-rigging a boat.

A new pilot program for children with disabilities began last year. An autistic twelve-year-old boy was extremely introverted and shunned human contact. White offered one-on-one instruction to the child who began to interact first with him and eventually with other children. This summer, the center has three children with disabilities.

Sailing is therapeutic, for any with disabilities. A caregiver brought an elderly dementia patient with extreme short-term memory loss to the center. When younger, he was a charter boat captain. When taken out on the water, he became that man again. His competence and confidence returned. Back on land, he could remember nothing.

Clearwater Beach Rotary Club meets every Thursday at 12:15 at Shephard's Beach Resort on Gulfview Blvd. Rotary is an international organization of business and professional leaders whose main objective is service to the community, the workplace and the world. For information, call 237-8037 or visit clearwaterbeachrotary.org

CLEARWATER ALL AMERICAN SEROTOMA CLUB

They meet the first and third Thursdays of each month for lunch. For more information, please call Sand Key resident Charles Fazio at 593-8322.

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CLEARWATER'S FIRST DOG, COASTIE

During the regular bi-weekly City Council Meeting on May 17th, Clearwater's mayor and council members formally introduced "Coastie", the community's first sponsored Southeastern Guide Dog in training. Since Clearwater was designated a Coast Guard City in January of this year, it was determined that it would be very appropriate to name this service dog trainee Coastie – an affectionate name for a Coast Guardsman.



Jim Ryder, Division 11 Commander with Coastie. Photo by Karen Miller

Coastie is a cute and very playful fourteen week old Golden Labrador Retriever who will be in doggie foster care so he can live with a family for the next year and be a part of their social lives. Then, he will be brought to Palmetto, Florida to the Southeastern Guide Dog headquarters to learn how to be a guide dog for the visually impaired.

To help the community meet Coastie, the formal introduction was scheduled towards the beginning of the City Council meeting. Representing Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater was Captain John Turner. Petty Officer Lee Koushan came from Coast Guard Station Sand Key. Additionally, Jim Ryder, Commander of Division 11 and Karen Miller, past Commander of Division 11 represented the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Petty Officer Koushan "pinned" Coastie's cape with the crossed anchors insignia, representing a boatswain mate in the Coast Guard. Captain Turner plans to pin wings on Coastie at a later date when he visits the Air Station.

Members of the public can contact the Division 11 Coast Guard Auxiliary at www.a07011.wow.uscgaux.info.

HANDS ACROSS THE SANDS RETURNS

Hands Across the Sand returns on August 4 with their global call to action to say No to offshore drilling and Yes to clean energy. Registration is open to sign up to organize an event at local beaches and parks at www.handsacrossthesand.org.

Hands Across the Sand is an international grassroots event that brings people together to oppose new offshore oil drilling and promote a clean energy future. The premise is simple: on August 4 at 12pm local time, people join hands for 15 minutes on beaches and in parks around the world to champion clean energy solutions to our fuels problems. All events are organized locally by volunteers and the event website provides resources for organizers to spread the word. Presently, there are organized efforts in Indian Rocks Beach and St. Pete Beach.

Hands Across the Sand has been a global success with thousands of events in all 50 states and over 40 countries worldwide, from New Zealand to Hawaii. Joining hands is a powerful way to say no to offshore drilling and yes to clean energy. This will be the third annual Hands Across the Sands event.

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1st place crew Gary Michaels, Ted Malone, Conor Malone, Brad Kendall, Sean Kendall, and Chuck Queipo

20TH ANNUAL KINGFISH TOURNAMENT

Recently, the Rotary Club of Clearwater held its 20th annual Kingfish tournament. In the last 19 years, the Rotary Club of Clearwater has donated nearly \$1 million to numerous Tampa Bay charities.

This year's selected charities included: RCS Food Bank, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, UPARC Foundation, Clearwater Free Clinic, Rotary Scholarship Fund, Clearwater Rotary Endowment Trust Fund of Charities, Inc., Rotary International Foundation and Clearwater Rotary Student of the Month.

The Captain's meeting and auction for the 2012 tournament, a family gala event, was held at the Dolphin Tale exhibit at the Harborview Center, Clearwater. Many donated items were offered in a silent auction, and several were bid on through a live auction. The receiving charities from

this year's event cooperated by providing event support. This year's winning anglers were:

Winning boat - T's and Ceas (shown above), Captain Gary Michaels. \$5000 grand prize for a 25.63 lb. Kingfish. Brad Kendall, a member of the crew, caught the fish.

2nd Place: Take Five, (shown to the right) Ray Bouchard, 23.05 lb. Kingfish.

