

NEIGHBORHOOD



Newsletter

Griffin Productions, Inc. / 727.517.1997



GEORGE KING: KING OF ART

George King is probably Indian Rocks Beach’s best known artist. He and wife Jo Anne lived here from the early 1970s until he passed away in the ‘90s. He founded the Gulf Beaches Art Center, started the Executive Board, and painted.

King was born and raised in New York. Even as a child, he loved to draw. After graduating, the Army sent him to post-war Japan where he developed a fondness for Japanese art. It is also where he had an “ah-ha” moment watching a Japanese artist get paid to paint pin-up girls on GI’s jackets. “He was paid \$15 per girl,” George said in amazement.

After returning home, he went to the Parsons School of Design and then Huguenot School of Fine Art before being hired by Woman’s Day magazine, in New York. Ironically, it was not in the art department, but in the mailroom. After much pleading, he moved up into the art department.

“I was 19, and at a popular New York hangout with some girlfriends, when I saw George across the room,” says his wife Jo Anne. “He was such a good looking man. He looked like the movie star William Holden. I told my friends I wanted to meet him, and apparently one of them told him. He came over to talk to, we started dating and the rest is history. George used to ask me out on picnics. We would go to parks and I would watch him draw. He would sketch

people, animals, the skyline; he loved drawing anything.”

George answered an ad for an assistant advertising position in Tampa. “I went to my travel department and asked them, where Tampa was,” Jo Anne joked. King was hired by Maas Brothers, and when Jo Anne was 8 months pregnant, they moved to Tampa, driving down in their 1949 Ford convertible. “I was one of the rare northerners who actually wanted to move to Florida,” George would reflect.

George eventually left Maas Brothers to work in an advertising agency. About the same time, the Kings discovered Indian Rocks Beach. They spent weekends and vacations here and fell in love with the small beach community atmosphere. Jo Anne felt it was a great place to raise a family, so they moved into a small cottage at 730 Beach Trail, south of 8th Avenue, facing the Gulf.

George always wanted to paint and teach, and in 1974, when the economy took a dip causing his ad agency to close, he decided the time was right. With his state teaching license, he began teaching in Pinellas County schools. He also taught local artists. “Very few artists can make it on their own paintings,” George would explain. “So I began to teach painting, for a small fee. Teaching and painting is a whole lot better than working every day,” he would say. “I enjoyed teaching almost as much as I enjoyed painting.”

As he became better known, his enrollment grew. He saw a need for an Art Center. “Belleair had the Gulf Arts Center, but there was no other center between Sand Key and Pass A Grille,” George noted. “With a lot of optimism, enthusiasm, and absolutely NO money, I decided to start one. I wanted a place people could paint, exchange ideas and have shows,” George founded the non-profit Gulf Beaches Art Center in 1978. The American Legion leased a building for \$1 per year. Dues were \$10 a year.

In the first year, about 60 people joined, but by the third year, membership was over 300. King began recruiting teachers. George also organized art shows. The gallery only had one room, so only one show could be held at a time.

“George taught classes in the morning and on Saturday,” says Jo Anne. “He kept his afternoons open for his own painting.” And paint he did. Hundreds of his paintings are hanging in admirers living rooms. Large King historical paintings are still hanging in the Pinellas Courthouse and in the State Capital in Tallahassee.

He liked to paint local landmarks, flora and fauna in an impressionistic style. Many of the landmarks he painted are now just a memory. “I pick what would be considered familiar. Things people see often, but don’t really see,” George would explain.

The large 54 feet mural over the door inside the City’s Auditorium was painted by George and donated to the city. There is another painting hanging in the auditorium and one in the History Museum.

The large carved signs in front of the Post Office and the GTE building were a co-partnership between George and local artist, Herb Oppel, who lived on La Hacienda.

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St Petersburg, FL

CREDITS



This newsletter is published by GRIFFIN PRODUCTIONS, Inc. and is mailed to every occupied residence and business in Indian Rocks Beach. We are not officially associated with the City of Indian Rocks Beach.

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Residents of Indian Rocks Beach

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SALES

727-517-1997

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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 - Gregg Mims
MAYOR/CITY COMMISSION . 517-0204

MAYOR - R.B. Johnson
COMMISSIONERS —
Cookie Kennedy Vice Mayor • Terry Wollin
Phil Hanna • Jim Labadie

City Manager, 595-2517
Gregg Mims

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. . . . 517-3131

Becky Griffin, President - IRBHome.com
IRB BOAT CLUB

Bob Griffin 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
Meets at Jimmy Guana's every Wed. 7:15AM

Bruce Sobut, Past President . . . 403-4060
ACTION 2000

Eric Meyer 744-0123
Meets 2nd Monday Each Month Beach Art Ctr

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

LITTLE LEAGUE 735-4574
IRB WELCOME CENTER 595-4575
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

EMERGENCIES: 9-1-1
SHERIFF NON-EMERGENCIES 582-6200
SHERIFF DISPATCH 582-6177
IRB FIRE STATION 595-1117

COUNTY INFORMATION 464-3000
COMMISSION OFFICES 464-3377
Karen Seel 464-3278

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larry.ahern@myfloridahouse.gov
Governor Rick Scott
Rick.Scott@myflorida.com

FLORIDA UNITED STATES SENATORS:
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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

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day 2
Household Chemical Collection Largo 7
Bucs First Real Game 8
Grandparents Day 8
Patriot Day 11
Homeowners Happy Hour 12
Yom Kippur Begins 13
Schools Closed 13
Boat Club Meeting 19
Household Chemical Seminole High 21
Boat Club End Summer Island Party 21
Autumn Begins 22
Clearwater Offshore Racing 27-29

OCTOBER

City Occupational Licenses Due 1
MADD Beach Walk 4
Blessing of the Animals 5
Scavenger Hunt Homeowners 5
Homeowners Happy Hour 10
Blood Drive IRB Post Office 11
Oktoberfest 12
SPCA Pet Walk 12
Columbus Day 14

Stone Crab Season Starts 15
Clearwater Jazz 17-20
Boat Club Meeting 17
Coastal Clean Up 19
Country Jubilee / Heritage Village 26
Schools Closed 25
Komen 3 Day Walk for Cure 25-27
Stone Crab Festivals Clearwater 25-27
Pumpkin Carving City Hall 26
Haunted House City Hall 26
Johns Pass Seafood Festival 26-27
Loggerhead Nesting Season Ends 31

NOVEMBER

Property Tax Bills Mailed 1
Taste of IRB 2
Daylight Savings Time Ends 3
Homeowners Happy Hour 14
Rib Fest Downtown St Pete 8-10
Veterans Boat Parade Madeira Bch 9
Veteran's Day 10
Community Clean Up Week 11-13
America Recycles Day 15
Beaujolais Nouveau 21

NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER

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 Belleair Area, Clearwater Beach and Downtown St. Petersburg.

To advertise in the next issue, call us. Read this or our other issues online, at BeachNewsletters.com



GEORGE KING, continued

"I love Florida," King always said. "I don't know what it is about this place but writers and artists are drawn to the water. It's really casual. Beach artists here exhibit a 'Casual Culture'. I only put socks on if I am going to a wedding," he would joke.

The Kings started a travel club called The Windjammers, a group of art-interested people who like to cruise. They cruised on Windjammer ships where George held painting classes. The group would fill a third of the boat. Other Travelers on the boat fell in love with George's work and took the lessons, too. The Kings hosted about a dozen trips.

When George noticed the local Indian Rocks civic organizations did not seem to work together, he initiated the creation of the Executive Committee in 1983. In its monthly meetings, representatives of each organization could coordinate efforts and events. The Executive committee still meets at City Hall today.

In 1984, he created our "Christmas Card Lane", a series of Christmas cards painted on sheets of plywood that are still installed in Kolb Park every year. To create them, King convinced area businesses to sponsor the thirty cards at \$200 each. He researched Christmas themes from around the world and hand drew each one. The Art Center's member artists painted them.

1985's Hurricane Elena removed the west-facing wall of the King's beachfront cottage and knocked the house off its foundation. His living room was totally exposed to the wind and rain, but oddly enough, all the pictures in the room were untouched and still hung perfectly straight. "That was strange, since they never hung that way on a normal day," George would say with a laugh.

Sadly, at age 60, George had a major stroke. For a year, he could barely talk, was confined to a wheelchair and paralyzed on his right side – including his painting arm.

He slowly learned to talk and walk slightly, and to paint left-handed. Jo Anne became the director of the Art Center. Janis Swan helped teach and coordinate most of the art shows including one outdoors in Kolb Park which later became part of Beauty And The Beach.

With the help of many people, money was raised to expand the Beach Art Center, and on January 22, 1994, the George King Gallery was dedicated, recognizing him for all his contributions.

George continued to paint with his left hand. Jo Anne has many of his after-stroke paintings hanging in her Largo home. "They are very nice, but in a different style," says Jo Anne. "They are not landscapes, but more objects and people using more vivid colors."

King passed away in 1995 at the age of 67. He left an indelible mark on IRB after giving up a lucrative career to do what he loved - paint and teach. He is one of the few Pinellas artists listed in the well-respected "American Artist of the Renown". He once said, "People like to make statements with their art work, and I'd like mine to reflect Florida. Recognition will continue after I am gone because of my particular style, historic murals and beach life watercolors."

This month, the Gulf Beaches Art Center is celebrating its 35th Anniversary with an exhibit of Kings many works. George would be proud of his legacy.

When you cross the Walsingham Bridge or go to the Post Office and see those large wooden signs welcoming you, remember George King, "The King of Beach Art."



The small King mural in Indian Rocks Beach's City Hall



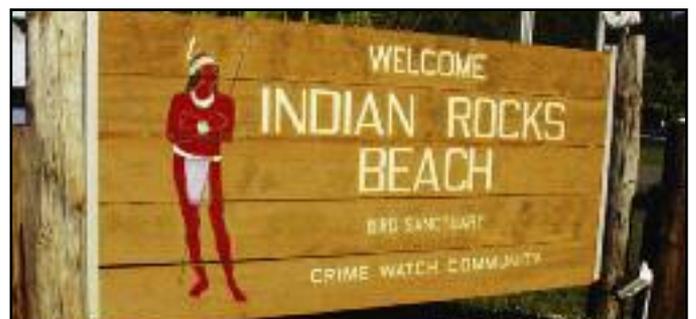
King's Painting - "Plein Air Class"



Painting - "Boat at Anchor"



One of the cards used on Christmas Card Lane



Sign at the entrance to the city, one of two city signs created jointly by King and Oppel.

