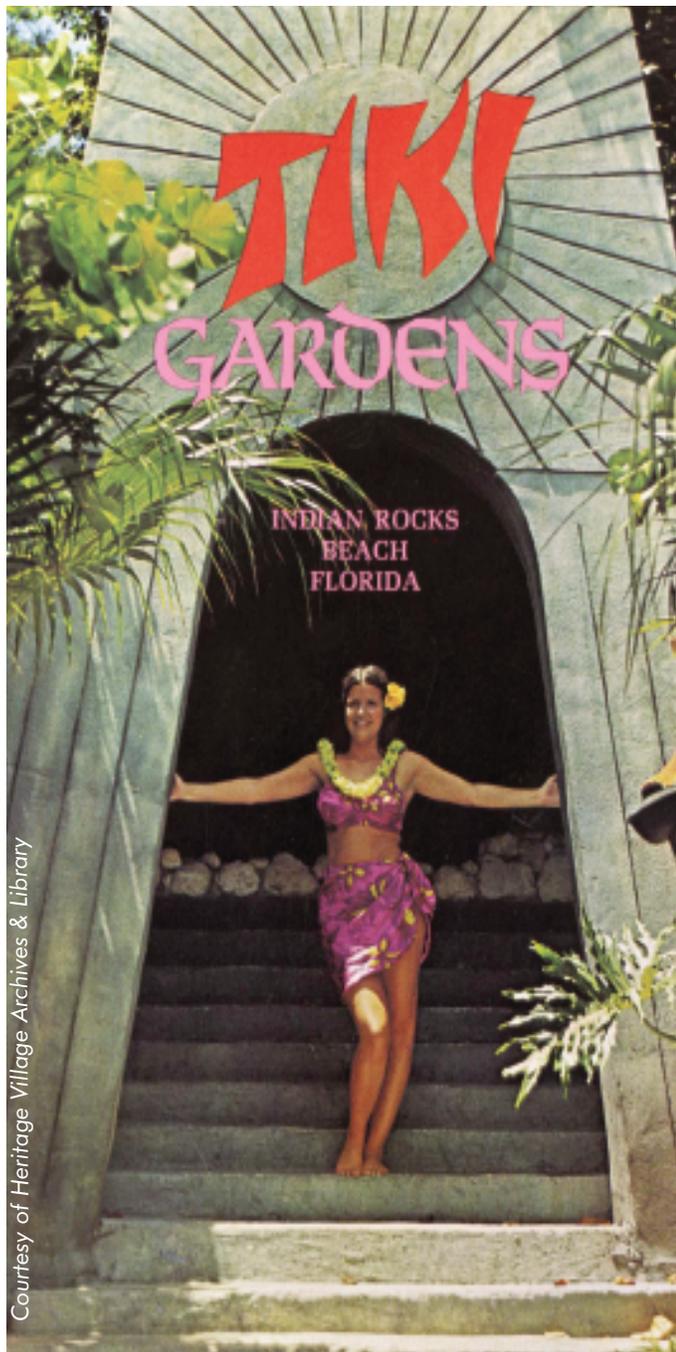


NEIGHBORHOOD



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Newsletter



Courtesy of Heritage Village Archives & Library

A model welcomes visitors to Tiki Gardens in Indian Shores. The photo is from the cover of their brochure.

A POLYNESIAN PARADISE ON OUR SHORES

Story By: Wayne Ayers, Indian Rocks Historical Society

Visitors using the Tiki Gardens beach access on Gulf Boulevard read the sign, and wonder where the "Tikis" and "Gardens" are. A few will recall that the parking lot once fronted one of Florida's biggest tourist attractions.

Behind the chain link fence and palm forest at the back lies the remains of a 12-acre Polynesian paradise that drew more than 500,000 visitors a year.

Tiki Gardens was a South Seas adventure on the shores of the Intracoastal Waterway. The site featured jungle trails, exotic birds, rickshaw rides, and a Polynesian lagoon cruise. The Gardens' signature attraction was the towering tikis, present at every vista point. Each evening, a torch-lighting ceremony capped the exotic "journey to paradise."

The Gardens were born from a calamity, much like the volcanic Polynesian islands that were its namesake. In 1963, owners Frank "Trader Frank" and Jo Byars saw their Signal House gift shop on the property destroyed by fire. The business had been a popular stop for tourists and locals in what was then Indian Rocks Beach South Shore.

In surveying the charred rubble of their shop, the Byars looked beyond to a modest garden area in the back, and the tangled jungle that lay behind stretching to the Intracoastal. The idea of creating a South Seas paradise was prompted by a Polynesian craze that was sweeping the country in the '60s, Trader Frank later recalled.

"We had one of those fads that nobody can explain. It was the time when everybody was wearing those tiki gods around their necks," he said.

Noted St. Petersburg architect Robert Lewis Malkin was hired to design the facility, with artist Gordon Keith doing the tiki creations. Jo Byars, a talented crafter famed for her seashell jewelry, supervised the planning details.

The Polynesian paradise that emerged as Tiki Gardens was an instant hit with a growing crowd of visitors. By the late 1960s, the attraction had grown to 12 acres and included exotic plants and animals, a South Seas boat cruise, wedding chapel and ten themed gift shops. An expanded Signal House gift shop and Trader Frank's restaurant featuring island themed cuisine completed the experience.

For two decades, Tiki Gardens would reign as what Rand McNally called "the Hong Kong of Florida," and be named as one of the state's top five attractions.

The good times did not last forever. Eventually, tikis and things Polynesian lost their appeal. Mega-parks such as Disney and Busch Gardens drew crowds looking for new excitement. In 1986, the aging Byars sold Tiki Gardens to Australian investors, reputedly for a treasure in opals.

In 1990, the County acquired the property for a beach access.

The heart and soul of Tiki Gardens - the tiki statues and other memorabilia - were disposed of in a giant auction. Today, the legend lives on to a degree in a collection of memorabilia exhibited at the Indian Rocks Historical Museum, located at 203 Fourth Ave. in Indian Rocks Beach.

Wayne Ayers' book, *Tampa Bay's Gulf Beaches: The Fabulous 1950s and 1960s*, is available at the historical museum.



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Residents of Indian Rocks Beach

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SALES

727-517-1997

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IRBNewsletter.com

Is there something you would like to see included in this newsletter? Please send all comments to bob@griffindirectories.com

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CITY NUMBERS

CITY HALL 595-2517
1507 Bay Palm Blvd
www.Indian-Rocks-Beach.com

CITY MANAGER - Chuck Coward
MAYOR/CITY COMMISSION . 517-0204
MAYOR - R.B. Johnson
COMMISSIONERS —
Daniel Torres Vice Mayor • Cookie Kennedy
Terry Wollin • Phil Hanna
City Manager, 595-2517
Chuck Coward
Building Department: 517-0404
Don Weigner
Planning & Zoning: 517-0404
Danny Taylor, Dir
Public Services: 595-6889
Dean Scharmen, Dir.