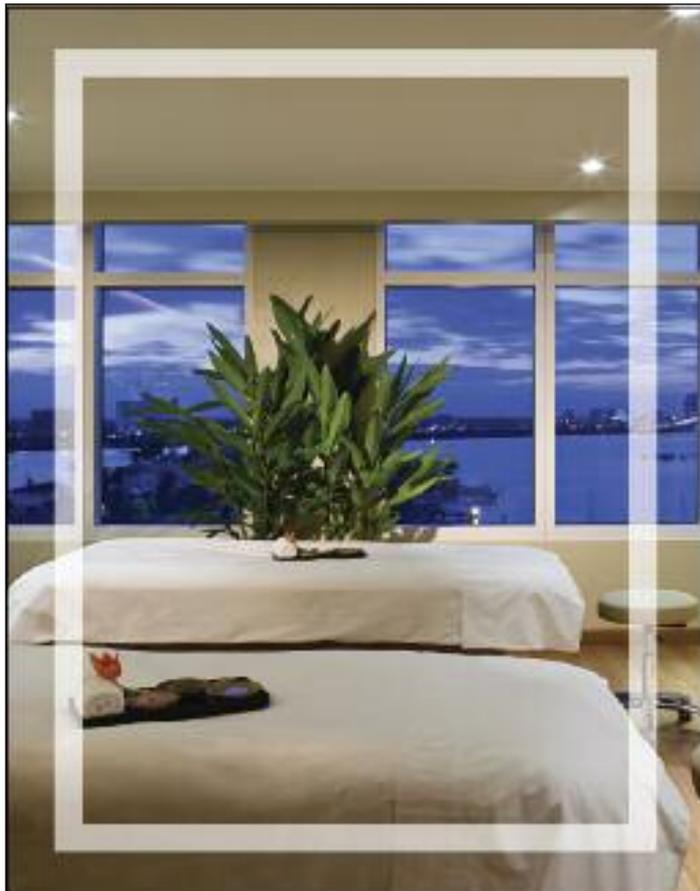
Last Place: Reel Estate, Captain Alex Jansen, 11.12 lb. Kingfish.

Junior Division Winner: 1st Place Dawson Trask, 14 years old, aboard "Legal Tender", 10.36 lb. king. Conor Malone, aboard "T's and Ceas", won 2nd place with 6.39 lb. king. Jack Jansen, 7 years old, aboard "Reel Estate", won 3rd place with a 5.29 lb. king.

The Rotary Club of Clearwater was organized in 1924 by a group of 10 Clearwater businessmen. The local club currently consists of more than 125 members, and is part of Rotary International, which has more than 25,000 clubs around the world. The Rotary Club of Clearwater meets each Wednesday at 12:15 P.M. at Belleair Country Club. For more information, contact: clrotary@clearwaterrotary.org. Photo credit: Dennis Eckel



Second place crew Sang Choi, Greg Andersen, Ray Bouchard, Mikey Alegrae, and Mike Alegrae



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SHEPHARD'S CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

When Bill Shephard moved his family to Florida and left the motel he had owned for 11 years in Brunswick, Maine, he started a great new journey as owner of the Lagoon Resort Motel in Clearwater Beach, known today as Shephard's Beach Resort. Now, Bill is celebrating his 35th anniversary at this location!

Through the years, Bill Shephard has remodeled the resort property, updated all the rooms in the hotel, added a tower and parking garage, and created one of the area's most popular restaurants, bars and entertainment facilities, but he never stops working on ideas to improve the business. "It's been a successful 35 years," Shephard says. "We have some very, very good employees that have been with us for a long time, and that's been the biggest part of our resort's success. It also helps that Clearwater Beach is a superb location for a resort like ours."



When he purchased it in July 1977, the former Lagoon Resort Motel was nothing like the current bustling resort property. It now has 94 completely updated hotel rooms ranging from Studio Rooms with two queen-size beds or a variety of one and two bedroom suites complete with granite countertops and living rooms with a sleeper sofa. They also offer Gulfside rooms overlooking the backyard Tiki Bar or their Sunset Lounge. Their ultimate accommodation is the Sunset Suite on the top floor overlooking the Gulf of Mexico - a favorite for honeymooners and VIP guests. Shephard's Beach Resort is a busy place with something for everyone, including a 350-seat restaurant featuring sumptuous buffets for breakfast, lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. How many restaurants do you know where you can dine overlooking the Gulf of Mexico and watch dolphins frolicking in the surf?



Shephard's Tiki Beach Bar and Grill offers live entertainment daily and has been recognized as one of Florida's Best Beachside Bars for years. Live Reggae, Rock and Top 40 music, the occasional National Act and lots of fun-loving people make it a great place to come as you are, have some food & drinks, make new friends, laugh, dance or chill. Beach-goers can even enjoy paddleboarding, waverunner rentals and parasailing—all available through the resort!