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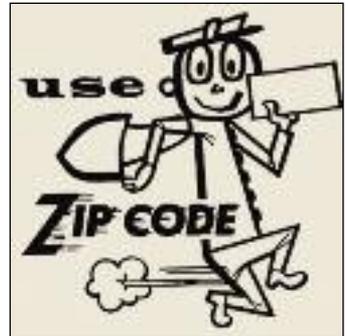
www.CafeDeParisBakery.com



Did You Know....

DO YOU LIVE IN 33785?

You would not even know what that means, if it was not for the US Postal Service inventing the five digit Zip Code, fifty years ago. Before July 1963, mail was mainly sorted by address. All they needed was your city and state. The volume of mail exploded after World War II. Hand sorting became impossible, so they created a system of small geographical areas and laid it over a map of the United States. Each box was given a code and the zip code was born. To help promote the change, the Postal Service introduced the cartoon character "Mr. Zip". By 1969, 83% of mail included zip codes. Today, if you do not include a zip code, your mail will be returned to you. Besides mail, businesses and agencies now sort their data based on zip codes. Banks and insurance companies use zip codes to analyze mortgage risk and set premiums. Real Estate firms use them to organize their listings. We even use them to decide who gets this newsletter.



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IRB SWIMMER MEDALS AT MASTER CHAMPIONSHIP

In June, the 2013 Pan-American Master's Championships were held in Sarasota with over 2,000 master's swimmers, divers and synchronized swimmers from South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Canada and the USA. It was the first time the biennial event has been hosted in the USA. Three local master swimmers competed in the open water competition at Siesta Key with over 1000 international swimmers participating. Pat Marzulli (IRB) swimming the 3K ocean race finished 5th in the men's 65-69 age group, Sharon Steinmann (Belleair) also in the 3K race finished 4th in the women's 55-59 age group, and Roma Allen (Belleair) swimming the 1K race finished 5th in the women's 65-69 age group.

SPCA DOG WALK The 23rd Annual 3K Pet Walk is scheduled for October 12 in downtown St. Petersburg's Vinoy Park. For information, call 499-0364 or visit www.SPCATampaBay.org.



RECORD NUMBER OF LOGGERHEADS SEA TURTLE NESTS

Sea Turtle Nesting Season, which began May 1 is experiencing a population explosion. People at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium say we have already passed last year's record number of 200 nests. No numbers have been release yet on

the how many turtles have hatched . Lets hope we don't get any big storms so that the remaining nests can hatch.

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



ANOTHER DAY ON THE WATER Close to 40 IRB Boat Club members, on 11 boats, gathered in August at Three Rooker Bar for a day of fun. Pictured here is some of the group, after a great lunch on Jerry and Linda Newton's boat, Blue Waters. Meetings resume this month at Jimmy Guana's, 6pm happy hour, 7pm meeting. The IRB Boat Club, part of the Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association, is free to join. Call Bob Griffin, 727-517-1997 for more information. See a list of Boat Club events, pictures and more at IRBhome.com. Upcoming events:

- September 19: Meeting at Jimmy Guana's
- September 21: End of Summer Island Party with live music

AWARD WINNING PROJECT The Keegan Clair Docks project receive the Outstanding Project Award for marinas and harbor by the States Organization for Boating Access. The docks, along with improvements to Keegan Clair Park and a much needed shore stabilization project, were part of a three year, \$550,000 city project. Part of the funding was obtained through a grant and the rest was available through the City's share of Penny for Pinellas money.

100,000 PEOPLE the Clearwater Police Department estimated 25,000 cars came to Clearwater Beach on July 4th alone. A typical weekend in July and August may have 100,000 people visiting the beach, many of which come down our way. That explains the backups on the bridges. Aren't we glad they are spending their time and money here though and not somewhere else.

NEW CALENDARS FOR SALE

Its time to buy 2014 calendars. The Plein Aire Cottage Artists, three local women, have been producing a calendar featuring their art and the cottages of Indian Rocks Beach fro the last eight years. They



may be purchased at the Historical Museum, Cookie Cutter Salon, Kookie Coconuts, Café de Paris, IRB City Library and the Welcome Center on Walsingham.

BUSINESS LICENSES NEED RENEWING Current City Business licenses expire September 30. Anyone who operates a business within the city of Indian Rocks Beach is required to have a business license. There were 356 registered businesses this past year. To obtain a license, visit City Hall or call Joan Johnstone, 595-2517.

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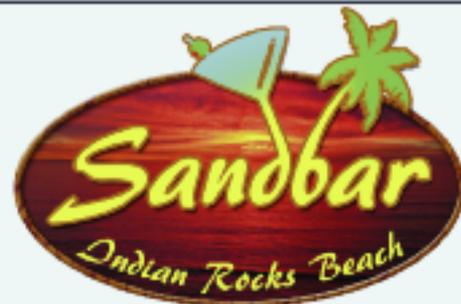
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\$389,000

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Real Estate News

33785'S BEST HOMEBUYERS Who are they?

By Gordon Obarski, Broker Associate
Doiron Realty on the Beach

The home or condo buyer in Indian Rocks Beach/Indian Shores comes from a fairly narrow segment of the population. Snobbishly speaking, only the top 20%, representing 90% of the country's wealth, have the financial means to own a primary residence or vacation home among us. So far in 2013, the median sale price of a single family home in 33785 was \$415,000 and a condo/townhome was \$300,000, pricing a significant portion of homebuyers out of the market before any other factors come into play.

In the broader Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater Metro, a homebuyer must earn \$31,309 just to afford a typical house -11% more than a year ago! (Renting a one bedroom apartment isn't much less-\$29,200.) The median household income of IRB/Indian Shores residents, is around \$68,000- -nearly 28% higher than in Pinellas County and over double that of the typical buyer. Unemployment here is negligible (2%) and three-quarters of the 57% of IRB residents still in the labor force hold higher-paying sales, managerial and professional positions.

While first-time homebuyers have fueled the housing recovery nationally, it's not a factor here. Aside from steep prices, most millennials in their peak earning years would rather not spend hours commuting to and from work through a gridlock of novice GPS junkies. Adding to their misery are restrictive lending conditions and competition from aggressive investors who plunk down cash, eliminating the "iffiness" of the bank's appraisal meeting the contract price. This trend is evident in condo sales under \$150,000 in 33785 since January 1. While doable financially for a first-timer, most in this price range were snatched up for investment or vacation.

Brisk tourism is the very best creator of higher demand for our real estate. It doesn't hurt that Florida reported its best visitor numbers ever for the first half of 2013. Each wave a vacationer watches crash on the shore drives real estate sales. Visit Florida, the state's tourism group, partnering with Google to photographically map Florida's beaches will provide a virtual look at the state's 825-mile coastline and go a long way to attract new residents in coming years. Remember: Today's visitors are tomorrow's "residents in training," so be nice.

Before formulating an effective marketing plan for any home/condo, one must define its best buyer...not only who they are but who they aren't...then determine how best to attract them. Some facts about our neighbors: The median age is 54.4; 53% are married, 21% are divorced and 17% have never been married; 38% are seasonal residents and 35% are renters; 64% of homes/condo were built from 1970 to 1990 and 64.5% have a mortgage; the average household size 1.8 and only 4% have children under 18; 46% have a college degree; 10% are foreign born, 20% were born in Florida and 67% were birthed in another state. Only 11% have lived here 33 years or longer and 34% moved to Indian Rocks or Indian Shores since 2005...making our communities very "welcoming" to newcomers...so bring 'em on!

Source: My Florida Regional MLS; 2010 U.S. Census

BEACH ART CENTER CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

EXHIBIT "Life of George King Through His Art" Artist, Instructor & Beach Art Center Founder

From September 6 to the 30th, the Beach Art Center of Indian Rocks Beach will feature the work of George King (1928-1996), founder of the Beach Art Center. Mr. King's vision was to improve, enhance and advance the public knowledge of fine visual art. The exhibit is also a celebration of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Art Center in 1978. The collection is a startling group of paintings and sculptures representing his career. A reception and tribute with Mr. King's family is Friday, September 13th from 6 – 8pm.



During his lifetime, George King was a well-known artist and instructor. During his career in advertising in New York and in Clearwater, Mr. King won regional and a National ADDY award for his limited edition of prints of "Old Clearwater." In 1978, he founded the Beach Art Center which grew under George and his wife, JoAnne's leadership. A disabling stroke in 1988 did not stop Mr. King. Teaching himself to paint with his left hand; he showed a remarkably different style in his work. Mr. King's work remains in many public and private collections.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jo Ann Marianne, has been named the new Executive Director, replacing David Shankweiler who previously resigned. Jo Ann lives in southwest St. Petersburg with her husband Eddy, a financial manager at the Don Cesar.



Jo Ann has a BA in Business Administration and Marketing and a certificate in Non-Profit Management. Most recently, she was second in command at a Newark, NJ non-profit with 140 employees providing social services to 8,000 community members. She resigned due to her husband's move to the Don Cesar.

She met representatives from the Beach Art Center while attending a job fair. Her experience seemed perfect, but also over qualified. "I was not looking for a job; I was looking for an opportunity," Jo Ann says. "The Art Center looks like the perfect place for me. I have a fantastic board," she continues, "and my timing could not be better with the 35th Anniversary and the George King Art Show.

"My mission is to expand awareness of our Center," Jo Ann says. "We want to attract new people to the organization and to interact more with the surrounding businesses. We need to find new sources of income and funding."

"We have a commitment to the King family to continue to grow the center. We just had the most successful summer ever," Jo Ann goes on. "We had 180 campers in 17 art and pottery classes. Kids really dig art." Adult classes are offered in watercolor, watermedia, oil, acrylic, pottery, drawing, photography, scrap booking, sewing and more. Exhibitions feature the work of members and local artists.

Success means people are enjoying art and what we do," she concludes. "I want to invite every IRB resident to check us out and consider joining our Art Center. For more information, visit BeachArtCenter.org or call 596-4331.



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DR. LARA SAYS

Q & A with Cesar A. Lara, M.D., Voted Best Weight Loss Practitioner in Tampa Bay



When one looks in the mirror, the images that the eyes perceive and are sent to the brain are metaphorically like drawings in need of coloring. The coloring is done by our psychosocial imprinting, derived by millions of messages that we have been given, and continue to receive, from society and our friends and family.