IRB LIBRARY 596-1822
Next to City Hall

M-F 10-5pm, Tu-Th 7-8:30pm, Sat 10-1pm
IRB HISTORICAL MUSEUM . . . 593-3861
Across from the Post Office

IRB HOMEOWNER ASSOC. . . . 517-0525
Phil Wrobel, President - IRBHome.com
Bob Griffin - Boat Club 517-1997

BEACH ART CENTER 596-4331
Next to City Hall, 1515 Bay Palm Blvd

POST OFFICE / IRB. 596-2894
204 4th Avenue 33785, Near Crabby Bill's
Mon-Fri 8:30A-4:30P; Sat 9A-12:00P

IRB ROTARY
www.Indian-Rocks-Rotary.org
Meets at Jimmy Guana's every Wed. 7:15AM
Bruce Sobut, Past President . . . 403-4060

ACTION 2000
John Todia. 595-2369
Meets 2nd Monday Each Month Beach Art Ctr

BEACH FOOD PANTRY 517-2534
1615 First St. M-W-F 10 am-12 pm

4H CLUB 582-2597

EMERGENCIES: 9-1-1
SHERIFF NON-EMERGENCIES 582-6200
SHERIFF DISPATCH 582-6177
IRB FIRE STATION 595-1117
PINELLAS COUNTY INFO . . . 464-3000
LITTLE LEAGUE 434-0511

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Gulf Beaches 360-6957
Clearwater Beach 447-7600

AA & AL-ANON MEETINGS . . 595-1038

ELECTRICITY 443-2641

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PHONE (Business) 800-483-5000

WATER 464-4000

CABLE (Bright House) 329-5020

SEWER / IRB 595-6889

TRASH / IRB / Pick Up 595-6889

COUNTY INFORMATION 464-3000

COMMISSION OFFICES 464-3377

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 Charlie Crist
Charlie.Crist@myflorida.com

FLORIDA UNITED STATES SENATORS:

George Lemieux 202-224-3041
www.Lemieux.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

2010 CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

MAY

Loggerhead Turtle Season Begins	1	BeachArt Summer Camp begins	14
Movies on the Beach HOA	1	Boat Club Meeting	17
Boat Club Caladesi Island Trip	2	Heritage Village Antique Fair	19
Postal Food Drive	8	Father's Day	20
Mother's Day	9	Summer Begins	21
Homeowners Happy Hour	13	IRB's Birthday (1955)	25
Household Chemical Cleanup	15		
Community Clean Up IRB	17-19	JULY	
Boat Club Meeting	20	Independence Day (Sunday)	4
Safe Boating Week	24-30	Boat Club Island Party	4
Memorial Day (Monday)	31	Homeowners Happy Hour	8
		Blood Drive at the IRB Post Office	9
		Boat Club Meeting	15

JUNE:

Hurricane Season Begins	1	Little League / Fall Ball Sign Up	
Homeowners Golf Tournament	5	Homeowners Happy Hour	12
Last Day Public School	9	IRB Community Clean Up Week	6-18
Homeowners Happy Hour	10	Boat Club Meeting	19
Flag Retirement in IRB	11	Boat Club John's Pass Sand Bar	22
Boat Club at 551 Restaurant	12	Primary Election 2010	24
Flag Day	14		

NEXT ISSUE IS JULY

Do you need another copy of this newsletter? Ask for them at USA Grocers or any IRB realtor's office.

This newsletter is printed every other month and survives on local advertising. Please support the people advertising here. If you are an IRB resident wanting to advertise, you get a discount. We also offer discounts for advertising in our other issues, Madeira Beach, Belleair Area Downtown St. Petersburg and our Clearwater Beach.

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



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Did You Know....

BUDGET CUTS HIT THE WATER

The Sheriff's department is being forced to make departmental cut backs. Some of those cuts will be on the water. They plan to eliminate three deputies from the water patrol department. That will leave a Sergeant and 4 deputies positions on the waterways. The Environmental Lands Unit is also being cut by 3 deputies. That leaves only 2 deputies, reporting to the Marine Unit Sergeant, patrolling our land areas.



SUMMER CAMP

The Beach Art Center is offering a ten week Kreative Kids Summer Camp beginning June 14th. It is a full day camp for 6 - 10 year olds from 9am to 3pm. Registration is weekly. Each week is a different theme. Participants will work in clay, paper, paint and more. There is a morning program for preschoolers for five weeks. Before and after care is available. Call 596-4331, or e-mail arts1515@aol.com for information.

OTTER FOUND IN IRB

A North American otter pup was found in late February. Residents spotted the pup near one of the tennis courts and called the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. They named the otter 'Sunny'. He is safely living at the CMA until he can be released.

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL CLEAN UP

Time to clean out the garage. Don't throw your old paint, chemicals, TV's, monitors, or other hazardous things in the trash, bring them to City Hall Saturday, May 15th 9am-4pm. For more information, call Calvin Warren at 595-6889.

MONTGOMERY WINS

Ralph Montgomery, a local IRB artist, won two first place ribbons at the annual VAMC Creative Arts Festival, at Bay Pines VA Medical Center, for his acrylic painting and a monochromatic ink drawing. The art has been submitted to the National VA Creative Arts Festival to compete with winners from over 100 VA installations throughout the country. Ralph, one of the founding members of IRB's Action 2000, previously won gold medals in 2005 and 2006 in these national festivals.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The City of Indian Rocks will be 55 years old June 25th.

COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Put your large items by the curb starting Monday, May 17th and the city will pick them up, free. Refrigerators, boat trailers, old cars, chemical waste and electronics are not included. If you are in doubt, call the city public works department at 595-6889.

LITTLE MISS BEAUTY

11 year old Emily Schultz, who's father Mike owns German Imports, won this year's Little Miss Beauty Pageant at IRB's annual Beauty and the Beach. Eleven other girls participated. Emily will get to ride in the annual Holiday Parade.



HISTORICAL MUSEUM DONATION

The Plein Aire Cottage Artists have once again donated calendars to IRB Historic Museum, to the value of \$2,000. Accepting the gift are the Directors of the Museum: IRB Mayor RB Johnson, Michael Doyle, Donna Valery, Carol McGloughlin, Jan Ockunzzi, Nancy and Wayner Ayers, Jackie Harwood, Plein Aire Cottage Artists: Mary Rose Holmes, Violetta Chalmers and Helen Tilston. The calendars are available at Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum, 203 4th Ave. 593.3861.



RESTAURANT WEEK The Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce is hosting the inaugural Clearwater Beach Restaurant Week, May 9th -15th, to showcase the multiple styles of cuisine found on Clearwater Beach and surrounding areas. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. For participating restaurants, visit clearwaterbeachrestaurantweek.com.