Shephard's is home to a state of the art, two-level nightclub called The Wave. The chest pounding sound system and talented DJs keep the party going all night! The Wave also offers exclusive

bottle service and private booths above the crowd in the VIP section of the club.

While most people think of Shephard's as a place for couples and friends to get away for a super "stay-cation", the resort is equipped to accommodate group meetings. The Dolphin Room on the second floor can host 80 guests for a meeting, and the smaller Palm Room, a great conference room, accommodates 16 guests—and it also is an ideal break-out room. Shephard's provides for breakfast, breaks, lunch and dinner in their all-day meeting packages, with quality service and amenities available at great prices. Meeting participants can enjoy delightful entertainment at three different locations on the property after the day's business is over.

"My greatest personal satisfaction about this place has been seeing it grow and I look forward to continuing to grow in the future," Shephard says. "I hope to expand right here. We stay fresh with the trends and keep modern. Many of our guests return again and again over the years. And, of course, our employees are so good. We strive to get the best and keep them." Shephard's Beach Resort is a family owned and run business, and Bill Shephard's two children work side by side with their dad in overseeing the operations of the entire resort.

"I am seasoning them to be able to take over the business when I retire," he says. His son, Bill Jr., attended Johnson and Wales University for Culinary Arts and daughter Gerri studied Hospitality Management at Florida State University. Both have been working in the business since 1991. "To do their jobs, they have to like it. You have to put in a lot of time to be successful in this industry." In all, the resort employs 140 people and has six managers.

"I still like to be a part of the business," Shephard says. "And it's great to see how far we've come in the last 35 years!"

Shephard's Beach Resort is located at 619 S. Gulfview Blvd. Clearwater Beach, 727-5107 • www.shephards.com



Bill Jr., Gerri and their father Bill

YOUR HURRICANE SHELTERS AWAIT

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Planning for eventual hurricane evacuations is a lot like being the Maytag repairman. You prepare, but there is nothing to do now. That is how it has been for the last eight years.

If the big one comes, do you know where you will go? Most people planning to evacuate, think they will go to a nearby county shelter. Most of Pinellas County's designated shelters are public school. There are up to 30 schools in Pinellas County designated as hurricane shelters. But, not all schools will open for every evacuation; it will depend on the strength of the storm. There is a list of possible shelters available for each storm level.

Michael Bessette is Associate Superintendent of Facilities and Operations, Safety and Security for the Pinellas County Schools. He is the man who will pull the trigger if something comes our way.

"If a storm is approaching, the first step is for the County Commission and their Department of Emergency Management to declare a state of emergency in Pinellas County," says Bessette. "Then we start a chain of events that includes contacting key employees, preparing the schools, and starting to move emergency supplies."



The plan for a weak tropical storm only has three open shelters. They are spread from north to south and only hold 1,443 people. This is primarily for those in mobile homes and historically flood prone areas.

The next level a strong tropical storm, 50 to 73 MPH, opens seven shelters, housing 8,100 people, 2,700 of which are with special needs and/or 400 pet owners. At this level, only one school will accept pets.

For a Level A evacuation, 11 shelters will open holding 16,800 people. Level B opens 14 shelters for 22,700 people. Level C will open 19 shelters housing 39,140 people. Level D includes 30 shelters for 49,000 people. Level E, the largest evacuation will open 25 shelters for 38,500 people and about 800 pet owners. As the extent of the evacuation increases from a D to an E, some schools that would normally be shelters will be closed because of their location or construction. That is why at a Level E, the count moves from 30 shelters to 25, and the number of people housed moves down from 49,000 to 38,500. It is hoped in the case of a Level E evacuation, most people will leave the county.

The Pinellas County Hurricane Shelter program is not designed to house everyone. In fact, while over 1 million people live in the county, shelters are only prepared to help just under 50,000 people.

It is important to know these plans because the hurricane shelter you might plan to use may or may not be open. In case of a storm, pay attention to broadcast media and find the shelter locations on the county's web site www.PinellasCounty.org/Emergency. "If we need to activate shelters, we normally receive notice 48 hours in advance," says Bessette. "But, that call could come at midnight."

The principal at each designated school is in charge. As many as 30 school employees will be on call to help, including administration, operations, food service and maintenance people. One police officer and one EMS person are assigned to each open school shelter.

"All the emergency supplies for each school are stored in a warehouse at the Walter Pownall Service Center in Largo. Everything is on pallets including food, water, tools and a portable generator. I would like to stress that our shelters are not a Holiday Inn. Think of this as a life boat, not a cruise ship," says Bessette. "You will have to sleep and contain all your possession to a space of only 15 square feet! That is about 3 by 5 feet, or the size of a beach towel."

"We have not had to open shelters in eight years, when Florida was hit with four hurricanes in 2004," says Bessette. "I was not in this job then, and neither were most of my principals. We were on standby in 2008 for Fay, but the storm went elsewhere."