Q: When I look in the mirror, I am so unhappy with my body that I don't even feel like I can make a change. How can overcome this?

A: It is my wish that as you see yourself in the mirror, you limit your time looking for imperfections. We all can see our love handles, our belly, and the look we don't like in some of our clothes. Instead of using the full length mirror, look into a facial mirror, or even better, the rear-view mirror of your car (when the car is stopped). With a smaller mirror, you won't be distracted by other areas of body. Looking deep into your eyes, acknowledge to your inner spirit how beautiful, intelligent, strong, healthy and sexy you are. It is this awareness that will transform your self image not only for you but those around you too.

In the journey of change to "Be The Best You", it is imperative you acknowledge and become an active participant in your thought development and execution. With positive support, you will be able to focus your energies in learning how to eat nutritiously and empower your body as you shed pounds and learn to strengthen your body by keeping an active lifestyle. As you learn and participate in awakening your unique gifts and appreciating yourself, you will come to be humbled by the creative energy that will transform your dreams into reality.

When you look into the mirror, know you have the power to change what you see. Learn to live the life that you wish for and don't let others take control of your thoughts. Take the leap of faith and see beyond the body by looking into your eyes and seeing your own inner beauty.

DISCOVER THE ISLAND 2013

Visit Egmont Key State Park on Saturday, November 2nd or Sunday, November 3rd and join the Egmont Key Alliance "Discover the Island" fundraiser while you enjoy one of Tampa Bay's gems!

The 155-year-old lighthouse is still working to guide ships into Tampa Bay. Come see its majestic spiral staircase and participate in the many activities sure to enlighten all ages. See Civil War re-enactors, stroll the island on our self-guided walk with interpretive sites along the way, including nature, wildlife, military and history. There will be children's games, a silent auction and a viewing of the lighthouse.

Food, drinks and souvenirs will be available for purchase on the island. Shuttle ferries leave Fort DeSoto Park from 9 am - 2pm, with the last ferry returning at 4 pm.

Passes include the ferry: Adults \$18, Youth 6-11 \$5, and Children 5 and under are free. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more adults. Passes can be purchased online or at the ferry departure site on the beach between the Gulf Pier and Fort Museum.

Discover The Island is the 15th annual fundraiser for the Alliance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, Citizen Support Organization of Egmont Key State Park, dedicated to protecting, restoring, and preserving the island. To purchase passes or get more information please go to www.EgmontKey.info or call 813-361-7563.

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**FROM THE DESK OF SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI
BACK TO SCHOOL**



Reading, writing and arithmetic. It's the end of summer fun and the beginning of homework, new friends and "back to school" excitement. The 2013-2014 school year is underway and safety is an important lesson for both students and parents. In the coming months, Pinellas roadways will be full of school buses, car pools, kids riding bikes and walking to schools across the county. Safety is always a high priority to all of us here at the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.

Whether your child commutes to school via bus, bike or their own two feet, it's important to remind them to always be aware of their surroundings. Walking with your children or accompanying them to the bus stop is always best practice. If a child has to travel on their own, there are several tips they should learn to make their trip to and from school a safe one. Children should be taught never to take shortcuts. Remind children to stay in populated areas and avoid vacant buildings and lots. Having your child walk with a group of friends or a "buddy" is also helpful.

If your little ones have to travel before the sun rises, reflective tape or clothing is encouraged. They should

walk on the sidewalk and in a well-lighted area. If a sidewalk is not available, children should walk facing traffic and bicyclists should ride with the flow of traffic. School Crossing Guards will be on duty before and after school to help students cross busy roads safely. Children should be taught to follow the instructions of the crossing guards and that they are a "safe" person to go to if they are ever in need of assistance.

Drivers are reminded to take extra precautions throughout the school year. Drivers should be alert, as there will be more buses and cars on the roadways each morning and afternoon. Plan ahead and add a few extra minutes to your commute. Exercising patience near schools, crosswalks and bus stops is also encouraged. School zones will require reduced speeds and brief stops as the crossing guards assist younger students who negotiate busy streets while walking to school.

Florida law requires that drivers bring their vehicle to a full stop when approaching any school bus displaying a stop signal. Motorists must then remain stopped and are prohibited from passing the bus until the signal has been withdrawn. This law also applies to motorists driving in the opposite direction of a stopped school bus unless there is an unpaved space of at least five feet, a raised median, or some other type of physical barrier. By following the law and these simple suggestions you can help us to achieve our goal of "Leading the Way for a Safer Pinellas."

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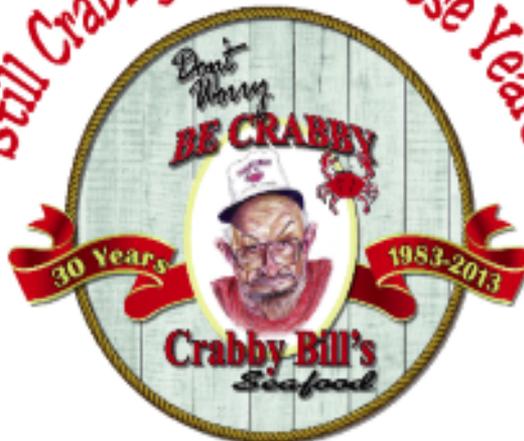
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Restaurant News....

NEW BAKERY Sweet IRB is a speciality bakery, coffee shop and café opening in Indian Rocks Beach. It will carry traditional bakery goods such as cakes, cookies, brownies along with serving breakfast and coffee. They plan a line of specialty products including their signature cheesecake balls. Additional services include catering, wholesale and mail order. Currently, they are servicing Indian Rocks Beach with their "Buns on the Beach" – Cinnamon Roll delivery service. Their new store front is projected to open mid-fall next to Slyce Pizza Bar. Check them out at www.sweetirb.com and on facebook at www.facebook.com/sweetirb.



CRABBY'S FUNDRAISER

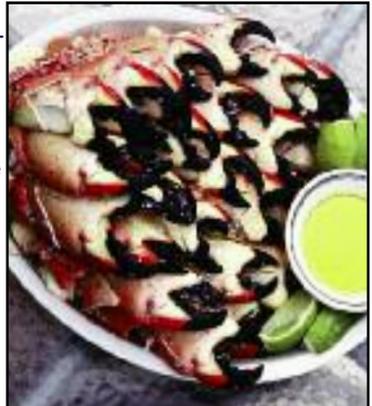
A Gulf Coast Bird Rescue (GCBR) Fish Fry & Raffle fundraiser was held at Crabby Bill's last month. The event yielded great support from the community! T-shirts are still available in Crabby's gift shop. Gulf Coast volunteer rescuers are providing critical rescue services in Pinellas County and so far, their trained volunteers have successfully rescued over 300 injured or sick wild birds. Show here are Matt & Maria Loder with Robin Vergara of the GCBR



NEW CAFE ON THE WAY? There are signs of life in the small restaurant, once known as Donnie's Coastal Café. People are working on it, but no announcement yet of what is to come.

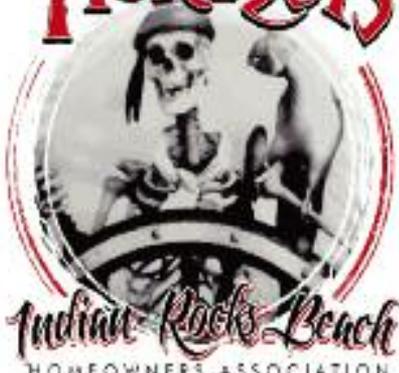
KEEGAN'S STONE

CRAB FESTIVAL Every year, when the stone crab season opens, Keegan's Seafood Grille has a Stone Crab Festival. There are no bands or tents, just lots of claws at their lowest prices of the year. This year Keegan's hopes to hold their three day event at the end of October, depending on supply.



ON THE ROCKS SOLD The restaurant was sold in May and the new owners are remodeling the building, including replacing a leaking roof. There will be a fishing related theme for the restaurant tentatively named Aqua Prime. They hope to open by the end of October.

IRB SCAVENGER HUNT 2013



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More Restaurant News....

TAPAS CLOSED - FOR SALE After years of owning it, Menahem Roth has decided to sell his indoor / outdoor restaurant at 321 Gulf Blvd next to the CVS store. The popular IRB restaurant closed in mid-August. Anyone interested in buying the business should call him directly at 647-2835.



CAR SHOW JD's restaurant will be holding their annual car show on Saturday, October 5th from 1 to 5pm. Judging will be at 4pm. Awards will be given for Best Late Model, Early Model, Super Hot Rod and Best of Show. If you have a car that you think is worth showing, call Kathy at 595-1320. A tent will be set up in the back with live music from 1-5pm.



FRENCH COOKING CLASSES Café Largo, a French cuisine restaurant located near Indian Rocks, is offering cooking classes every other Monday. Owner and Chef Dominique Christini

invites you into his kitchen on a night they are normally closed to the public, and teaches you what makes French cooking different. Classes begin at 6:30pm and cost \$37 per person. They also offer Wine Paring Dinners once a month. If you are interested, email CafeLargo@Verizon.net or call 596-6282 for upcoming dates. Visit CafeLargoRestaurant.com for info.

PJ'S BUYS NEW LOCATION The owners of PJ's Oyster Bar on Walsingham Rd bought the large Muncie's Marketing building, directly across the street. Bama Palmer, co-owner of PJ's, says their lease at 500 1st Street is up in about year and they jumped at a chance to buy their own location in Indian Rocks. Don't look for anything to happen soon, any changes are a year or two away.

DOGGY DINING Belleair Bluffs joined the ranks of other area communities and passed an ordinance allowing people to take their dogs to city restaurants. They are only allowed outside, and the business must apply for a special doggie dining permit. Many other Pinellas cities,



such as Dunedin, Clearwater, St Petersburg and Indian Rocks have already adopted similar ordinances since the County passed an ordinance approving it.

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DON JUAN PONCE DE LEON'S DISCOVERY OF FLORIDA 500 YEARS AGO

by Bob Griffin, Publisher

It seems, we have been taught most of lives of the importance of Christopher Columbus, who is credited with the discovery of America. The truth is, from 1490 to 1502 Christopher Columbus made four voyages to the New World, and never once set foot on the mainland of the U.S. He discovered the Bahama Islands, Cuba, Jamaica, other various islands, plus areas in Central and South America, but not North America.

I remember in school, we spent less than one week studying Ponce de Leon who is given credit for discovering our state. If it were not for the, "The Fountain of Youth" attraction in St Augustine, we might not even remember him. Occasionally you see a street or school named for him. Tallahassee's Leon County is named in his honor. Why is there not more?