SKIM BOARD CAMP Summer is coming, so break out the skim boards and paddle boards. The Island Surf Shop is offering Skim Board Camp starting June 14th, Monday - Friday, and free Paddle Board lessons. Call Larry at 596-2244 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Tampa Bay Harvest, an all volunteer organization, collects food from restaurants, and supermarkets for donation to food pantries helping to feed the hungry. Volunteers are needed to transport food, help with coordinating, record keeping, and to assist with food collecting events. Call 538-7777, Ext 1 to help.

COUNTRY DAY SUMMER CAMP Camps being offered for grades 1 to age 14 are art, culinary, computer, science, sports, drama, and a horse camp. For ages 2 to kindergarten, campers enjoy summer activities, water games, swimming and pony rides, all in a Montessori learning environment, with an on site pool. June 7-Aug. 13. 9 am - 3 pm, with extended-care available. They are located at 11499 Vonn Road, Largo, call 596-1902.

FLAG RETIREMENT The City of IRB will have their annual Flag Retirement ceremony at noon in Chic-A-Si Park, Friday, June 11. Many area military and scout troops participate. There will be refreshments afterwards. Bring your flags to City Hall by June 10th.

MARKET CLOSED Market in the Park closed for the summer, two weeks early. This year's cold weather really hurt attendance. No word yet if it will return in the fall.

MAIL CARRIERS FOOD DRIVE Support our local mail carriers efforts to help the needy during the US Post Office's annual food drive. Leave sealed or canned food by your mail box Sat., May 8th, for your mail carrier to pick up. All the food collected will be distributed through the local food pantry. Last year, Tampa Bay carriers collected more food than any other area in the United States.



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COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE NEWS

THE LION FOR SALE
1407 Gulf Blvd. The property, including the building containing the Red Lion Pub, is for sale for \$800,000. This does not include the Red Lion business. Lana, the owner of the Red Lion, would like to renew their lease, which expires



soon, and continue to operate the restaurant. For more information, call Prudential 800-816-5441.

ISLES REALTY BUILDING 1501 Gulf Blvd. The yellow and white building north of the Red Lion, is for sale for \$239,000. Call Josh at The Dohning Group at 813-223-9111 for information.

THE VILLAGE AT INDIAN ROCKS 2500 Gulf Blvd. Even though there is a for sale sign on the property, it is not for sale. The owners are considering their options and would still like to build something. For information, call 813-978-8086 X 1106. IRB resident Al Goins in no longer affiliated with property owner A.G. Armstrong.

GEO PAPPAS RESTAURANT in Largo is for sale for \$450,000. It includes the building and the land. There is a contract pending, which may close soon. The potential buyer has restaurant experience in Pinellas County and plans to open it as a family oriented restaurant. For information, call John Skicewicz of Coldwell Banker at 727-642-3965.

SASSY'S NIGHT CLUB PROPERTY, formerly a Pizza Hut, is also for sale for \$450,000. The realtor says there has been a lot of interest recently. If interested, call Sunbelt Realty at 813-831-5990.

FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW LEADERS

By Anny Tarrant, Public Awareness Volunteer

In November, Harvey Brilliat stepped down as director of the Beaches Community Food Pantry (BCFP). Before leaving, he introduced a new team of three that replaced him. They are Chuck Pond Team Manager,



Hugh Grady Food Supply Manager and Senior Shopper and Anny Tarrant Public Awareness and Response.

"In the United States, more than 35-million people do not have regular access to enough nutritious food to maintain active lives," according to America's Second Harvest, the nations food bank network that started in 2007. This quote could not be more meaningful today.

As a volunteer at the BCFP, awareness comes weekly. At times, it can be daunting and overwhelming. However, with mentors like Harvey and the rest of the volunteers, one can smile at the generosity of our church as well as our beach community, enabling us to continue with our mission: To help feed as many people as God sends us by providing them with basic nutritious food.

So from all of us at the BCFB, thank you Harvey Brilliat for all you did.





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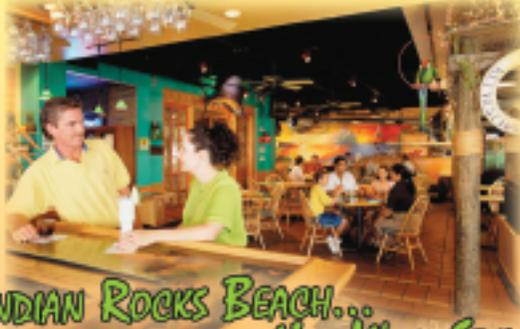
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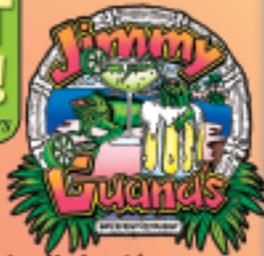


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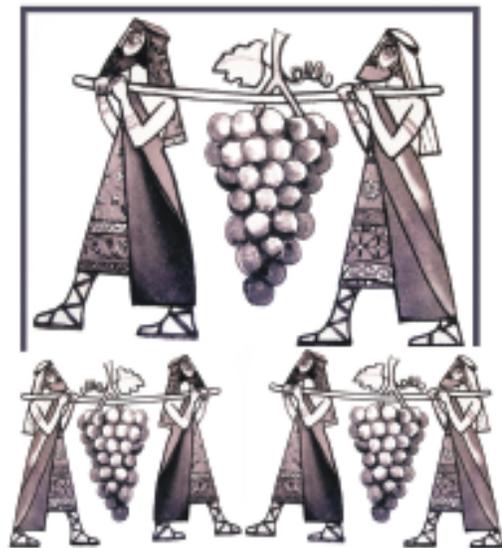
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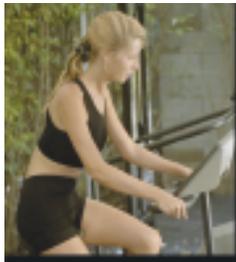


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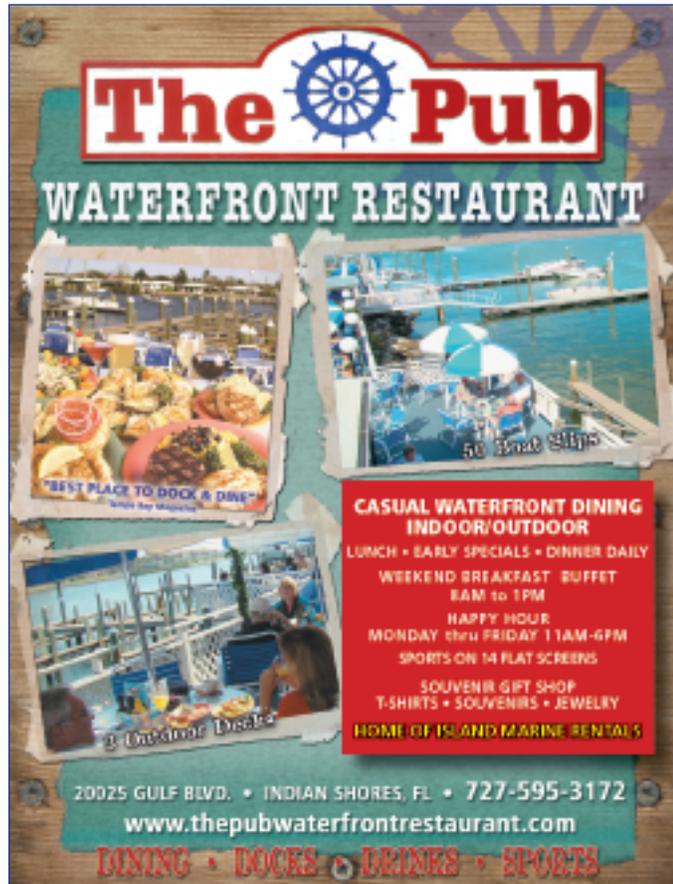
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**FRANK AND JO BYARS
 AS I REMEMBER THEM...**