Plan to bring your own bedding, clothing, and medicine. No alcohol is allowed, but you may bring a small ice chest. Basic food and water will be supplied. If there is electricity, the cafeteria will be operable. If there is no electricity, you may be eating food that does not have to be refrigerated or cooked, such as peanut butter sandwiches.

Michael Bessette and his family live in Dunedin, on one of the highest pieces of land in Pinellas. "But if the County is told to evacuate," Michael says, "I will be right here at the command center directing things."

The closest Hurricane Shelters to Clearwater Beach are Ross Norton Recreation Center at 1426 South MLK and Clearwater Fundamental Middle School at 1660 Palmetto St. Ross Norton opens for a weak tropical storm, with winds up to 50 MPH. It only has room for 405 people which is approximately 162 families; they do not accept pets and it is a Homeless Friendly shelter. Clearwater Fundamental does not open until a Level C evacuation. It only has room for 1579 people or approximately 630 families; they also do not accept pets and are a 'Homeless Friendly shelter.



SUNSET CINEMA AT PIER 60

Sunset Cinema is celebrating two years of free movies on the beach every Friday and Saturday. That is over 200 free movies and a lot of popcorn. Occasionally other days are added for special occasions. All the regular pier activities, such as artisans, crafters, street performers and live music will also take place. Beach towels, blankets and low lawn chairs are welcome. Movies begin at dusk. Popcorn and beverages will be available on site

JULY SCHEDULE:

6th: DOLPHIN TALE
 7th: CAPTAIN AMERICA
 13th: MIRROR MIRROR
 14th: 50 FIRST DATES
 20th: LILO & STITCH
 21st: THE VOW EDITED
 27th: TRON LEGACY
 28th: THOR

AUGUST SCHEDULE:

3rd: LION KING
 4th: TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON
 10th: TANGLED
 11th: MEAN GIRLS
 17th: THE LORAX
 18th: MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: GHOST PROTOCOL
 24th: DOLPHIN TALE
 25th: WAR HORSE

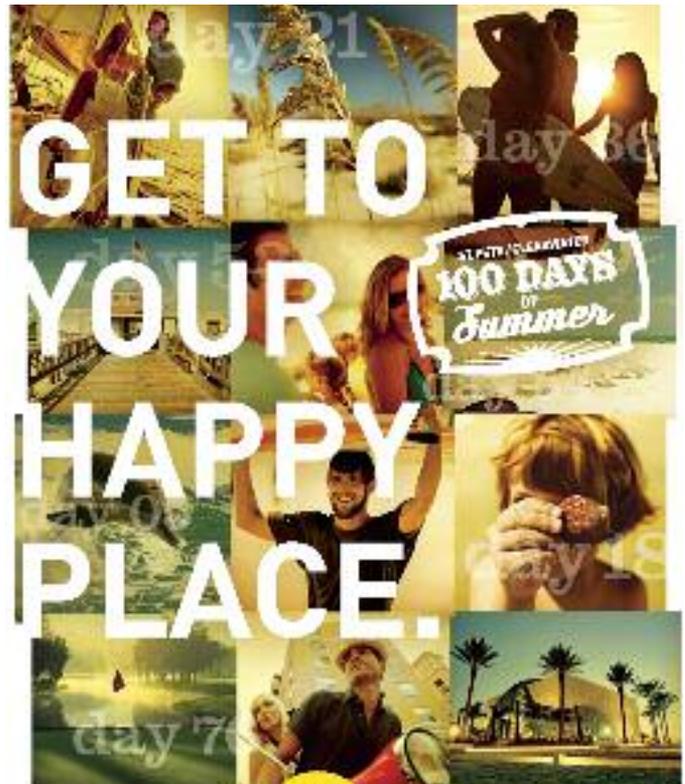
You can see the complete and changing schedule online at www.SunsetsAtPier60.com or by calling 449-1036. This is partially sponsored by the City of Clearwater's Parks and Recreation Department.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

On July 20, Chief Warrant Officer Steven McDonnell will relieve Chief Warrant Officer Morgan Dudley as the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Station Sand Key. The Change of Command Ceremony is a time honored tradition formally restating the continuity of the authority of command. It is a formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of the Command, as well as honored guests and dignitaries. The Change of Command itself is a transfer of total responsibility and authority from one individual to another.

Chief Warrant Officer McDonnell, a native of Warwick, Rhode Island, enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1987 and underwent Basic Training in Cape May, New Jersey. He is married to the former Diane M Derby. They have a home in Fort Myers, Florida.

After the ceremony, Chief Warrant Officer Dudley has orders to report to Coast Guard Special Missions Training Center at Camp Lejeune Marine Corps base in North Carolina.



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