Juan Ponce traveled with Columbus once, and came back to the New World several times with different explorers. In 1505, he helped settle part of Espanola and after several battles, he was awarded land and made Governor of San Juan Bautista, now known as Puerto Rico.

Juan Ponce, father of four, was both a sailor and a farmer. He was considered to be a good administrator, who was fair, honest and loyal, especially to the kings and queens that financed his voyages.

DISCOVERING FLORIDA...The First Time

On February 23, 1512, Juan Ponce received a contract from King Ferdinand to explore, settle and govern Bimini, an island thought to be somewhere north of Puerto Rico. 11 years after Columbus discovered the New World, Ponce de Leon set sail with a small squadron of three ships, carrying about 65 companions and soldiers.

On April 3rd, after a month and sea, he reached what he thought was a large island. He named it 'La Florida', the Flowered One. He was thought to be near Daytona Beach and The Palm Coast (but nowhere near St Augustine).

After touching land, he sailed south along our east coast, inadvertently discovering the Gulf Stream. This was perhaps the single most important Spanish discovery since Columbus's first voyage. It was later determined to be the best way to return to Europe. The presence and importance of the Gulf Stream would later make Havana, Cuba, the most prominent city under Spanish control.

Juan Ponce's voyage continued south past Miami Beach, west through the Florida Keys and north to barrier islands near Ft Myers in the Port Charlotte Harbor. On his return trip, they visited the Dry Tortugas, the Keys and the Bahamas before arriving back in Puerto Rico on October 19, 1513. He was gone for over seven months.

In 1514, Juan Ponce returned to Europe and received several honors, titles including Governor and Chief Justice of Bimini and Florida. But his second trip to Florida, to start a colony, would be delayed seven years.

DISCOVERING FLORIDA...The Second Time

Don Juan Ponce de Leon sailed from San Juan, Puerto Rico, for Florida again on February 20, 1521 with only two ships carrying about 100 people. Their primary purpose was to establish a colony, so the appropriate supplies including tools, seeds and animals were on board. Juan Ponce had to pay for the ships, supplies, wages, and other incidental expenses.

He wrote in a letter to the King, "I am returning to that Island [Florida], if it pleases the will of God, to settle [it],

being able to carry enough people to be able to do it and be served by the agricultural production of the land." He went on to write, "I intend to discover more of the coast of the said Island and to learn if it is connected with the land where Mexico is." He signed the letter "From Your Majesty's slave and servant who kisses His Very Royal feet and hands."



Historians and chroniclers of the time wrote very little about Ponce de Leon's second voyage, mainly because it produced absolutely nothing significant. The second voyage in fact, was a complete failure and ended in tragedy. None of his goals were achieved. There was no gold, no colony, no new maps or charts and no diary or log. The only information about the trip is found in three letters de Leon wrote before his death and by Cortez after one of the ships reached Mexico.

Not much is known about the ships, other than they were small, about 70 feet long and 20 feet wide. They drafted about seven feet so it would have been very crowded with 100 people, animals and the necessary implements to start a colony.

The exact site of his attempted settlement is unknown. He may have returned to Charlotte Harbor near Pine Island to establish his colony. One thing is for sure, he wanted a location on the mainland, not an island that would not be good for farming. He knew about farming.

It is just as likely he explored and considered the area around Sarasota Bay, Tampa Bay, or even as far north as Apalachee Bay. On some maps drawn a century later, Tampa Bay is labeled "The Bay of Juan Ponce". This has caused people to assume that his colony was somewhere on the shores of Tampa Bay.

Around the first of July, 1521, five months into his trip, there was a deadly confrontation with some Florida Indians, who may have been Caloosa Indians. If they were, the fight would likely be south of Tampa Bay. Juan Ponce had already had a terrible experience with the Caloosa during his first voyage believed to have been in Charlotte Harbor near Pine Island.

The Indians overwhelmed the Spanish. Many were killed, but the actual number is unknown. Juan Ponce was shot in the thigh with an arrow. His nephew, Hernan, was killed. Many of the future colonists died during the fight.

The ship carrying the wounded governor and crew returned to Havana, where many died from infections. Juan Ponce's nephew Hernan and others that died during the return trip were buried at sea. His other ship, with Cortés in charge and the few remaining healthy crew, crossed the Gulf of Mexico to explore Mexico in search of gold.

Juan Ponce died of his wound later that month in Cuba. Juan Ponce de Leon was 47 when he died. He was barely mentioned by the chroniclers of his time. He was first buried in Cuba, but in 1559, his remains were removed and taken to the San Juan Puerto Rico Cathedral where he lies today.



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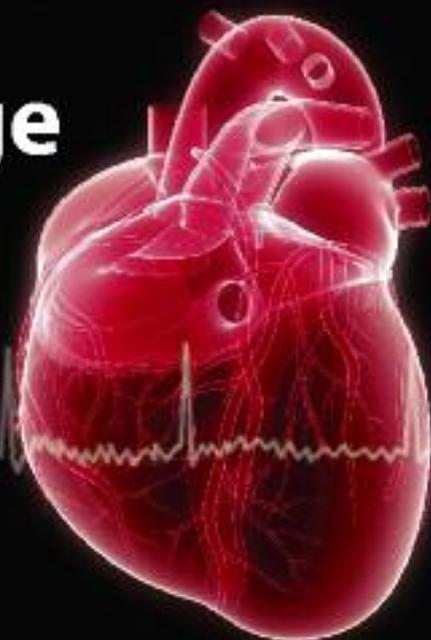
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ROTARY NEWS

"SERVICE ON THE ROCKS"

The Rotary club of Indian Rocks Beach celebrated the past year and the start of a new Rotary year at the annual club installation dinner. Rotary District Governor, Roger B. Proffer, Sr. was on hand to lead the ceremonial taking of oath by the 2013-2014 officers Andrea Gregor – President, Greg Morgan - Vice President, Lynn Johler - Treasurer, Paul Burns – Secretary, Louis Gregor – Sargent At Arms and the Board of Directors : Bill Atkinson, Claire English, Milt Johnson and David Kline.

The club held a very successful inaugural Art & Ale fundraiser in May. It was a wonderful evening of good food, craft beer, wine and the sale of small art works created by local and national artists. Proceeds benefitted the John J. Todia III Scholarship Fund that provides scholarships in Arts and Music to local college bound students.

You may have seen Rotarians at Work in the community completing repairs, cleaning and painting of the Rotary Centennial Pavilion in Chief Chic-A-Si Park, cleaning Gulf Blvd as part of the Adopt-A-Highway program and assisting with the Grand Reopening Celebration of the Indian Rocks Historical Museum.



BUY YOUR BIG GAME RAFFLE TICKETS NOW! The Club is raffling two tickets to Football's Biggest Game held at MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford, NJ on Feb 2nd 2014! The package includes two game day tickets, four nights lodging in the New York City and \$1000 cash. To purchase raffle tickets contact David Kline at 727-418-1673. The raffle drawing party will be December 8th at Beef O' Brady's, 13847, Walsingham Rd. Largo with the drawing at 5:30pm

If you would like to be part of a fun and friendly organization that serves the local community, the nation and the world, The Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach invites you to visit us at Jimmy Guana's in the Holiday Harbourside any Wednesday morning beginning at 7:15am. For information, call (727) 403-4060 or visit www.irbc.com. Help them make a difference. "Your first breakfast is on them!"

ATTENTION GHOSTS AND GOBLINS

The Annual City of Indian Rocks Beach Haunted House and Pumpkin Carving is October 26

PUMPKIN CARVING - Ages 4-12
Saturday October 26, 11 AM – 12:30 PM

COSTUME PARTY & HAUNTED HOUSE
Saturday, October 26, 7 PM

Ages Infant-12, Games – Costume Parade and Judging

HAUNTED HOUSE

When it's Dark

Sign up at City Hall or Indian Rocks Beach Library after October 14, 2010. For information, please call Joan 517-0404 or Randy 595-6889



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PINELLAS SUNCOAST FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT Prevent Kitchen Fires

It's time for Fire Prevention Week. From October 6-12 Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind local residents to **Prevent Kitchen Fires**. During this year's fire safety campaign, firefighters and safety advocates will be spreading the word about the dangers of kitchen fires - most of which result from unattended cooking - and teaching local residents how to prevent kitchen fires from starting in the first place.

According to the latest NFPA research, cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Two of every five home fires begin in the kitchen - more than any other place in the home. Cooking fires are also the leading cause of home fire-related injuries.

"Often when we're called to a fire that started in the kitchen, the residents tell us that they only left the kitchen for a few minutes," said Fire Chief Robert Polk. "Sadly, that's all it takes for a dangerous fire to start. We hope that Fire Prevention Week will help us reach folks in the community before they've suffered a damaging lesson."

Among the safety tips that firefighters and safety advocates will be emphasizing:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food.
- If you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- When you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you.
- If you have young children, use the stove's back burners whenever possible. Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the stove.
- When you cook, wear clothing with tight-fitting sleeves.
- Keep potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper and plastic bags, towels, and anything else that can burn, away from your stovetop.
- Clean up food and grease from burners and stovetops.

Fire Prevention Week is actively supported by fire departments across the country. Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. "While we recognize Fire Prevention Week, we believe fire safety should be practiced every day of the year," said Chief Polk.

WALK LIKE MADD

Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) will host the 3rd Annual Pinellas Walk Like MADD® 5K & MADD Dash 5K Run on Indian Rocks Beach October 4th. Sponsored by Bright House Networks & Carey & Leisure Law Firm, festivities are from 5 to 9pm. The Walk/Run starts at 6:30pm and will raise funds and rally support for MADD's educational programs and victim services .

All proceeds remain in Pinellas/Pasco Counties to further MADD's lifesaving mission by supporting and educating local families and youth right here.

There are three ways to participate:

- 1) Register to walk as an individual or form a team.
- 2) If you are unable to attend sign up online and raise money as a Virtual Walker.
- 3) Give a one-time donation to the Walk Like MADD.

Visit www.walklikemadd.org/pinellas to register, donate, volunteer or to get more information.

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Business News....

NEW OWNER

After 29 years in Indian Rocks, Beach Tropicals owner Susan pulled up roots and moved to Connecticut. Mike Schoen, bought the plant and orchid business, located across from the IRB Fire Station, and



plans to continue the same services. He is remodeling the entire place with plans to reopen for business by October. Mike is also in the landscaping business.