By Lila Peterson Grant

Frank and Jo Byars were the owners of Tiki Gardens. Their daughter Sherry Jo and Lila Peterson were best friends. It was that friendship that led to Lila's first job, as the Byars' employee.

Lila lived with her mother and brother in Indian Rocks Beach South Shore (now Indian Shores) in the Totem Inn Cottages. It was located just south of the Hungry Fisherman, which is now a vacant lot. Lila and Sherry Jo Byars went to Anona Elementary and church together.



Lila, in 1950, at the age of 17, working at the Signal House

"The Byars made jewelry out of sea shells, and all of us used to help," says Lila. "They sold it inside Brandon's Pavilion, stores in other areas and their small gift store called The Signal House."

The Signal House was a small gift store with lots of nautical flags flying in front. The store was on the site of the future Tiki Gardens, which eventually burned down. Tiki Gardens was built in its place.

"Gulf Boulevard was just a narrow gravel road back then, a mixture of rock with some asphalt. All of our customers were tourists. My mother would take me to work and pick me up. We lived just a mile up the road." Lila remembers.

"In 1948, when I was about 15, Sherry Jo got sick. It was cancer," Lila says. "That same year, I went to work for Frank and Jo. I did what Sherry Jo used to do. But I only worked summers. There was not much business in the winter. Sherry Jo later died."

"Their business only had three employees, Frank, Jo and me. Frank and Jo traveled a lot. They went to Miami to buy stuff, and to New York to sell to large department stores. Sometimes they would be gone for a full week. They would just tell me to take care of the place, and "hide the money". Every night I would hide the money in a different place, lock up and go home."

"We wore hula skirts at work. There were a lot of parrots on the property, and they had a small garden area out back for the tourists to see. I was paid 35¢ per hour. I loved my job. I felt free and very responsible. I was proud that they trusted me with their entire business, and I was just 17. While I worked for them, they were planning to build Tiki Gardens."

"Frank did not talk to me much. He couldn't look me in the eyes. I think it was because I reminded him of Sherry Jo, the daughter he lost. Tiki Gardens had been her idea.

Today Lila, born in 1933, lives in Largo.

TIKI GARDENS

Photos Courtesy of Indian Rocks Beach Historical Society



Signal House



Frank & Jo



At its prime



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Restaurant News....

JAKE'S SANDWICH SHOP

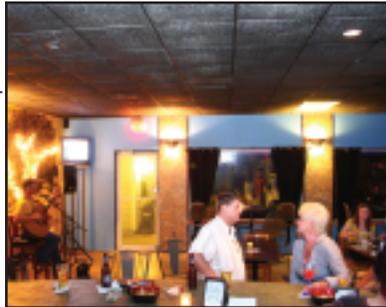
The new deli owned by Crabby Bill's, at 435 Gulf Blvd on the corner of Walsingham and Gulf Blvd opened in April. They have great sandwiches, Phillies, hoagies and pizza, and will be adding IRB



delivery. They will also deliver from Crabby Bills and IRB Sushi, Tuesdays thru Saturdays from 5-10pm. The deli is named for Jake, shown here with Matt Loder, who can usually be found helping out at Crabby Bill's.

PJ'S CELEBRATES 25 YEARS PJ's Oyster Bar has been in Indian Rocks Beach since June, 1985. The popular IRB restaurant is owned and run by Ed Rosicky and Bama Palmer, www.PJsOysterBar.com.

NEW MENU REGULATIONS Hidden inside the Health Care Reform bill is a provision requiring chain restaurants with 20 or more locations to print calorie counts on their menus. It applies to about 200,000 restaurant chains nationwide. 375,000 traditional restaurants and thousands of school, workplace and hospital cafeterias are exempt, as are all IRB's restaurants. The regulations will take effect next year.



IRB HOUSE OF ALE

Cafe Soleil and Bar Luna have merged, and become the new I.R.B. House of Ale. It is still owned by Stacy Merriman. They are open but will be removing the wall between the two areas making the restaurant and wine bar one area. She has done a lot of work to the little restaurant at 1511 Gulf Blvd. Come by and have a beer.

CAFE NATUREL is going buffet style. They call it the Organic Gourmet Buffet. Owner David says he is going to put a new spin on his natural style cafe. Plus, they are now open 8am to 8pm, Tue.-Sun. They are on the corner of Gulf Blvd. at Walsingham Rd.



THE BAIT HOUSE is a new waterfront restaurant in Clearwater Beach, that sells bait, too. Located at the east end of the Clearwater Marina parking lot, it is owned by Indian Rocks Beach resident, and prior owner of Coasters, Christian Harms and partner Justin Pfaelzer. Dine on their fresh seafood, on a dock just inches from the water. They plan to have live music on the dock soon, too.

CLOSED:

Bar Luna, 1511 Gulf Blvd
Viny's Pizza, across the bridge in Largo.

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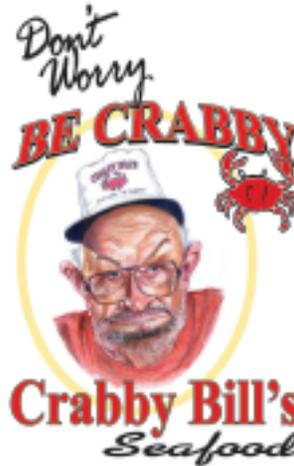
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The People Behind



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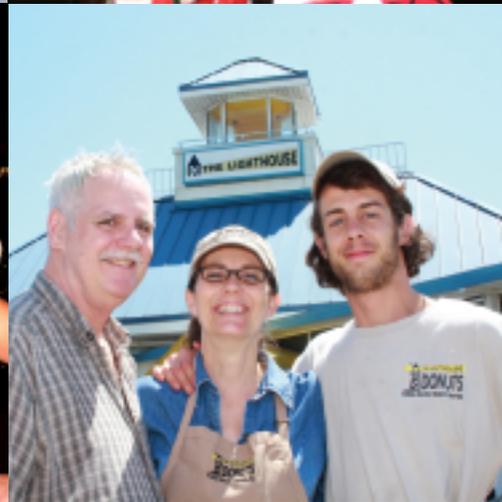
Coaster's Bar & Grill



Crabby Bill's



Red Lion



THE PUB, THEN AND NOW

The Pub Waterfront Restaurant in Indian Shores has been around a long time, with many other names over the years, including Beach Park Restaurant - Blue Martini - Happy Harry's - Haufbrau House - Jack Miller's - The Piano Bar - The Pub.