LARGO MEDICAL CENTER WINS AWARD

The hospital is one of only two hospitals in Pinellas County to receive the American Heart Association's 2013 Mission: Lifeline Silver Receiving Quality Achievement Award. The award recognizes the hospital's commitment and success in implementing an exceptional standard of care for heart attack patients in our community. They are part of a system that makes sure STEMI patients get the right care they need, as quickly as possible. Learn more about them at www.LargoMedical.com

SOLD The property that once was a fish market, across Gulf Blvd. from Lighthouse Donuts, has been sold. There is a rumor that it may become a residential rental unit. Look for construction activity to start soon.

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES Bay Life Store, opening next to Century 21 Beggins, is still under construction. They were red-tagged in June and all work stopped until they could correct the problem, and it appears work has begun, again.

GONE The Shell Station at the corner of Walsingham Rd. and Gulf Blvd has closed and is out of business.

STILL COMING SOON The laundry next to USA Grocers has not opened yet, they had to go back to the drawing board and hire an architect. The city is reviewing those plans, now. Nazih, owner of USA Grocery, is also the owner of the laundromat the owner.

ON THE MOVE En Grade Catering has moved. They are no longer at 400 Indian Rocks Road, but are still offering catering services out of a special commercial kitchen, until they can find a new store front in the Belleair area. You can still call them at 489-9297

HELPING HANDS 25 Volunteers from local Merrill Lynch and Bank of America offices joined forces to landscape a house being built through Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County and sponsored by Bank of America. During the morning, they laid 7 pallets of sod, planted 100 plants, and spread 20 bags of mulch.

MORE NEWS If you have news or suggestions appropriate for this newsletter, Let us know. Our email is Bob@GriffinDirectories.com or you can call 517-1997.

GEORGE KING AS WE REMEMBER HIM

"I knew George very well; he was a lovely man. Everyone liked George because he was fun, liked everyone and loved his community and his art. He painted the large murals in City Hall and in the Historical Museum. We see his work every Holiday season in 'Christmas Card Lane' put up in Kolb Park.

Jo Anne, his wife, has always been committed to carrying on her husband's dream. On the 35th anniversary of the Beach Art Center, I would like to congratulate them both."
Betsy Schoepf, Founding member and Former Beach Art Center Director

"George was our neighbor across Beach Trail. He was a happy go lucky person. He loved everyone and he loved his bourbon, too. To raise money to build an addition to the building, we hosted several fundraisers at our new house in Largo. The first was a Hawaiian Luau. 120 people showed up, raising about \$2,000. It was so successful we did another one on Halloween and it made another \$2000. We even had a Bar-B-Q at the Art Center. Once a month, there was a potluck dinner and everyone brought a dish. Neighbor Bob Gray, died willing some stock to the center that was worth about \$10,000. So we named the first gallery after Bob." **Jack & Janis Swan, former residents, founding Members Beach Art Center**

"I first met George King in September of 1978, when I just moved to Indian Rocks Beach. I saw a man painting a mural on the side of the Western Plaza. I pulled over and found out he was an IRB resident and director of the Beach Art Center. I was so impressed, I told my wife we had moved to the perfect place.

George and I became good friends. He was always willing to help with any charity or organization. I think one of the best scenes he painted hangs on the back wall of the City Hall. It is a painting of "Nuns from Tampa" dancing on the beach, wearing their habits. George also did a painting at a beach party of all the "characters" of Indian Rocks Beach. Some old timers can still recognize many of the people in that painting. Even after George had a stroke, he was able to donate time to the community. When he passed away, Indian Rocks Beach lost a great artist and a great friend." **Bob DiNicola, former Mayor of IRB (1994-2005)**

FORT FOR SALE: \$17,500,000

The historic waterfront estate for sale at 802 Druid Road South is the site of the original Fort Harrison. Called "Century Oaks", it underwent extensive renovations when race car driver Hugh D. Fuller, purchased it.



The estate built, built in 1915 by New York developer Dean Alvord, includes a 23,159 square feet main house with 10 bedrooms, 15 full baths and 9 half-baths, two pools, a tennis court, a basketball court, a second house to the north, a carriage house, and a boat house.

The property is on 3.45 acres, behind a large concrete wall on Druid Road, with live oaks dating back 300 years. Call Smith and Associates at 282-1788 for information.



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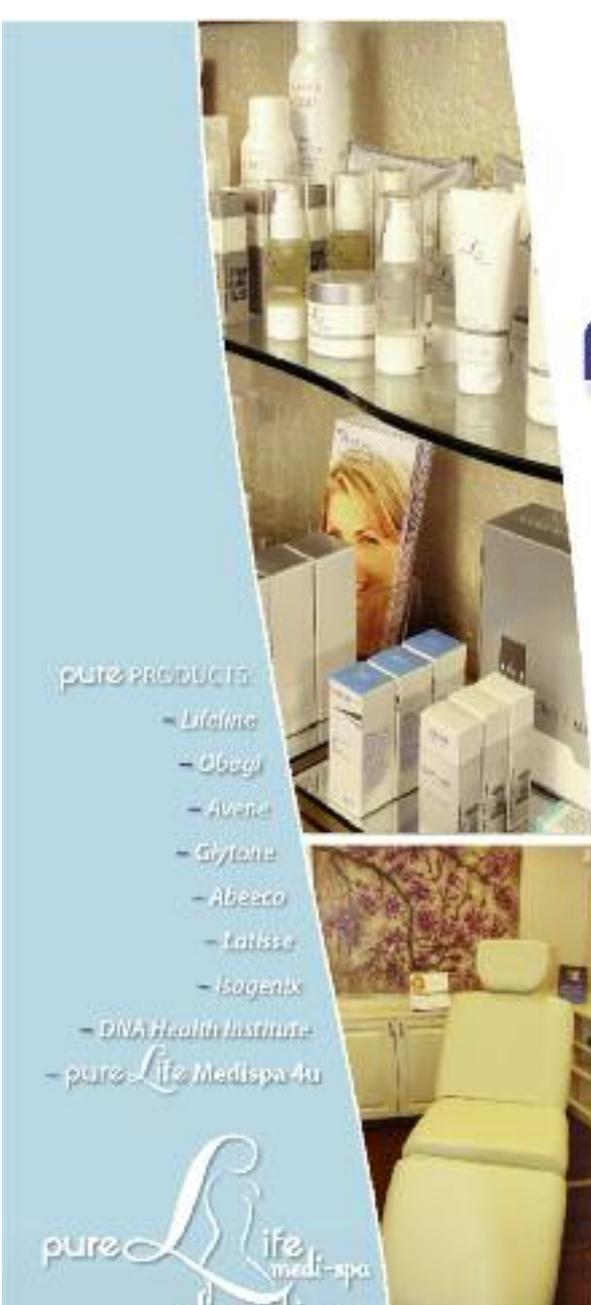
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G. Joseph Fitzgerald Jr., DO, who also goes by Doc Fitz to his patients and friends, has been practicing Family Practice medicine in Largo/Belleair for almost 20 years and is double board certified. In addition to his Family Practice office, he is also on staff at Largo Medical Center, and is the director of Wright's Nursing Home & Oak Manor Nursing Home. He is the US patent holder for a ground breaking invention that will greatly impact the diagnosis of colon cancer. He spent seven years as the physician of the PGA tour. He is the official local physician for Warner Bros. films including Dolphin Tale, Magic Mike, & Spring Breakers. He volunteers with the Special Olympics and multiple local charity events. Doc Fitz and his medical practitioners treat all their patients like family and cannot wait to introduce everyone to pureLife Medspa, his new aesthetic and wellness facility.



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The Magic Wand For The Ultimate Skin Makeover

By Stephanie Schlageter, Radiance Medspa

You live in Florida, which almost guarantees you love sun. Unfortunately, years of outdoor fun can leave even the most diligent sunscreen wearer with discoloration, fine wrinkles and poor skin texture. Luckily, there is a solution worthy of a Fairy Godmother. With a wave of a nearly-magic wand, brown spots, fine lines and scars can disappear. That magic wand is Fraxel Max. It's the latest advancement to Fraxel, the in-office procedure that, for the past decade, has left hundreds of thousands with improved skin pigment and texture, reduced fine lines and wrinkles, and relief from other conditions that can spoil an enchanted evening.

Fraxel Max is a non-invasive laser treatment that penetrates the top layers of the skin to thermally damage them and stimulate new collagen production. Fraxel Max resurfaces the skin, and lets your own natural healing process slough off, smooth away and eliminate brown and red spots, acne scars and wrinkles. It even tightens skin at the same time. The Fraxel Max treatment literally stimulates the body to create new, healthier skin.

Fraxel when performed by itself offers significant results. When paired with other non-surgical technologies at the same time, the treatment is referred to Fraxel Max and it can provide a life-changing outcome. This advanced skin resurfacing protocol produces dramatic results in just four visits, approximately one month apart. Since sun avoidance is necessary before and after each of the treatments, Fall is the perfect season to start resurfacing the skin.

Just as magic should be, Fraxel Max is nearly painless. Prior, a topical numbing cream is applied to the skin, and during treatment, patients describe a prickly, heat sensation. Following treatment, patients experience mild swelling and redness similar to a sunburn, and in 2-3 days, fresh, new skin begins to appear. There is no downtime because makeup can be applied right away.

If you are considering Fraxel Max, look for a Fairy Godmother you trust. In Florida, only Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Medical Doctors are permitted to perform Cosmetic Laser Treatments like Fraxel Max. Find a trained, experienced professional who will not only wave the magic Fraxel wand, but also suggest a comprehensive treatment plan to have you looking and feeling like a princess.

For information about Fraxel Max, contact Radiance Medspa at 727-518-7100 or visit radiancemedspa.com. Radiance Medspa is in its 8th year at 2894 West Bay Drive in Belleair Bluffs.

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HISTORICAL MUSEUM NEWS – MAC PERRY TO SPEAK

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 19, at 12 Noon when the historical society will hold its fall potluck luncheon. Noted author and Indian researcher Mac Perry, always a favorite speaker at the museum, will be giving his latest presentation on the archaeological dig in his front yard. Mac and his wife discovered some years ago that their house in Bayshore Homes was built on an Indian midden.

You need not be a member to participate! Just bring a dish to share, and plan to enjoy traditional potluck food and good fellowship at the museum.

The newly renovated museum has been getting rave reviews! The exhibits feature "big shot" photos that bring

history to life. See landmarks from the past, including the old swing bridge, the Big Indian Rocks Fishing Pier, and Tiki Gardens. A timeline with a beach scene backdrop is eye-catching and informative. Visit the museum Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm, for a fun and interesting experience.



The gift shop has beautiful Plein Aire Cottage Artists paintings for sale, as well as their new calendar for 2014. A selection of local history books includes Indian Rocks As It Was, and Tampa Bay's Gulf Beaches: The Fabulous 1950s and 1960s.

FATHER BOB RETIRES

After hundreds of sermons and unknown number of weddings and funerals, Father Bob Wagenseil has decided to retire. It is not because of his age, it is just time for the parish to transition to different leadership and for him to meet new challenges.

Father Bob (59) has been a member of the Episcopal Church priesthood for 33 years. 18 of which have been at the Indian Rocks Beach parish. He started September 14, 1995 and will leave September 15, 2013.

Father Bob is from Long Island. Leaving New York was not an easy decision, but through prayer and encouragement from his wife PT, they shipped their belongings to a Largo warehouse and headed south on their 40 foot sailboat. They took their time, visiting friends along the way. Three months later, they docked in Indian Rocks Beach.

They tried to live on their sailboat behind the Holiday Inn, but it proved to be impractical. They needed a house and they found one in Largo. They sold the sailboat.

"This is a wonderful Parish," Bob says. "We always look to the future and to service in the community. We worship the God that feeds and inspires us, and all in Christ's name."

Father Bob does more than just preach from the pulpit. He is very proud of the many church programs started since his arrival. The Beach Food Pantry began in 2001. It reaches beyond Indian Rocks, serving many families. When it began, it served about 100 families. Today, it has over 300. "It's not going out of business, unfortunately," says Father Bob. "The Food Pantry brings the Eucharist to life," he adds.

Father Bob has been the Chaplain of the Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue since 1995, and served several years as a Volunteer Fireman. "After the September 11th disaster happened, I was deployed to New York to work with the local Critical Incident Stress Management team.

Bob helped start Calvary's Learning and Computer Center, for people wanting to learn to use computers, including word processing, email and money tracking programs. He teaches some of the sessions.

The Blessing of the Animals is a popular local October event Bob started in 1995. Part of the "Feast of St Francis of Assisi", it is normally held on the first Saturday in October. "It brings a lot of people to the church who are not members. We coordinate with the PSF&RD, Sheriff's Dept., SPCA and the other local agencies. Hopefully it will continue under the new rector".

The Youth Sailing Program is probably the thing Father Bob is most proud of. "It was a dream I had when I first arrived

and saw this beautiful church at the end of this canal. I wanted to find a use for this waterfront site," says Wagenseil.

"I approached Chief Leahy of the PSF&RD about how the department could better serve the community, especially the children. Together we came up with

the idea of a Youth Sailing Program. By 2001, through the generosity of the Fire Department, Church, business leaders and the local Rotary Club, the program was founded. We bought eight dinghies and completed construction of a dock. Within two weeks, we had ten kids signed up. Now, the year around program serves about 75 local campers with 20 teenage assistants and volunteers." The program includes adult sailing classes, too.

So what is Father Bob going to do now? "My new job is running the Sailing Program," he says with a smile. "We have taken steps to make it permanent. It has been incorporated as The Indian Rocks Family Sailing Association, Inc, a non-profit 501-C3. It will operate all year, God willing."

"The past 18 years have been amazing. We have had many wonderful experiences, met many great friends, and made many fantastic memories," says PT. "It has been wonderful to be part of the Calvary community as well as Indian Rocks Beach. Thankfully, we will be staying in the area for the foreseeable future and hope to stay involved in all the great things yet to come."

Bob and Pat, plan to continue to live in their Largo home. Pat loves teaching and plans to continue teaching at St. Patrick's in Largo. Father Bob's final Eucharist as Rector of Calvary Episcopal Church is scheduled for Sunday, September 15th at 9am.



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INDIAN ROCKS BEACH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWS



2013 HAPPY HOURS

Homeowners Happy Hours continue at the following restaurants:

Oct. 10: Marlin Darlin Sept. 12: Jimmy Guana's These FREE Happy Hours are 6 - 7:30 pm the second Thursday of the month. Visit IRBhome.com for info.

SCAVENGER HUNT The Homeowners Association is hosting their First Scavenger Hunt Bar Crawl, sponsored by Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty, October 5th.



Players register separately, but should work as part of a team. Each team will receive a list of clues in Kolb Park across from City Hall from 11am to 1pm that day. The object is to solve as many as you can before 7pm. For each correct answer, your team receives a point. The more stops you make, the more points you can get. The teams with the most correct answers wins cash prizes - first place is \$300! Participants will receive a wristband, which is needed to participate and to receive the available food & drink specials, and a Homeowners Koozie.

We have a number of IRB locations for you to visit during the day, including The Red Lion Pub, Sandbar, P.J.'s Oyster Bar, Jimmy Guana's, Cuso's Cantina, Keegan's Seafood Grill, Slyce Pizza Bar, JD's Restaurant and Lounge, Century 21 Beggins, Pajanos Pizza, Tropical Ice Cream, Jake's Cantina, Island Surf Shop, Indian Rocks Beach's Nature Preserve, Beach Welcome Center, Pinky's Ice Cream, Keegan Clair Park and RAD Bikes. The awards party will be at Crabby Bill's Loading Dock beginning at 7pm.

Event T-shirts in men's and women's sizes are available for \$12 each. The cost to participate is \$5 per person in advance/\$17 with a t-shirt or \$10 the day of the event/\$25 with a shirt, if any are still available. Advance shirt sales end Sunday, September 28th.

Register online or download registration forms at www.IRBhome.com. Early registration with no shirt closes Thursday, October 3rd.

TASTE OF IRB Plans are underway for another wonderful evening, sponsored by Century21 Beggins, November 2nd from 4 to 10pm in Chic-a-Si Park. Now in its seventh year, this annual food event has become the kick-off to IRB's busy holiday season.



Once again, more than 20 local restaurants will be offering their specialties while Espree deKor entertains the crowd with their popular music, sponsored by Window World. Second Street will be close allowing more room.

The Homeowners will be serving beer, sponsored by Crabby Bill's and wine sponsored by Florida's Best Quote Insurance. The popular raffle for a chance to win over \$600 in participating restaurant gift certificates returns.

Bring beach chairs or blankets and spend the evening listening to great music while you sample the best fare Indian Rocks has to offer, with your friends and neighbors.

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THE BUSY TIME

by Commission Chair Karen Williams Seel

Since the start of hurricane season back on June 1, we have seen four storms form. Andrea, an early-season storm, brought some rainy weather and weak tornadoes to the area. Barry sputtered through the southern Caribbean before making landfall in Mexico. Chantal tracked through the tropical Atlantic and Caribbean Sea before losing strength in the mountains of Cuba. Dorian started out strong, then struggled to hold together on a trans-Atlantic voyage before petering out just east of Florida.

This early season lull might lead some to believe that this year's forecast for an above-average season is not going to pan out. That might prove to be a grave mistake. Historically, the Atlantic Hurricane Season's activity plays out exactly as we have seen it so far. Storms that form in June and July don't have the right conditions to grow into monsters. Once the calendar flips to August, conditions become a lot more favorable for storms to form and gain power from the bathwater warm tropical waters. Major systems, such as 2005's Hurricane Katrina, 2004's Hurricane Charley and 1992's Hurricane Andrew have been spawned during August.

We also have the months of September and October coming up, when the atmospheric conditions are ripe and hurricanes can become powerful. On Florida's west coast, forecasters are most concerned with storms forming in the Caribbean or Gulf of Mexico, being caught up in the first cold fronts of the season, and turning right into the Tampa Bay area.



That's why it's as important as ever to have a plan and be ready as the heart of the season approaches. In addition to the critical planning of knowing your evacuation zone and having your nonperishable food supplies, here are some other tips to consider:

Check the cooler: New picnic coolers can help keep perishable items cold for a longer period thanks to improved insulation. Residents should evaluate the age and insulation of their coolers, as well as their size. Smaller coolers are easy to tote to the beach, but can they hold a substantial amount of ice and food should power go out?

The furniture shuffle: One of the best ways to help prevent damage outdoors is to bring in lawn furniture, grills, bird baths and other outdoor furniture. Residents should take the time to review what items need to be brought into a protected area, and exactly where that will be. This can save a tremendous amount of time during the stressful approach of a hurricane.

Keep the charge: Smart phones, tablet computers and other electronics can provide vital links to friends and relatives both before and after a storm. Chargers that work on regular power, a car charger and by other means are vital to keep the batteries juiced up. Simple changes such as adjusting screen brightness, deleting unnecessary applications and using battery saving applications can help extend juice for when you need it most.

For more information on hurricane preparedness, call Emergency Management at (727) 464-3800 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/emergency and join Pinellas County Emergency Management on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pinellasem

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MEET THE NEW CITY MANAGER

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Indian Rocks Beach has a new City Manager. Brently Gregg Mims is his name, but everyone calls him Gregg.

Mims was hired in a nationwide search when Chuck Coward, city manager for the last five years retired in May. Mims was selected from a list of nearly 60 candidates. The top seven interviewed for the position and Mims was the unanimous choice of the City Commissioners.



Greg (52) and his wife Michelle, have three grown children. They relocated from Fairhope, Alabama, a city on the coast near Gulf Shores to Indian Rocks. They decided to rent on Bay Drive their first year until they get a better feel for the city.

In Fairhope, Greg was City Administrator and served a mayor. Fairhope is a city of 17,000, with 300 city employees and a budget of \$50 million, notably larger than ours. Michelle was an accounting manager for the nearby City of Gulf Shores. She is currently looking for similar work here.

"Regardless of the size, management is management," says Mims. "The only noticeable difference is Fairport had its own police, and here we contract with the Sheriff. We also had a volunteer fire department."

"There are many similarities in the two cities. Both are coastal communities with many of the same issues," Gregg explains. "You need to be responsive. You are dealing with limited funds. You are always balancing revenues and expenses. The objective is to save the taxpayers' money."

"During the first six months, I hope to get out and visit every business and organization in town. I want to get to know them and their problems. I want to build my own relationships," Gregg continues.

"I have never seen a city like this," Mims says. "This small town has so many groups and organizations that actually do things to help its own community. I can not believe all the activities that go on here."

Gregg Mims says he plan to have an open door policy and any citizen is welcome to contact him on any subject. "We hope to live here a long time," he adds.