In 1938, Jack Miller and his wife opened the first eating establishment there in what was then called Indian Rocks South Shore. Named after him, it was called Jack Miller's. It was nothing more than a drive-in, with carhops. It was Miller's second restaurant, he had one just like it in St. Pete Beach, but it was never really successful.

In 1940, Clarence Brown, who was associated with Union Trust, bought the restaurant and the submerged land just to the south of it, that he later filled in. He continued to run it as a drive-in. His son, Buck, kept a live, ten foot alligator in a pen next to the restaurant, which became a local attraction. Brown too, had trouble making a go of it, and sold everything to Leo Smitz in the early '40s.

Leo Smitz and his wife Gertrude expanded the building and changed the name to the Haufbrau House. They did a good business despite nasty rumors that because he was German he was a Nazi. Leo claimed not to be German, but to be Dutch, which was a good idea at the time, since this was during World War II.

and the Food & Fun



JD's



Tapas Garden



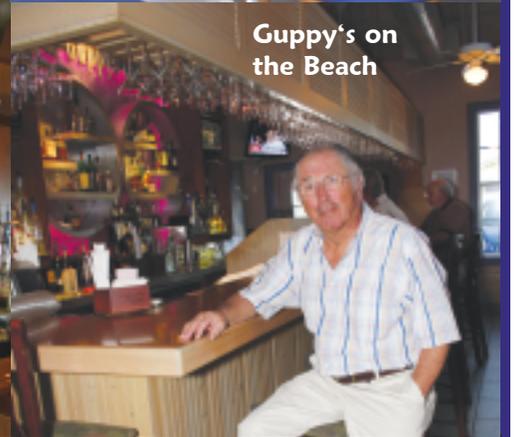
The Pub



Villa Gallace



Jimmy Guana's



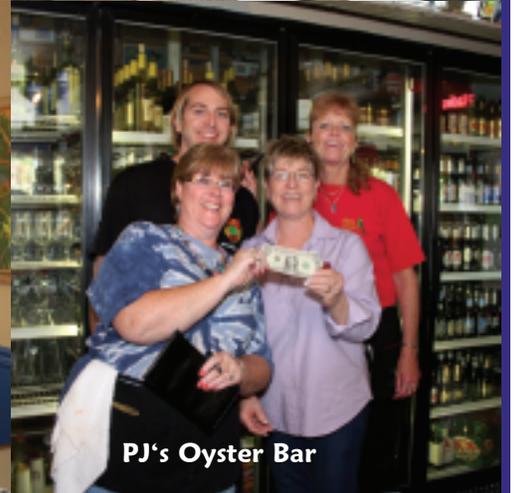
Guppy's on the Beach



Keegan's Seafood Grille



Sandy's



PJ's Oyster Bar

Harry Kennedy, a later owner, gave the restaurant the name "The Pub". He sold the property to Barry Dobson, and went on to open the Captain's Galley in Madeira Beach. After he died, Dobson's widow Shirley, sold The Pub to today's owner, Steve Westphal.

Steve knew the two prior owners, even working at the restaurant as a teenager. "Harry told me it was called The Pub because back then sign companies charged by the letter. That was all the money he had left for a sign. Hence the name," says Steve Westphal, owner of The Pub Waterfront Restaurant since 1999.

In 1973, Dobson hired Steve, who lived about a block north of there. It was the closest place to his house for him to work. He was there for about six months as a bus boy, dishwasher and cook, until one day, he cut his finger with a knife. They fired him. He returned 26 years later and bought the place.

"Barry Dobson once told me 'I don't care what kind of food you serve people, just make sure you serve the same food to the people, every time they come. People don't like surprises.'" Westphal says.

Since buying the restaurant, Steve has added the north outside deck, remodeled the interior, expanded 18 boat docks and added 32 floating slips. It has been voted "Best Place to Dock and Dine". He says more improvements are coming.

Information obtained from longtime IRB resident Bill Brandon and Steve Westphal, the owner of The Pub. Visit ThePubWaterfrontRestaurant.com.

THIRD ANNUAL IRB NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER READERS' FAVORITES

Last issue we asked you, to name your favorite Indian Rocks Beach restaurant in eight categories, and to name your favorite restaurant. We had many responses. We would like to thank everyone who participated.

Deb Hansard on Bay Pine Blvd. won the drawing. She will be receiving dinner for two at the Red Lion, their choice for Best Dinner.

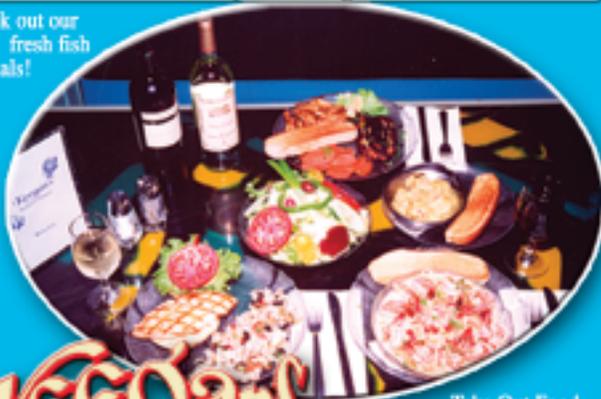
For the third year in a row, Guppy's was voted the Best Overall IRB Restaurant. Each restaurant will receive a plaque detailing their winning category. Thank you for voting and we look forward to doing this again next year. Here are the final results.

The 2010 People's Favorites are:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| BEST BREAKFAST | Lighthouse Donuts |
| BEST LUNCH | Keegan's Seafood Grille |
| BEST DINNER | Guppy's on the Beach |
| BEST LIVE MUSIC | JD's Restaurant |
| BEST SPORTS BAR | Coaster's |
| BEST PIZZA | Pajano's Pizza & Subs |
| BEST WINGS | Red Lion Pub |
| BEST NEIGHBORHOOD BAR | Red Lion Pub |
| PEOPLE'S FAVORITE RESTAURANT | Guppy's on the Beach |

2010 People's Favorite
VOTED BEST LUNCH!
by the IRB Neighborhood Newsletter Readers

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FREE SOFTWARE

by Bruce Sobut

All of us like free. Unfortunately, with software, as well as many other things, you get what you pay for. So how can you tell whether "free" is worth it?