BROWNS BACKERS NEWEST CHAPTER HERE IN IRB

The Browns Backers Worldwide (BBW) is considered to be one of the largest organized Fan Clubs in professional sports! The organization brings Cleveland Browns Fans together not only to support the Cleveland Browns, but to also to work with charities chosen by the local chapters. Currently, there are over 360 clubs in 10 different countries, with one of the newest sanctioned chapters in Indian Rocks Beach. The president of the club is Bill Dotson and the official viewing site for all Browns NFL regular season games is Slyce Pizza Bar. For more information, visit www.BrownsBackersIRB.com, facebook at www.facebook.com/bbibrb or on twitter @BrownsBackerIRB

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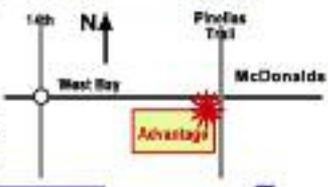
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GOODYEAR

LET'S COOK SOME FRESH CATCH OF THE DAY

By Chef Dawn Bause, Sand Key resident and Owner of Cooking with Dawn Tours Tastings



One of the best things about living in Florida is being able to get my hands on ~ and, cook up fresh fish!

Besides being my favorite protein, it's a super food packed with omega-3 fatty acids ~ great for our heart and brain health. And, it's simple to cook, easy to digest, and so delicious.

Unfortunately, I still hear people say they don't like to cook fish at home. Its stinky or stinks up the house. That is only true if you're cooking stinky fish that isn't fresh. Fresh fish, if it is really fresh, does not smell fishy.

If the fish I am cooking is cut into filets, I will cook them the "Italian way" which is very simply in a sauté pan with extra virgin olive oil over medium heat. I dry the fish with paper towels before putting it into the pan with oil. Let the fish brown on one side and then carefully turn only once. Add some fresh herbs, (rosemary or thyme or oregano) sprinkle with coarse sea salt and fresh cracked pepper. If you like lemon on your fish, don't add it until after you remove it from the pan (unless you're making a lemon, caper sauce with white wine and garlic). Sometimes I'll add some sliced cherry tomatoes and a splash of dry white wine after turning the fish and let it cook just another couple minutes. I find the most common mistake people make when cooking fish is they overcook it.

If I'm cooking thicker fish steaks I like to grill them, and a whole fish is ideal for baking, all dressed with my beloved extra virgin olive oil. By the way, if you happen to be looking for a great imported, unfiltered Italian Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Plateroti's Italian Market on Gulf to Bay in Clearwater has an amazing one at a great value. Or, Costco who has their own olive groves, has a really nice one from Tuscany in a glass bottle that I always have on hand.

The thing to remember about extra virgin olive oil is that it has a shelf life of about 18 months. I always make sure there is a harvest date or expiration date on the bottle or I won't buy it.

I'm off to Italy this month for my semi-annual "food and wine tour". Hope to catch up with you again soon.

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INSURANCE - MORE OPTIONS ON THE BEACH

By Phil Wrobel, Florida Best Quote

When it comes to insurance on the barrier islands, did you know you probably have a choice besides Citizens Insurance for your home/condo insurance? A+ companies are writing complete HO3 for single family homes and HO6 condominium policies and I work with them. As another option, you can get an x-wind policy with a standard A+ insurance company and a wind policy with Citizens. The advantages are:

- 1) You will be able to have liability limits back up to \$300,000, (Citizens has dropped it to \$100,000)
- 2) You will get increased contents coverage back to 50% (Citizens dropped it to 25%)

3) You will be getting the bulk of your coverage with an A+ rated standard carrier

4) Last but not least, normally this saves you approximately 20 -25% off your current premium!

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ACTION 2000 NEWS



Thanks to very spirited volunteers Action 2000, has completed many projects to date with monies raised primarily from our annual event, Oktoberfest. Most recently completed is the landscape project at 10th Ave at the Nature Preserve.



Everyone including residents and business owners are invited and welcome to attend our monthly meetings held the second Monday of the month, 6:30PM at the Beach Art Center.

ACTION 2000 RECENTLY ELECTED NEW BOARDS MEMBERS.

Active members who have served and want to take a more active roll can also be elected to our Board of Directors. We are extremely fortunate to have four new Board Members who have jumped in and are helping our organization. We thank them for their community service.



Bill & Melissa Dotson



Edward & Julie Hoofnagle

OKTOBERFEST NEWS!! INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Save the date:
Saturday October 12th 11am to 7pm

Great fun for everyone with our favorite DJ Mark Ralston, and live music with De Leon entertainment, Food Vendors, Arts and Crafts, and of course cold beer available at our beer wagon (please bring I.D.. for alcoholic consumption) sponsored by Crabby Bill's.



Don't miss the Silent auction featuring great items from 11am to 5 pm!

Kinderfest for the children will be open 11am to 2pm FREE FREE FREE including Bounce House and slides, face painting, Waki the clown and more. Many thanks to our Kinderfest sponsor: Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty

Adult contests begin at 3pm. Donations for 50/50 will be available with a drawing at 7pm. No need to be present to win!



Volunteers for Oktoberfest are needed, call Anne Todia 727-9140, visit our website oktoberfestonthebeach.com or visit us on Facebook

Eric Meyer, President www.IRAction2000.com



STEVE WESTPHAL CELEBRATES 15 YEARS OF OWNING THE PUB

They fired him, so he bought the place. At least, that is the story Steve Westphal likes to tell.

When he was only 14, Westphal's first job was at The Pub in Indian Shores, washing dishes. That was in 1972. After he moved up to being kitchen help, he cut himself with a knife and they fired him.

Steve graduated from Seminole High School and went to work at the now closed Wine Cellar in Redington Beach. He stayed 12 years. When he was 29, he purchased The Sports Bar located in Bay Pines. Then, when he was 40, Steve bought The Pub from Barry and Shirley Dobson on Labor Day, 1998 - 15 years ago.

The Pub Restaurant itself dates back to pre-WWII days. Its first life was as Beach Park, a small drive-in that also had two gas pumps outside.

In 1942, Leo and Gertrude Smitz converted the waterfront café into 'The Hofbrauhaus', serving German cuisine, naturally. It was also their home. The Smitzs enlarged and remodeled their restaurant/home in 1950.

In 1955, it was Harry Kennedy's turn to own it. He renamed it The Pub and added the outside bar and deck on the water. He was Italian, so he served lots of Italian food including pizza, ravioli and pasta. He owned it for about 15 years, until he opened The Captain's Galley in Madeira Beach, which is now waterfront townhomes.

Barry and Shirley Dobson bought The Pub from Harry in 1970. Barry expanded the outside areas creating the bar and deck on the north side. He also added 18 boat slips on the Intracoastal and the popular piano bar inside. They had jazz on Sunday afternoons. Of course, like everyone before them, they changed the menu, adding lots of fried seafood.

"They had fried oysters, grouper, meatloaf, Shepard's pie and baked chicken," says Cindy Engel, long time employee. "Barry had a game room in the back with a pool table, and electronic games, such as PacMan." Cindy has worked at The Pub for 39 years, first with the Dobsons and now with Westphal.

Barry died in 1996, but Shirley continued to run The Pub. Before Barry died, Steve had talked to him about buying The Pub, so in 1998, when Shirley decided to sell, she contacted Steve to see if he was still interested. Steve bought The Pub from his old employer, and the rest is history.

Steve took possession in 1998, 15 years ago this month, and has made lots of changes.

At first, Steve changed the name to Happy Harry's, in respect for a prior owner. The locals hated the name and presented a petition asking Steve to change it back. It worked, because he did.

The menu was modified to add fresh seafood and steaks. Gulf shrimp, lobster and stone crabs (in season) are included. The locals did not mind those changes.

Steve remodeled the inside, and added the second deck on the north side, 22 floating docks and expanded parking. There are now 50 docks on their waterfront. They have been voted "The Best Place to Dock and Dine". "I love boating. I have three of them," Steve says. The Pub employs between 65 to 80 people, depending on the season, four of which worked for the Dobson's - Cindy, John, Theresa and Billy.

To celebrate his 15 years, Steve is adding more - a large Tiki Bar on the far north deck, and tweaking the menu to include more frozen drinks and draft beers. He is expanding the inside bar and adding a full sized gift shop. He plans more outside music.

Steve did not stop with owning The Pub. Today he owns four successful restaurants in downtown St Petersburg: 400 Beach Seafood & Tap House, Parkshore Grill, The Hangar at Albert Whitted Airport and the Café inside the Dali Museum. He is currently a partner in a future gulf front restaurant in Madeira Beach to be called Gulf Grill now under construction.

"I wanted to take what I learned in my four downtown restaurants and bring that to the beaches," Steve said. "I want to improve The Pub even more but still remain beach casual.

In May of this year, Steve was recognized as Tourism Person of the Year, by the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce.

"I think it is amazing that The Pub has been a beach favorite for 58 years now," says Steve. "I hope to keep it open until the day I die..."

The Pub is located at 20025 Gulf Boulevard, in Indian Shores. Visit www.ThePubWaterfrontRestaurant.com for more information.

COTI BEGINS 10TH YEAR OF EDUCATION

Back in 2004, Church of the Isles started one of their missions. Their idea was to bring Christian values into a loving school age environment. After a lot of hard work and dedication, COTI Community Christian School was born. A loving, caring preschool was created to care for children from the ages of 2 years through Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten. Throughout the early years, it also offered an afterschool program that brought together community children from local elementary schools.

As the years have passed, COTI has grown and now educates Elementary school children in addition to preschool. The vision of the project was to continue the same ideals that COTI has always maintained – top quality teaching staff, low classroom ratios, in a safe and caring environment.

In 2011, COTI became a State Licensed Private Elementary School. The only one on the beach. The residents of Indian Rocks Beach and other communities wanted a community school with their children's best interest in mind. COTI was the answer to their prayers. COTI brings the lowest classroom ratios with highly qualified and dedicated teachers to Indian Rocks Beach. Individualized curriculum, Smart Board Technology in all classrooms, computers, intense classroom work along with the only school to add Marine Biology to its studies are just some of the unique characteristics that has made COTI an excellent education facility.

Tucked back on 23rd Avenue, COTI has a charming appearance with its "Beach Flare" that only Indian Rocks Beach can offer. It has three playgrounds and a full length soccer field for the children to utilize every day. The close proximity to local beaches ties in superbly with the marine science program. You can find a class on the beach quite



often as teachers take advantage of "teachable moments". The school also participates in monthly beach cleanups on the first Friday of each month - just one example of how our community school gives back to the community.