If you see a pop-up ad or an email advertising software for free, chances are it's not. At best these programs check your computer, find problems (which may not even be legitimate), then try to sell you a solution. Worse are programs that contain viruses or have harmful effects.

The good news is there are useful programs and utilities that are truly free although they may ask for a donation. After using the program, if you find it useful, why not send a few bucks so the program stays free. The choice is yours.

Here are several programs and utilities that work as promised and are free.

1. Secunia PSI secunia.com/vulnerability_scanning/personal - Checks your computer for software with security problems and provides links to get it corrected. Windows, Adobe Reader, Adobe Flash Player, QuickTime, Real Player and many other programs have security problems on a regular basis. Don't be surprised to find 10 or more problems.
2. CCleaner piriform.com/ccleaner - This 2 part program includes a disk cleaner that removes temp files and other things that collect on your computer. You can select how much the program removes and it will list everything before it deletes the junk. You may get over 2 gigabytes of extra space after running the program. The other part of the program is a registry cleaner that works well, but if you are not sure what you are doing, you are better off leaving the registry alone. In any case, always back up!
3. OpenOffice openoffice.org - free Office Suite that can read and write Microsoft Office documents. Includes Writer (Word), Calc (Excel), Impress (PowerPoint), Base (Access) and a drawing program that creates Flash (.swf) versions.

Bruce Sobut, an IRB resident for 18 years, has over 30 years computer experience. If he can't help, there is no charge! His business, Gulf Coast Computer Solutions (www.GulfCoastComputerSolutions.com), is located at 12525 (old) Walsingham Rd., Largo. Call 517-2449 to schedule an appointment or stop by between 10am - 4pm.

PINELLAS SUNCOAST FIRE & RESCUE ANNOUNCES THE ARRIVAL OF ITS NEW FIRE ENGINE!

Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue is proud to announce the arrival of the new Engine 27, a 2010 Pierce Arrow XT.

According to Fire Marshal David Martin, acquiring the new engine was an 18-month process. It required the development of specifications and a trip to Appleton, Wisconsin's Pierce Manufacturing plant, to draw up plans. Finally, in October 2009, two steel rails became the start of the new engine leading to its final inspection March 17th !

The new engine is pewter and red with black reflective striping and has a redesigned department logo. It is capable of pumping up to 1500 gallons of water a minute, carrying 500 gallons of water, and 20 gallons of foam on board for small fires. It features low-draw LED & HID emergency and scene lighting, a cost savings since the truck does not need a separate generator. After looking at many examples, meeting with manufacturers, and attending the annual trade show in Daytona Beach, the committee developed the specifications for the new apparatus. It will be placed in service within the next few weeks after the equipment has been mounted in the compartments.



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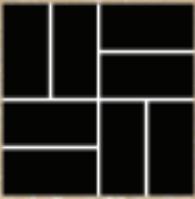
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**INDIAN ROCKS BEACH
 HOMEOWNERS
 ASSOCIATION NEWS**



2010 HAPPY HOURS

Homeowners Happy Hours continue at the following restaurants:

May 13: Coaster June 17: Cuso's
 July 15: My Place

These FREE Happy Hours are 6-7:30 pm the second Thursday of the month. Visit IRBhome.com for info.

Guppy's Gulfside Gallop

This year's 5K run was a great success! We had over 275 registered runners, which is our largest turn-out ever. We want to thank all the volunteers that helped make this year's event happen. Thanks go out to our event sponsor Guppy's on the Beach,



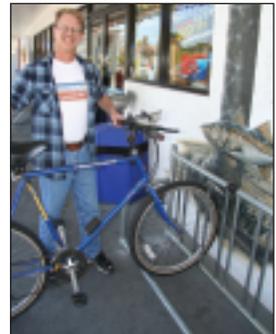
*Eli Kelley & Henry Folce,
 12 & under plus 1 mile run winners*

USA Grocers who supplied fruit, cups, and jugs of water, and to Publix who supplied bagels and cases of water! Next year's race will be April 2nd, 2011.

House of Excellence Award was awarded to Tammy & Dana McCutchan, 201 7th Avenue Indian Rocks Beach. Nominated by Karen Mortimer, she felt "they have made it into a beach paradise, from the concrete to siding to an aluminum roof, as well as all the palms & beautiful plants that surround the house front & back." Congratulations, it is a great example of IRB living!

Bike Racks We have begun to install the 20 bike racks ordered the beginning of the year. Look for them to be popping up around town.

Biggest Beach Party Ever Thank You to everyone that helped make the "Biggest Beach Party Ever" the biggest beach party EVER! A Big Thanks to all the volunteers, and all that offered to work. We had a great response. We are grateful to our event sponsor Century 21 Beggins for once again helping us with this event. We also want to thank Crabby Bill's our beer sponsor.



Movies on the Beach May 1, weather permitting.

IRB BOAT CLUB NEWS

Upcoming Events:

Caladesi Island Party, Sunday, May 2

Five Five One Island Party, Saturday, June 12

Island Party, July 4

MEETINGS -

Jimmy Guana's, at the Holiday Inn, the third Thursday each month. The next two meetings are May 19 and June 17. Happy Hour starts at 6pm and the meeting starts at 7pm. Everyone is welcome and there are no fees. If you have ideas for outings or guest speakers, email BoatClub@IRBhome.com.



*Some of the people at March's
 Salt Rock event*

ANONA PRINCIPAL MARSHA JORDAN RETIRES JUNE 30



Marsha Jordan is principal of Anona Elementary School, which is located in Largo on Indian Rocks Road. She has been there for the past five years. Ms. Jordan has been employed by the Pinellas County School System (PCSS) for 38 years. She has been a teacher, a curriculum resource teacher, an assistant principal and the principal of two elementary schools. She lives nearby in Belleair.

Marsha was born in the now extinct town of Rabbittown, Georgia, near Gainesville, Georgia and moved to Gulfport as a preteen. She attended Disston Junior High, Boca Ciega High School, St. Pete Junior College and USF Bayboro Campus. Marsha taught at Bardmoor Elementary, served as a Title I Curriculum Resource Teacher at Palmetto, North Ward Clearwater, Skycrest, Child's Park

Fundamental, Lakeview Fundamental, and Mt. Vernon before her promotion to assistant principal at Skyview. She was the principal of Gulf Beaches Elementary in St. Pete Beach for over 13 years before joining the Anona Elementary family.

Marsha enjoys working in such a classic old school that dates back to 1895 and began as a one room school house. Anona has 340 students and approximately 25 teachers. Anona also serves a very special population of autistic students in grades PreK-5.

"I like Anona because it is a small, community supported school," Jordan says. "It is 'family friendly'. The children at Anona are well mannered, bright, and enjoyable. The parents are supportive and the teachers are a talented cadre."

Kids at Anona come from a zone that includes Indian Rocks Beach to the west, Walsingham to the south and portions of Harbor Bluffs to the north.

Marsha remarked, "It has been an absolute pleasure working for the Pinellas County School System. I have been with them since I was a student in junior high."

What does she plan to do now? Clean house, travel, visit Civil War sites, exercise, and read. She plans to read a lot! "I might even get back to teaching part time after a year off," she said, "I can't see myself just sitting around doing nothing."

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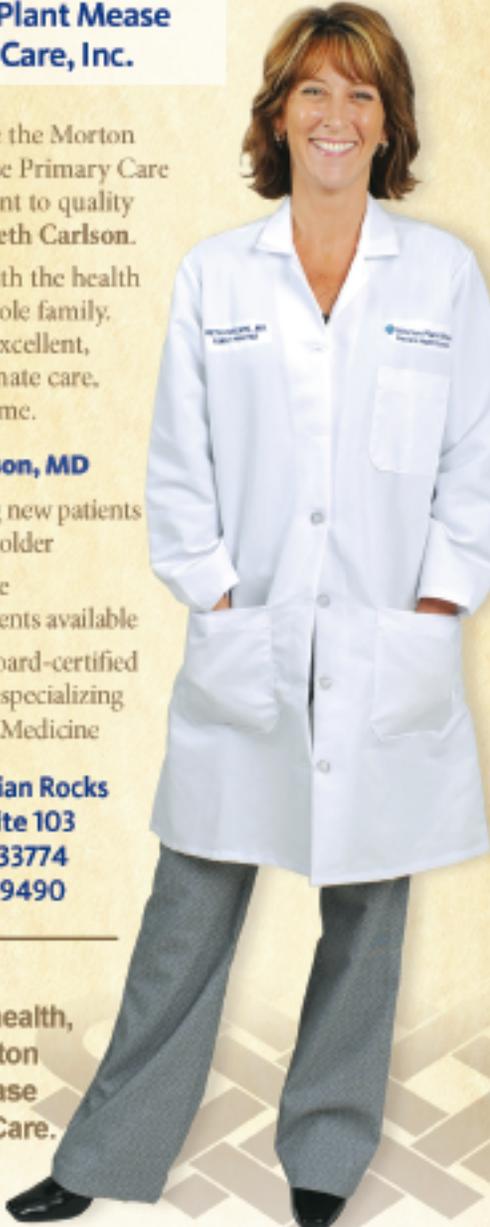
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Business Briefs....

VICE-PRESIDENT IRB resident Michael Alea, who lives on 20th Avenue, was recently promoted to senior vice-president and regional mortgage manager of HomeBanc. He is based in the Belleair Bluff's office. Alea has over 24 years of mortgage banking experience. He is active in the IRB Rotary and vice president of Action 2000.



SMOKE AND BREW is a new cigar bar with take out beer and wine in Keegans Plaza, 1519 Gulf Blvd. In addition to cigars, they are featuring fine wines and micro brews. Stop by and see a familiar IRB face, Mike Kelly, Little League President, who is now on board. They plan to be open 7 days a week.

DOLLAR VIDEOS You can rent a DVD for \$1 at the Walgreens in Belleair Bluffs, located at the corner of West Bay and Indian Rocks Road. They have a machine outside the store that rents a DVD for a dollar a day.

THE CABANA CLUB An appellate judge ruled the owners of the Sand Key Cabana Club can build a 38 room hotel and restaurant where the existing restaurant now stands. A local group of condo owners known as S.O.N. (Save Our Neighborhood) sued to stop this over the number of allocated parking spaces. Latitude Management Real Estate Investors owns the property, as well as the Belleview Biltmore. They delayed construction at the mainland resort until this was resolved.

HAPPY ENDING FOR CAFE de PARIS Owners Xavier and Valerie finally got some good news. After closing their Indian Rocks Beach bakery and returning to France for three weeks, the US embassy reversed their decision and extended their business visa allowing them to return to work and their home. Xavier has owned this business in Indian Rocks Beach since 2003. They had over 4,000 signatures on their petition to stay in the US. It worked!

PUB OWNER OPENS FOURTH RESTAURANT Steve Westphal, owner of The Pub in Indian Shores, opened a fourth restaurant inside downtown St Petersburg's Albert Whitted Airport Terminal. Called The Hangar Restaurant and Flight Lounge, it opened in mid-April. Steve also owns two other restaurants downtown St Pete, Parkshore Grill and 400 Beach Seafood & Tap House.

JERUSALEM MARKET, owned by Menahem and Ester Roth is almost ready to open. Because of Jewish dietary law, they waiting to open after Easter. Located at 311 Gulf Blvd., it will have a complete deli, with a pizza shop opening next door in the near future. They also own the new Tapas Garden Restaurant.



ROTARY NEWS

"SERVICE ON THE ROCKS"



Thank you Indian Rocks Beach!



Your support of our Annual Pancake Breakfast raised over \$2200 for the Beach Community Food Pantry. About 500 people enjoyed the pancakes and sausage served by the Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach and the Interact Club of Indian Rocks Christian School.

You also donated dozens of bags of used clothing for CASA - St. Pete (Community Action Stops Abuse) and nearly filled a box with personal care items for Pinellas Hope, a project that IRB Commissioner Cookie Kennedy helped organize.

In March, the Rotary Club donated \$1,000 to the Beach Art Center to help sponsor their Spring Break Art Program, held March 29 to April 2nd. The money helped the Beach Art Center's ongoing effort to provide art enrichment services to the children of mid-Pinellas and the beach communities



The Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach and its foundation support local, national and international humanitarian projects with your help. To find out more about Rotary, visit one of our weekly meetings every Wednesday morning at 7:15 AM inside Jimmy Guana's at the Holiday Inn Harbourside or call (727) 403-4060. Your first breakfast is on us!

DEAD MAN'S CURVE

The road leading out of Indian Rocks Beach, over the Walsingham bridge, is a killer. Many people do not realize how sharp the right turn, at the top of the hill leading to the bridge, is. Because of it, 4 accidents in 2008 and 4 in 2009 were reported to the Pinellas County Sheriff's office.

There have been seven fatalities there since 2002. **ALL** have involved a **MOTORCYCLE**, some with another car.

Here is the breakdown:

2002: 1 2003: 2 2006: 2 2009: 2

The last accidents were on December 12 and 26. Both were motorcycle accidents with a fatality. If you drive a motorcycle, please be careful on the bridge, and tell your friends.

SUMMER SAILING CAMP

The Clearwater Community Sailing Center is offering a Summer Youth Sailing & Windsurfing Camp for ages 8 to 17. Camp runs from June 14 through August 16. The program is weekly from 9am to 3pm. The cost is \$250 per week. A swim test is required.

They are located in Sand Key, just north of the Marriott Hotel, at 1001 Gulf Blvd. Call 517-7776 or visit www.ClearwaterCommunitySailing.org for information.