Weekly enrichment programs include Spanish instruction, Art Appreciation, Music Education, Physical Education, as well as Chapel Service held at the Church of the Isles.

As it started 10 years ago, COTI Community Christian School has grown from the ideals of its early years and held strong to what is important today- the ability to promote and provide the development and growth of children, their families and the community, by ensuring exceptional quality and developmentally appropriate education in a genuine loving and safe Christian environment.

Visit www.cotischool.org or come take a tour at COTI Community Christian School, 206 23rd Avenue Indian Rocks Beach, 727-517-0775.



Don't miss the Mother of all walks.

3rd Annual Walk Like MADD & MADD Dash



OCTOBER 4, 2013

17th Ave Beach Park

Indian Rocks Beach, FL

Registration Opens at 5:00 p.m.

www.walklikemadd.org/pinellas

Support Mothers Against Drunk Driving by joining in our biggest event of the year. Just sign up, make a donation and be part of the fun, virtually or in person.

5K Walk • 5K Run • Bounce Houses • Live Entertainment
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Presenting Sponsors:



25 YEARS OF VACATION MEMORIES

Twenty five years ago, Lee and Mary Wilkerson decided to make a "passive investment" when they purchased The Sea Shed, a beachfront 6 unit apartment motel (formerly Robbies Roost) in Indian Rocks Beach. The plan was to continue living in Atlanta, where they both had careers, and own and manage the vacation rentals from their Georgia home. They soon realized there is nothing passive about the vacation rental business and if they were going to make this investment work, they would need to move to Indian Rocks. The decision to move was speeded up when Mary was in a Hot Air balloon crash and no longer able to continue her medical sales career. Mary, having grown up in Tampa with summers spent on Indian Rocks Beach, had no trouble convincing Lee to move.

The property, located at 810 Gulf Blvd., was in sad shape and needed all of Lee's considerable renovation skills to make it passable for the first guests. Once it was made livable, the Wilkersons moved in with their daughter and 810 Gulfside soon became both their home and business. Like most new Innkeepers, there were no thoughts of pulling any profits out of the business for the first five years as all monies were used for improvements. At one point, their accountant pointed out they could no longer call this a business in the eyes of the IRS; it was considered a hobby. They soon took out a loan, put in a pool and seriously upgraded the interiors and exteriors of the three small beachfront buildings.

A few years later a group of historic cottages located at 306 Gulf Blvd. was acquired and soon became Sarah's Seaside, named after their daughter.

Gulfside Resorts properties are now run with the help of a small dedicated staff of hospitality professionals who provide their guests with an "Old Florida" cottage experience. What started 25 years ago out as a "passive investment" has been an amazing adventure!

Visit GulfsideResorts.com to learn more about Lee and Mary Wilkersons properties.

WHAT IS A TIMING BELT?

Does my car have one? When do I need one?

by Kevin Crotts, Owner operator of "The Shop".

Timing belts consist of a toothed rubber belt reinforced with fabric laminated together similar to the accessory drive belts used to drive things like the power steering, your alternator, and an a/c compressor. I would take an educated guess and say 80% of the cars on the road today have timing belts. The ones that don't have timing belts have timing chains and don't have scheduled maintenance.



If your car has a timing belt it needs to be replaced at a scheduled mileage interval recommended by the manufacturer. This mileage differs from one manufacturer to another and from vehicle to vehicle, so there is no set schedule for all cars. It is imperative that this service is performed when recommended. If a timing belt is not changed, catastrophic engine damage can occur leading to substantial repair costs or in some cases complete engine replacement. Here at The Shop, we check the service interval for timing belts on each vehicle that enters our shop. Call The Shop at 727-474-3796.

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Indian Rocks Beach

Sponsored by
Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty

October 5th - 11 - 7 pm

Registration is 11am to 1pm, in IRB's Kolb Park on Bay Palm Blvd.
Crabby's Loading Dock Awards party starts at 7pm.

Players should work as teams. Solve the clues at 20 bars, restaurants and businesses on the route and your team receives a point for each correct answer. The team with the most points wins!

\$5 in advance - \$10 day of event

T-Shirts Available \$12 each - while supplies last

Visit IRBhome.com for complete rules, applications and online registration

Presented by the Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association

Presented by: INDIAN ROCKS BEACH



IRB Action 2000, Inc.



City of Indian Rocks Beach



**KOLB PARK,
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**

**OCTOBER 12, 2013
11:00 AM TO 7:00 PM**

FREE ADMISSION

Continuous Live Music All Day by:

DeLeon Entertainment &
MC - Mark Ralston

ALL DAY FOOD & FUN

Kinderfest 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

CONTEST START TIMES

3:00 PM and 4:00 PM

Stein Carrying Contest

Keg Throwing Contest

• **Silent Auction 11:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**ARTS & CRAFTS
VENDORS**

2013 SPONSORS



**GRAND PRIZE !
Large 50/50 Drawing**

NO PETS PLEASE!

BEER AND WINE BEING SERVED

* Please bring I.D. for Alcoholic beverage consumption

For information, visit oktoberfestonthebeach.com

*All proceeds go back to the community through
IRB Action 2000*

FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Chuck Scaffidi, Foundation President & Volunteer Coordinator

Every time I write my "President's Message" for the Foundations Florida Friendly Footprint newsletter, I take some time to reflect on what being part of the Florida Botanical Gardens and the Foundation means to me. For a retired NASA engineer to wind up here is serendipity to the nth degrees surrounded by beautiful tropical flowers, native plants and Florida-friendly flora – and lots of folks who love them as much as I do. I almost daily get to try to find ways to grow us into the world-class gardens that we have been working toward for the past 13 years, since the earliest days of the FBG. What that means to me is a deep sense of pride in our accomplishments and our vision, along, of course, with the realization that there is still much to be done and many challenges to be met.

Speaking of vision, let me share one of my own personal passions - enhancing the beauty of the gardens with works of art. If things go as I hope, we will unveil an amazing new outdoor sculpture during Holiday Lights in the Gardens. According to experts on the value of public art, outdoor art can "shape our consciousness, create a collective attitude, inspire, remake behavior, and reduce stress.

That leads me to another of my garden passions. Since we are always looking for ways to attract visitors, maybe a new target demographic could be workers who need to de-stress or retirees or young mothers who want a safe as well as beautiful place to get some fresh air and exercise. We call it "Making the Florida Botanical Gardens a Healthy Habit."

What more perfect place for finding a little peace and quiet during the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives, communing with nature, getting away without going away, enjoying the fresh air, and maybe getting a little bit of exercise? There are also benches throughout the gardens for sitting, soaking in the natural beauty, meditating or chatting with friends. It's just common sense that spending time with Mother Nature is a good thing.

This year has been one of our best yet - from the Holiday Lights in the Gardens to Diggin' the Arts events. With our ambitious goals for the future, we are always in need of more "roll up your sleeves" types so please consider joining the volunteer team. We need your skills, energy and enthusiasm.

So, friends of the FBG - thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you give and do. You inspire me to work even harder to turn our garden vision into a reality! And I'm anxious to meet new friends.

Stop by for a visit sometime soon - preferably early morning while it's still cool – and while you're at it, why not "Make the FBG a Healthy Habit"? I will be happy to give you a personal tour,

CALLING ALL SINGERS!

The Tampa Bay Children's Chorus is holding auditions for singers in grades 2-12 for the 2013-2014 25th Anniversary season! No experience is necessary and singers of all ability levels are invited to audition. The Tampa Bay Children's Chorus offers exceptional choral education and artistic experiences with performance opportunities around the Tampa Bay area, including Rays and Lightning games! Rehearsals are held in Temple Terrace and St. Petersburg. Visit www.tbccchorus.org or call 813-977-5558 to schedule an audition.

DRAIN YOUR WAY TO MOSQUITO CONTROL

Heavy rains in June and July have created ideal conditions for a mosquito population boom. Technicians responding to mosquito calls have noted that many homes have items or areas that contain standing water – the ideal breeding condition for mosquitoes – and are significantly contributing to the mosquito problem.

Pinellas County Mosquito Control asks all residents to do their part to reduce the mosquito population. Remember, mosquitoes only need ¼ to ½-inch of standing water for the larvae to survive. Some simple suggestions are to:

- empty water from flowerpots, garbage cans, recycling containers, wheelbarrows, aluminum cans, boat tarps, old tires and buckets - any item that can hold water.
- flush birdbaths and wading pools weekly.
- flush ornamental bromeliads or treat with BTI, a biological larvicide available at home improvement stores.
- clean roof gutters, which can hold water when clogged.
- change the water in outdoor pet dishes regularly.
- keep pools and spas chlorinated and filtered.
- stock ornamental ponds with mosquito-eating fish.
- cover rain barrels with screening.
- check for standing water under houses, near plumbing drains, under air conditioner drip areas, around septic tanks and heat pumps.
- take steps to eliminate standing water, improve drainage and prevent future puddling.

Protect your skin from mosquito bites when outdoors by wearing mosquito repellent (products containing DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus) or long-sleeve shirts and pants. The threat of virus, although minimal, is present throughout the year and precautions should be taken during outdoor activities.

By taking these simple preventative measures, citizens can help reduce the number of mosquitoes in our county and minimize mosquito-borne diseases.

CLEARWATER JAZZ HOLIDAY OCTOBER 17-20

Now in its 34th year, the Clearwater Jazz Holiday will present some of the finest talents including Chicago, Tower of Power, Brandi Carlile, Average White Band and more! The collaboration on headline acts between the Clearwater Jazz Holiday and Ruth Eckerd Hall serves to increase and continue with a diverse music lineup in 2013. 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.

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 beaches, brilliant sunsets, and dining to suit every taste and budget.

One of the longest-running events in the country, the Clearwater Jazz Holiday has presented in concert multiple luminaries 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 has been center-stage for numerous scholarship and educational activities to benefit the music students of our community.

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
& THE CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH PRESENT

7TH ANNUAL TASTE OF IRB



CHIC-A-SI PARK
(ACROSS FROM IRB POST OFFICE)

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 2, 2013 • 4 - 10 PM
FREE ADMISSION

FOOD **BEER** **WINE** **MUSIC**

Bring blankets/lawn chairs & spend the evening enjoying great food with live music by...**ESPREE DeKOR!**



NO COOLERS OR DOGS! Proceeds support various IRB community projects.
www.IRBhome.com for more info

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