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BOAT RENTALS**

We rent all kinds of boats for
fishing, skiing, cruising, relaxing

10% DISCOUNT
to all **IRB RESIDENTS**
mention this ad and
show proof of residency

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IRB
BOAT RENTAL

Located at the **HOLIDAY INN HARBORSIDE**



**ACTION
2000 NEWS**



**OBSERVATION
OVERLOOK PROJECT** is

underway and is in the Permit Process with Pinellas County. After all governmental agencies approved, some modifications to the project have been made. An arborist will trim the mangroves to the approved height and the metal railing will be removed and replaced with a more visibly appealing rail system. Our goal is to expand the view from the Gulf to the Bay along Gulf Blvd and 6th Ave. for everyone to enjoy.

RESTORATION OF PARK BENCHES is currently being done by the spirited Action 2000 volunteers. We are painting and recycling the existing ones. Anyone wishing to volunteer their time to help with this project can contact Jim Labadie 727-459-0441.

ARBOR DAY EVER MIXER was held on April 29th at TJ's Italian Café. Green information was provided by the city's Environmental Stewardship Board and Pinellas County Extension. A fun evening was planned with friends and neighbors along with door prizes and a drawing for a hand painted rain barrel.

A NEW PEDESTRIAN SHELTER is being considered on the south end of Gulf Blvd after several requests from residents in that area. The exact location will be recommended to the City of IRB for their consideration and approval.

OKTOBERFEST is a year-long project. We are looking for sponsors for the event, as well as vendors and silent auction donations. Residents who want to advertise their business, or want to show their support, is encouraged to participate. Volunteers to help solicit sponsorships or silent auction items are needed. Please contact Diane Flagg 727-612-9454 or flaggmeyer@yahoo.com.

All residents are welcome to attend our monthly meetings that are held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Beach Art Center. For info or activities visit our website at www.irbaction2000.com or contact Eric Meyer, President 727-744-0123.

THE EASY WAY TO HAVE CLEANER WATER & LOWER TAXES

by Phil Compton, Sierra Club working for cleaner water and lower taxes on the Florida Gulf Coast

Remember the Red Tide 5 years ago? Scientists have linked Red Tide and other harmful algae blooms in canals and lakes to fertilizer running off in summer rainstorms. Most of Pinellas County's waters are sick and must be cleaned up. How do we solve this problem without raising taxes? It's easy: change how we use lawn fertilizer.

When you apply quick release fertilizer in rainy season months (June - September), you lose a lot to runoff. New slow release fertilizer stays on your lawn, instead of running off into the water. You save time and money and prevent algae blooms.

Pinellas County's new fertilizer ordinance, like those now in effect from Sarasota to Naples, says:

- Take phosphorus out of fertilizer - your yard naturally has plenty.
- Only apply nitrogen October - May. 50% of nitrogen is in slow release form and lasts through the rainy season.
- No nitrogen will be sold June-Sept. "Summer-safe" products with iron make grass greener without helping algae bloom.

Using fertilizer with personal responsibility saves you time, the county tens of millions in taxes for clean up, and helps lakes, canals and the Gulf get clearer and healthier.

Phil Compton is with the Sierra Club's St. Petersburg state headquarters.



CRIME IN IRB

They say crime increases during a poor economy. So has the Great Recession caused Indian Rocks Beach crime to go up? It depends what you look at.

REPORT TYPE:	2008	2009		Change
OFFENSES	493	577	↑	17%
INCIDENTS	561	576	↑	3%
OFFENSE DESCRIPTIONS				
Assault / Battery	70	87	↑	24%
Auto Theft	7	11	↑	57%
Burglary	50	79	↑	58%
Criminal Mischief	34	56	↑	65%
Disorderly Offenses	20	18	↓	10%
Drug Offenses	34	18	↓	18%
Robbery	3	2	↓	33%
Theft Offenses	114	121	↑	6%
Trespass Offenses	6	7	↑	17%

Looking further into the burglary category:

BURGLARY

Commercial	6	8	↑	33%
Conveyance (Autos)	15	46	↑	207%
Residential	28	25	↓	11%
Structure	1	0	↓	100%

These 2008/2009 statistics were supplied from the Crime Analysis Unit of the Pinellas County Sheriff's office. 2010 numbers are not available.

NEW CITY DOCKS

The city is moving forward with the plan to install 17 boat slips at Keegan Clair Park, just south of the Holiday Inn's boat docks. In January, the city commission approved the resolution approving the design and authorized the city manager to apply for a Florida Boating Improvement Program Grant. If the grant is approved, the remaining funding will come from Penny for Pinellas.

IRB residents and others will be able to use these docks. There are no plans for overnight parking, shore power or water hookups. They will be free to use.

Boaters will be able to dock and go to nearby bars, restaurants or even the beach. Your boating friends will be able to come for a visit and leave their boats there for the day.

This is still under development, but if everything goes well, the start of this project may be the end of this year.

VACATION CONDO OWNERS NOT PAYING TAXES

Some owners of Indian Rocks Beach vacation rental condos and beach houses may be in for some tax problems. The Pinellas Tax Collector's office is turning up the pressure on individual owners who may not be collecting and/or paying the 5% bed tax and the 7% state sales tax. These people are not contributing to the tax funds used by the county to promote tourism and provide services. Often these units are rented directly through their own personal Web site. It under cuts other legitimate owners by 12%.

Recognizing that we are in a difficult economic time, the tax collector is aggressively pursuing all revenue sources and searching the internet looking for vacation rental owners who may not be paying. If you have questions about how to pay your taxes, call Diane Nelson's office at 464-7777.

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Walsingham Road at First Street
At the foot of the IRB Bridge

Part of our Indian Rocks Beach
Community since 1969

**3 Generations of
Community Pride!**

**SALES
&
RENTALS**

Todd Plumlee, coordinator of "Hands Across the Sands" in IRB, an effort to stop offshore drilling

Proud Sponsor of the
Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association's
Home of Excellence Award

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Skim Boards
Board Shorts
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Since 1977

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309

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LIST LOCAL, SELL GLOBAL



Indian Rocks Beach: 4 bed, 4 bath Mediterranean home built in 2007 boasting 4,396 sq. ft. \$2,499,990. Bob Linderman, 312-933-5777.



Belleair: 4 bed, 4.5 bath, 3 car garage home situated on gated Belleview Island. \$1,695,000. Ian Ross-Johnson, 727-459-8008.



Redington Beach: Stunning 4 bed, 3.5 bath beachfront home on a lot and a half. \$4,499,000. Steve Kepler, 727-647-6696.



Island Estates: Beautiful views of the Intracoastal and Gulf of Mexico. Starting at \$419,000. Steve Kepler, 727-647-6696.



Island Estates: Almost sold out, only 3 homes remaining. Starting at \$475,000. Dominique Despointes, 727-501-4799.



Seeking Agents: Communicative, committed and a skilled negotiator? We want you as a real estate professional on our team! Call Broker Michal Winiarek, 727-461-1000.

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